



# APPLETON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Success for Every Student, Every Day

## 2020-21 Testing Windows for Grades 9-11

Mar 9 ACT Test, Gr 11

Mar 23 ACT Test  
Makeup Date

Mar 22- WI Forward,  
Apr 30 Gr 10

Apr 5- ACT Aspire,  
May 5 Grs 9 & 10

## High School State Testing 2020-21

### Dear Families:

In Wisconsin, our former State Superintendent, now Governor, Dr. Tony Evers, has promoted the “Every Child a Graduate – College and Career Ready” accountability program. At the high school level ninth and tenth grade students will participate in the ACT Aspire Early High School (ACT Aspire) online assessments, grade 10 students will participate in the Wisconsin Forward online assessment for social studies, and students in grade eleven will take the ACT paper and pencil assessments.

### Why are we required to conduct state testing?

Wisconsin’s accountability reforms are focused upon helping every child graduate ready for college and careers. The various assessments are to measure each child’s progress toward this goal.

### Who is assessed at each grade?

Wisconsin’s accountability system, approved by the US Department of Education, requires assessing students in grades 9, 10 and 11.

Students will be assessed in the subjects identified under each grade level/assessment as described below:

|                | Grade 9             | Grade 10   |                     | Grade 11 |  |
|----------------|---------------------|------------|---------------------|----------|--|
|                | ACT Aspire Early HS | WI Forward | ACT Aspire Early HS | ACT      |  |
| Reading        | ✓ ♦                 |            | ✓ ♦                 | ✓        |  |
| Math           | ✓ ♦                 |            | ✓ ♦                 | ✓        |  |
| English        | ✓ ♦                 |            | ✓ ♦                 | ✓        |  |
| Science        | ✓ ♦                 |            | ✓ ♦                 | ✓        |  |
| Social Studies |                     | ✓ ♦        |                     |          |  |
| Writing        | ✓ ♦                 |            | ✓ ♦                 | ✓        |  |
| Career Skills  |                     |            |                     |          |  |

♦ = Computer-based testing

*Are 11<sup>th</sup> grade students expected to pay to take the ACT test on March 9, 2021?*

No, the cost is paid by the state allowing all students access to the ACT assessment. Students may use these test scores on their college application; if accommodations are accessed, colleges may not accept these scores.

*Since grade 11 students are required to take the ACT on Mar. 9, can they still take it another time?*

Yes, students may take the ACT at any other time at their own expense. However, students will be required to take the Mar. 9 ACT at school. The scores from these assessments will be used in School Report Cards for high schools.

## ACT High School Assessments at a Glance

### *Need additional information on the ACT assessments?*

The school counselors are a great resource for additional information on the assessments as are the resources listed in the Additional Resources section of this document.

### *Keeping state testing in perspective*

Students and families may feel pressure, but rest assured state testing should not and is not the focus of attention. Schools use multiple measures to support student learning.

Encourage your child to do his/her best.

Prepare your child for the testing experience by talking about it prior to testing days.

### *Testing “Opt-Out”*

Families wishing to excuse their child from participating in the Wisconsin Student Assessment System **must provide the principal of their child’s school a signed and dated note indicating this request.** All students excused from testing are marked as “not tested” in school and district reporting.

### District contact:

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### **ACT Aspire Early High School Grs 9 & 10**

- Summative online assessment that measures what students have learned in each assessed subject
- Scores predict how a student will perform on the ACT when they reach grade 11
- Identifies areas for academic interventions or challenge

### **WI Forward Gr 10**

- Summative online assessment that measures what students have learned in social studies
- Required state assessment
- Identifies areas of academic strength and those to focus on for growth

### **ACT Gr 11**

- Paper & pencil assessments
- Assists students to understand what they need to learn so they can build rigorous high school plans and identify career areas that align with their interests
- Scores may be used for a variety of purposes including college admission, scholarships, course placement, and NCAA eligibility

### **Additional Resources**

#### **AASD Assessment Page:**

[http://www.aasd.k12.wi.us/district/district\\_departments\\_contacts/standards\\_curriculum/assessment/overview/](http://www.aasd.k12.wi.us/district/district_departments_contacts/standards_curriculum/assessment/overview/)

#### **Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction:**

<http://dpi.wi.gov/assessment/forward>

#### **ACT Aspire:**

<http://www.discoveractaspire.org/>

#### **ACT:**

<http://www.act.org/content/act/en/students-and-parents.html#>

### **Site contacts:**

- School principals
- School counselors