

Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Alternate Assessment

Beginning in 2025–26, Montana transitioned from the Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA) for ELA and Math and the Alternate Montana Science Assessment (AMSA) to the **Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Alternate Assessment**. The DLM combines ELA, math, and science into one comprehensive alternate statewide assessment system.

The **Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Alternate Assessment** is Montana's alternate statewide assessment in English language arts, mathematics, and science for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

The DLM assessment is designed to be accessible and flexible:

- Students are assessed through short tasks called testlets, which can be given at different times during the year.
- The test is adaptive, meaning it adjusts to each student's learning level.
- The content is based on Montana's Alternate Academic Achievement Standards.

Testing Windows 2025–26

- Fall Instructionally Embedded Testing: September 8 – December 19, 2025
- Spring Instructionally Embedded Testing: February 2 – May 15, 2026
- Science (Grades 5 & 8): February 2 – May 15, 2026

Why this assessment matters:

- Provides teachers with important information about what your child knows and can do.
- Helps identify areas where students may need additional support.
- Ensures our school and district are meeting state and federal requirements.

Family Reminders:

- Test results do not impact grades.
- Results will be shared with families in fall 2026.
- All student information is confidential under FERPA.

For more information about the DLM Alternate Assessment, visit:

[Montana Office of Public Instruction – Assessments](#)

[Dynamic Learning Maps \(DLM\) Website](#)