

2026-2027 PPS Assessment Calendar

Testing Window		Assessment	Grades	Subject	Note	Description/Purpose
September/August	August 24 - September 17	DIBELS/Acadience	K-5	ELA	Data Entry Sept 18-24	Assesses early literacy skills; progress monitoring of foundational & early reading skills.
	September 8 - 30	Classroom Diagnostic Tools (CDT)	3-HS	ELA & Math	Administer FULL CDT - Science NOT Available until October 14th	Diagnostic information to assist educators in identifying students' academic strengths and areas of need. Provides links to classroom resources via integration with PDE SAS and exposes students to the same content assessed on the PSSA and Keystone Exams.
	September 15 - 30	Dreambox	K-8	MATH	*1st Time Data Pulled for Reporting	Grs 3-8 complete one-time Launchpad assessment when logging on for 1st time. Monitor student growth and proficiency on content. *Data pull dates are not a testing window.
September/October/November	September 28 - October 9	AAPPL Beginning of Year Assessment	Grade 8 Levels 1-4+	World Languages (WL)	Measures growth in target language listening, writing, speaking, and reading skills.	Online assessment for WL students to assess their BOY proficiency in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. (Administration time: 1-2 class periods)
	TBD (October)	PSAT	8		Evaluating the use of this assessment.	College readiness & placement for advanced courses.
	October 26 - 30	PSAT/NMSQT	10-11			Aptitude test to show college readiness. Practice exam (10th grade); National Merit qualification (11th grade)
	October 14 - 28	Classroom Diagnostic Tools (CDT)	3-HS	Science	Administer FULL CDT Science at Grs. 4, 5, 7, 8 and Biology	See September description
	October 5, 2026 - April 16, 2027 for 3-8 and through May 7, 2027 for Keystone	NEW "Firefly" PA Benchmark for PSSA and Keystone	3-HS	ELA, Math, Science, Alg 1, Bio and Lit	OPTIONAL Administered Online up to 3 times in a SY	Predictive Assessment for PSSA and Keystone. Principal determines participation and testing dates.
January/December	December 2 - 16	Classroom Diagnostic Tools	3-HS	ELA, Math & Science	FULL CDT	See September description
	December 7 - 18	Dreambox	K-8	MATH	2nd Data Pull	See September description
	December 7 - January 8, 2027	DIBELS/Acadience	K-5	ELA	Data Entry January 11-15	See Aug/Sep description
	*December 9-23 & January 21-29, 2027	Act 35 Civics	HS	Social Studies	<i>Semester Courses</i>	Assesses Knowledge, Skills, and Actions; required by PDE.
	January 4 -February 19, 2027	WIDA ACCESS	K-12	ELLs Only		Measures English language proficiency for ELLs.
	January 4-15, 2027	WINTER KEYSTONE	Re-testers and Semester Courses	Algebra, Literature & Biology	Online Only - No early reporting	State graduation requirement; measures proficiency on end of course standards.

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	February 1 - 5	Firefly PA Benchmark for PSSA and Keystone	3-HS	ELA, Lit, Math, Alg, Sci & Bio	Tested grades and subjects only	Predictive Assessment for PSSA and Keystone
March/February	February 23 - March 5	Dreambox	K-8	MATH	3rd Data Pull	See September description
	February 23 - March 9	Classroom Diagnostic Tools	3-HS	ELA, Math & Science	FULL CDT <i>Science at Grs. 4, 5, 7-8 & Bio</i>	See September description
	TBD	NOCTI Performance Assessment	12	CTE		Students demonstrate acquired skills by completing actual jobs using the tools, materials, machines, and equipment characteristic of occupation.
	March 8 - May 7	PASA	3-8 and 11	All	State Assessment	PA Alternate System of Assessment
	TBD	NOCTI Online	12	CTE		Demonstrates the level of conceptual and procedural knowledge for a more complete picture of acquired skills.
	March 4, 2027	SAT	11			Aptitude test to show college readiness.
	TBD	NOCTI	11	CTE		Pre-Test Written/Online Only
	April 1 – April 16	DIBELS/Acadience	K-5	ELA	Data Entry April 19-23	See Aug/Sep description
	April 26-30, 2027	PSSA	3-8	ELA	ONLINE ONLY and No Early Reporting	Measures proficiency on grade-level standards.
May/April	May 3-7, 2027	PSSA	Math 3-8 Science Grs 5 and 8 only	Math, Science & Make-ups	ONLINE ONLY and No Early Reporting	Measures proficiency on grade-level standards.
	May 10-14, 2027	PSSA	3-8	Optional Science Week & ALL Make-ups	ONLINE ONLY and No Early Reporting	Measures proficiency on grade-level standards.
	May 3-7 and May 10-14	AP Exams	9-12	College Board Determines Subjects	Based on Course	Advanced Placement Exams
	April 23 - May 19	IB Exams	11-12	IB		
	May 17-28, 2027	KEYSTONE	Enrolled in Course or Retesters	Algebra, Literature & Biology	1st Time Testers and Retesters - ONLINE ONLY	State graduation requirement; measures proficiency on end of course standards.
	May 17 - 28	Dreambox	K-8	MATH	4th Data Pull	See September description
June/May	May 3-14 & June 1-8	Act 35 Civics	HS	Social Studies	Year-long Course	Assesses Knowledge, Skills, and Actions; required by PDE.
	May 24-June 8	AAPPL End of Year Assessment	Grade 8 Levels 1-4+	World Languages	See Sept-Oct Note	See Sept-Oct Note (Administration time: 1-3 class periods)