Academic Systems
ASSESSMENT TEAM
Douglas County School District

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Assessment	Grades Administered	Dates of Assessment
Federally Mandated		
WIDA ACCESS	K - 12	Jan 11, 2027 - Feb 12, 2027
NAEP	4, 8	Jan 25, 2027 - Mar 19, 2027
State Mandated		
CMAS ELA and Math	3 - 8	Apr 5 - Apr 23, 2027
CMAS Science	5, 8, 11	Apr 5 - Apr 23, 2027 High School: April 15, 2027
CMAS Social Studies	4, 7	Apr 5 - Apr 23, 2027
CoAlt ELA and Math	3 - 11	Apr 5 - Apr 23, 2027 High Schools - Aligned to PSAT/SAT Schedule (to the extent possible)
CoAlt Science	5, 8, 11	Apr 5 - Apr 23, 2027 High Schools - Aligned to PSAT/SAT Schedule (to the extent possible)
CoAlt Social Studies	4, 7	Apr 5 - Apr 23, 2027
CSLA	3, 4	Apr 5 - Apr 23, 2027
PSAT 9	9	Fall: Wednesday, October 7, 2026 Spring: April 12, 2027
PSAT 10	10	Fall: Wednesday, October 7, 2026 Spring: April 14, 2027
READ Act i-Ready Diagnostic	All K-8 Students and all 4-12th Grade READ Students	• BoY ○ 1st-12th: Aug. 25 - Sept. 11, 2026 ○ K: Sept. 1 - Sept. 25, 2026 • MoY ○ K-12th: Dec. 1 - Dec. 17, 2026 • EoY ○ K-12th: Apr 27 - May 14, 2027
READ Act DIBELS 8th Edition- ELAT	K-3 and 4+ READ Students	• BoY ○ 1st-12th: Aug. 25 - Sept 11, 2026 ○ K: Sept. 1 - Sept. 25, 2026

Updated May 2026

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		• MoY
		  ○ K-12th: Dec. 1 - Dec. 17, 2026
		• EoY
		  ○ K-12th: Apr 24 - May 14, 2026

SAT	11	Fall: Wednesday, October 7, 2026 Spring: April 13, 2027
TS GOLD®	K	Aug 12, 2026 - Oct 7, 2026
State Recommended		
CogAT	2 Referrals: K, 1	Feb 1, 2027 - Feb 19, 2027 Make-ups - Week of Feb 22, 2027
	5 6 (a few charter schools) Referrals: 3, 4, 5	Nov 2, 2026 - Nov 20, 2026 Make-ups - Week of Nov 30
School Choice		
Iowa (for MS Math placement)	5, 6	March 22, 2027 - April 9, 2027 - This could change
NWEA MAP Growth	K-12	Fall: Aug. 25, 2026- Sept. 29, 2026 Winter: Dec. 1, 2026-Jan. 21, 2027 Spring: April 13, 2027-May 20, 2027
PSAT/NMSQT	10, 11	Fall: Wednesday, October 7, 2026

What is the purpose of each test?	
Federally Mandated	
ACCESS For ELLs	Students who have been identified as English language Learners • Resource: What is ACCESS for ELLS? (English) • Resource: What is ACCESS for ELLS? (Non-English versions)
NAEP	National Assessment of Educational Progress • The Colorado Department of Education randomly selects schools to administer NAEP to a sample of fourth and eighth-grade students in mathematics and reading. • Resource: About NAEP • Resource: Colorado NAEP

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State Mandated	
CMAS	Colorado Measures of Academic Success ● Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) are the system of statewide tests in English language arts, math, science and social studies that are given to all Colorado students in grades three through high school. ● Resource: CDE CMAS
CoAlt	Colorado Alternate English Language Arts and Math ● The Colorado Alternate (CoAlt) Assessment is an academic, standards-based assessment designed specifically for eligible students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. The primary purpose of the assessment program is to determine the level at which Colorado students with the most significant cognitive disabilities meet the Extended Evidence Outcomes (EEOs) of the Colorado Academic Standards. ● Resource: CDE CoAlt
CSLA	Colorado Spanish Language Arts ● Colorado Spanish Language Arts, is an accommodated version of the CMAS (Colorado Measures of Academic Success) English Language Arts (ELA) assessment. It's available for eligible Spanish-speaking students in grades 3 and 4 who are taking ELA. The CSLA assessment is designed to provide a more accessible means for students to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in language arts.
PSAT 9, PSAT 10	Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test ● The PSAT 9 and PSAT 10 is a standardized test designed to assess students' skills in reading, writing, and mathematics, serving as a stepping stone to the SAT and a qualifying test for the National Merit Scholarship Program. It's administered by the College Board and the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. The PSAT/NMSQT is one of three PSAT tests: ○ PSAT 8/9 (for 8th and 9th graders) ○ PSAT 10 (for 10th graders) ○ PSAT/NMSQT (for 11th graders). ● Resource: College Board PSAT
SAT	Scholastic Aptitude Test, formerly Scholastic Assessment Test ● The SAT is a standardized test used in the United States and many other countries to assess the readiness of high school students for college-level work. It is a multiple-choice exam that measures skills in reading, writing, and math. Colleges and universities often consider SAT scores when making admissions decisions. ● *Spring Testing Week - All DCSD high schools have agreed to host the spring testing week during the week that the state-wide SAT is given. That will include all grade levels and all testing. These will be full school days,*

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	a portion for the testing for select students and a portion for all students to attend. ○ Resource: College Board SAT
READ Act Interims	READ Act Interims (i-Ready, ELAT, STAR) ● iReady - an online assessment and personalized instruction program for students in grades K-8 that helps teachers assess student learning, identify skill gaps, and provide targeted instruction in reading and mathematics. It combines a diagnostic test with an online learning program to help students build foundational skills and achieve grade-level expectations. ○ Resource: iReady Family Center ● ELAT (Early Literacy Assessment Tool) is designed to assist teachers in meeting the assessment requirements of the READ Act. The online tool will allow teachers to obtain real-time assessment of the reading skill levels of students enrolled in kindergarten, first, second, and/or third grades. Based on the assessment results, the online tool will generate intervention plans and materials to support students. ○ Resource: CDE ELAT ● STAR Early Literacy is a K–3 assessment used to screen and monitor early literacy skills aligned to the READ Act. ○ Resource: CDE STAR
TS GOLD®	Teaching Strategies GOLD® ● TS GOLD® is a kindergarten assessment system that helps educators observe, document, and assess student development and learning. It supports planning and instruction aligned to early learning standards. ● Kindergarten Assessment ● Resource: TS GOLD® Colorado Teachers
State Recommended	
CogAT	Cognitive Abilities Test ● CogAT ○ Universal Screen ○ Grades 5 and 6 and referral testing (3, 4, 5) ● Iowa Testing ○ Universal Screen ○ Grade 2 and referral testing (K, 1) ○ Optional: Students in universal screening years are already identified as gifted ● Resource: CDE Gifted Education
School Choice	
Iowa (for MS Math placement)	Assessment Before Learning: ● Before instruction begins, diagnostic assessments like the Iowa Assessments help educators identify what students already know and what they still need to learn. With efficient test design and clear, skill-level reports, teachers can quickly group students, tailor instruction,

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	and make the most of planning time. Results are reported using both national and local norms, offering accurate, actionable insights for tracking readiness and growth. • Resource: Iowa Assessments Website
NWEA MAP Growth	Measures of Academic Progress • MAP Growth measures academic growth and achievement across a wide range of subjects, catering to both English and Spanish-speaking students from kindergarten through twelfth grade. • School-selected Assessment • Resource: NWEA MAP Growth
PSAT/ NMSQT	Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test • The PSAT 9 and PSAT 10 are standardized assessments used to measure readiness for college-level work in reading, writing, and math. They serve as a precursor to the SAT. Administered by the College Board, they also help prepare students for the PSAT/NMSQT taken in 11th grade. • Fall: Wednesday, October 8, 2025 • Resource: College Board PSAT/NMSQT