MAINE DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION (DOE)

Assessment Lunch & Learn Office Hours

September 3, 2025

Please post questions you may have in the chat box – we will work to answer them during the session and add them to a Q&A document.

We will begin shortly.

Presented by: The Assessment Team

Maine Department of Education

The Maine DOE Assessment Team

Jodi Bossio-Smith, Director of Assessment

Krista Averill, Assessment Coordinator

Mechelle Ganglfinger, Assessment Coordinator

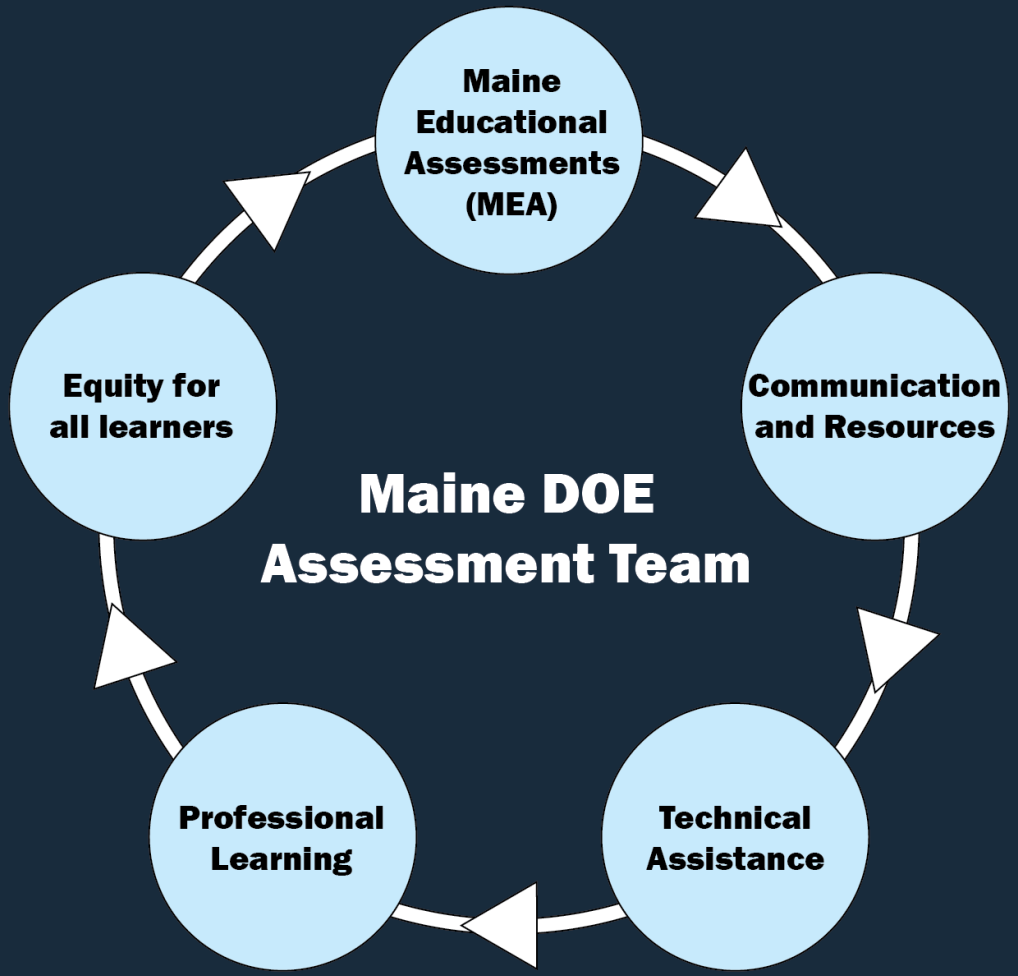
Dr. Regina Lewis, NAEP State Coordinator

Daniella Crone, Office Specialist

Leah Jarvis, Business Analyst

Today's Agenda

- ❑ Maine Through Year Assessment
- ❑ Maine Science Assessment
- ❑ National Assessment of Educational Progress 2026
- ❑ ACCESS & Alternate ACCESS: Timeline and Next Steps
- ❑ Multi-State Alternate Assessment
- ❑ Questions & Answers


Maine Educational Assessments (MEA)
Communication and Resources
Technical Assistance
Professional Learning
Equity for all learners
Maine DOE Assessment Team

Reminders from MEDMS

- Synergy became available to SAUs the week of August 18th for student uploads. For more information about the continued use of Synergy and eventual transition to Connect, see the full Priority Notice.

- Synergy will be utilized for fall data collection, including assessment rosters – please keep student enrollment up to date!

- Maine DOE Data Team is proceeding with the implementation of Connect throughout this fall, incorporating feedback from statewide training during additional training and testing

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Security Training for the MEAs

District and School Assessment Coordinators requirements:

- Watch the Assessment Coordinator Security Training
- Read the Assessment Security Handbook, available on the Assessment Security webpage
- Sign the *Maine Educational Assessment Security and Data Privacy Agreement*, Appendix A of the Assessment Security Handbook
- Complete the applicable assessment-specific trainings
- Ensure that all proctors have received the necessary training

Proctors or assessment administrators requirements:

- Watch the two, brief assessment security webisodes, available on the Assessment Security webpage
- Sign the *Maine Educational Assessment Security and Data Privacy Agreement*, Appendix A of the Assessment Security Handbook
- Complete the applicable assessment-specific training

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Maine Through Year Assessment

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2025-26 School Year

Administration Schedule

- Fall: September 15 – October 24
- Optional winter: January 5 – February 13
- Spring: April 13 – May 29 (*closed April 20-24*)

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NWEA: Summer 2025 Changes

- New RIT Score Norms
- Enhanced Item Selection Algorithm (EISA)

These changes were highlighted in our August 20th Office Hours.

You may view the recording here. (See minute 4:17-18:04.)

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Additional 2025 Norms & EISA Resources

- ***Same scale, new reference: What's new in the 2025 MAP Growth norms*** webinar
  - NWEA Webinar Recording & Slides
- Norms Toolkit
- 2025 Norms Quick Reference
- MAP Growth Norms Technical Manual
- Norms FAQ

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FAQ: When will the 2025 norms appear in reports?

- The new 2025 norms currently appear in MAP Growth reports and have been *retroactively applied* to prior years.

  School and District administrators will have access to reference the 2020 norms on MAP Growth comprehensive data export files (only). All other MAP Growth reports will reference the new 2025 norming study.

- The new 2025 norms will begin appearing in reports in Acacia this fall.

Note: This means that you will see differences in the RIT score achievement percentiles for students in MAP Growth reports vs. Acacia reports for spring 2023, school year 2023-24, and school year 2024-25.

Maine Department of Education

Back to School ‘25

Hailey Westphal, NWEA Lead Solution Delivery Consultant

nwea

25-26 Rostering in MAP Growth

nwea

Your NWEA Rostering Options

- NWEA Standard Rostering (File-Based Upload)
- NWEA Clever
- NWEA ClassLink
- HMH Rostering Service (options include Clever and ClassLink connection)

- *Note: Your rostering selection will not impact testing for the Maine Through Year Assessment.*

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HMH Rostering Service

What is it?

- A unified rostering platform integrating NWEA MAP Growth and HMH digital products.
- Allows districts to roster students and staff once for all connected solutions.
- Supports multiple methods: Clever, ClassLink, OneRoster API, Simple File Format

Benefits

- Roster once for both MAP and HMH platforms—no duplicate efforts
- Improved user interface and error handling
- Deeper integration with HMH curriculum tools like Read180, Math180, Waggle, and Personalized Path
- Flexible role switching and user management

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Rostering Resources

- HMH Rostering Service Help
- NWEA Rostering Implementation Guide
- Clever + HMH
- Classlink - HMH Rostering

- SAUs interested in migrating to HMH Rostering Service can send an email to digitalsolutions@nwea.org
- For rostering related questions, contact the Maine designated support line:
  - 855-430-1777
  - 7 AM to 8 PM EST
  - Monday through Friday

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New Login Page

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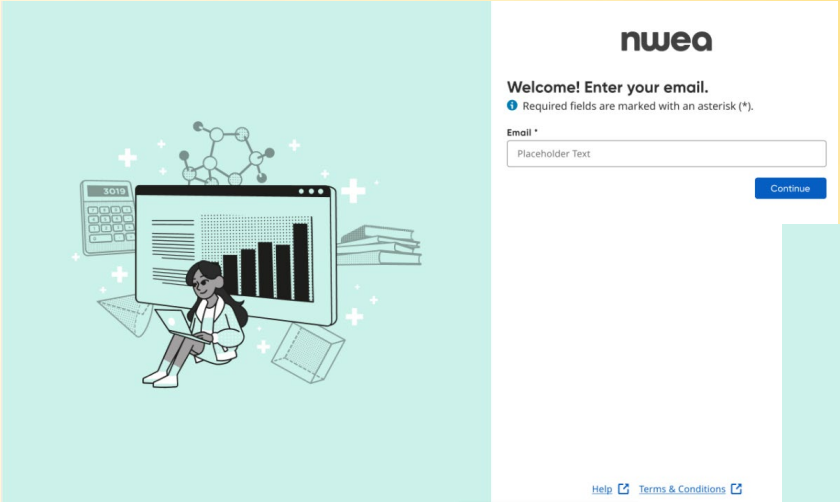
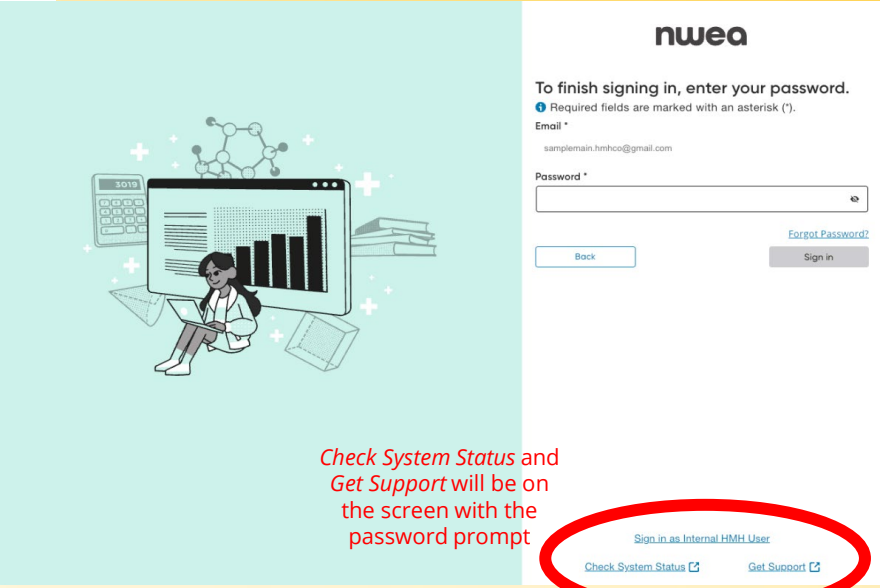
New Login Page





Check System Status and *Get Support* will be on the screen with the password prompt

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MAP Growth User Role Permission Changes

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User Role Permission Changes

- NWEA updated specific user roles to simplify and unify permissions across our platform and HMH systems.

- This change ensures users have consistent, role-appropriate access, reduces confusion when working across systems, and supports a streamlined experience for managing assessments and interventions.

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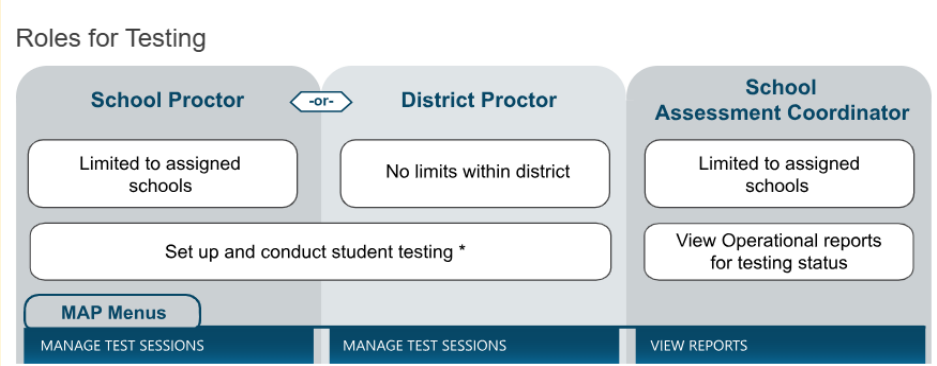
District Proctor Update

- Adding and editing students to the system is now reserved for Data Administrators. District Proctors will be able to Manage Test Sessions for all students within a district.
- *<u>Note:</u> This change is to MAP Growth user roles. Proctor role permissions in the Maine Through Year Assessment platform, Acacia, remain the same.*



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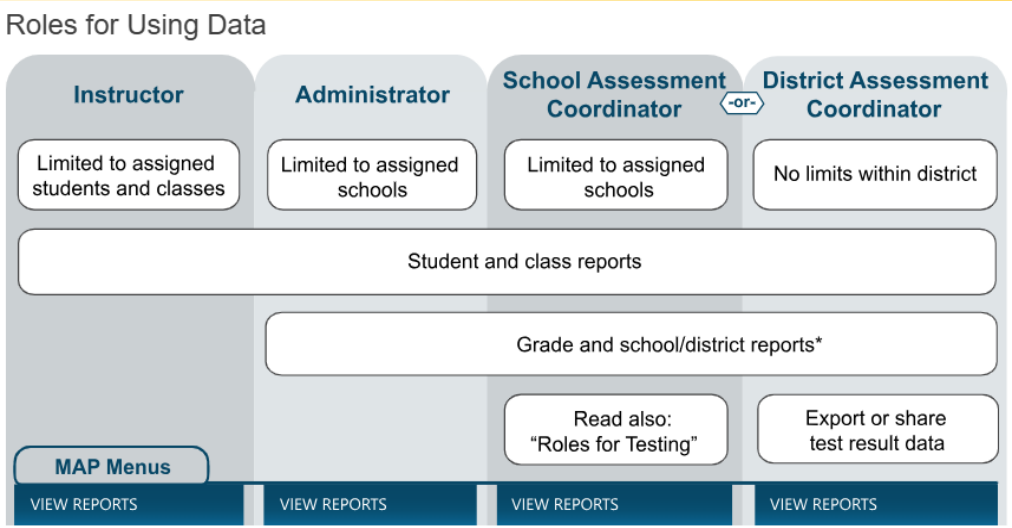
District Assessment Coordinator Updates

- User permissions are now reserved for reporting purposes. DACs will be able to view MAP Growth and operational reports for all schools.
- *<u>Note:</u> This change is to MAP Growth user roles. District Assessment Coordinator role permissions in the Maine Through Year Assessment platform, Acacia, remain the same.*



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What does this mean?

- MAP Growth users with the District Assessment Coordinator role who complete any of the actions below, will now need the System Administrator role or Data Administrator role.

- When users update their profiles in MAP Growth, those changes will sync to the Maine Through Year Assessment platform, Acacia.

Action	Role Required
Manage MAP preferences (grade, program names)	System Administrator
Manage MAP Test Restrictions	System Administrator
Manage Test Window	System Administrator
Add district administrator accounts, including Sys Admin	System Administrator or Data Administrator
Add school administrator accounts	System Administrator or Data Administrator
Add teacher accounts	System Administrator or Data Administrator
Edit staff/student number	System Administrator or Data Administrator
View Admin/Teacher	System Administrator or Data Administrator
Manage NWEA Data Partners	System Administrator

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System and Technology Requirements

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System and Technology Requirements

- If you need help determining if your system meets the current OS and browser minimums required by NWEA, you can check your system using the NWEA workstation diagnostic tool. This web-based tool checks if your device is configured to current OS and browser minimums. It is helpful to partners who need to prepare devices for testing and proctoring.

- *NWEA recommends turning off automatic updates during an assessment window.*

- MAP Growth System Requirements

- Acacia System Requirements (Maine Through Year Assessment)

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Transition to CONNECT

Synergy will continue to be utilized for enrollment information for the Fall 2025 administration of the Maine Through Year Assessment.

Please read the Priority Notice for more information.

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New District Assessment Coordinator (DAC) Accounts

- **MAP (start.mapnwea.org):** NWEA's platform for the MAP Growth assessment, which also serves as the access point for Acacia
- **Acacia:** NWEA's platform for the Maine Through Year Assessment, accessed by first logging into MAP
- To access both MAP and Acacia, a MAP System Administrator for the SAU must create an Assessment Coordinator account in MAP for the new DAC.
  - The new DAC may also be assigned the System Administrator user role if they will be adding, editing, or removing other staff users.
  - User roles for accounts created in MAP sync to Acacia nightly.
  - See the User and Student Management Guide for more information.

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Training Specific to the Maine Through Year Assessment

Once each academic year, the following trainings must be completed:

- **District and School Assessment Coordinators**
  - Assessment Coordinator Training Module
    - Updated for 2025-26
    - Total completion time: Approximately 1 hour (can be completed over multiple sessions)
    - Need a passing score of 60% on the final assessment within the tutorial
    - Completion of the module is monitored for schools receiving Levels 2 and 3 technical assistance
  - Review of the Assessment Coordinator Guide

- **Proctors** - Maine Through Year Assessment Proctor Training Video
  - An updated version with new screenshots
  - Time: 9 minutes

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Fall Administration: Important Dates

Late Summer / Early Fall: SAUs download the latest version of the NWEA State Solutions Secure Browser onto student devices (System & Technology Guide)

August 20 – October 10: Submit paper-based form requests (standard print, large print, and braille)

- Accessibility Guide

  Note: A student's enrollment must be updated in Synergy, and the student must appear in Acacia, before a paper-based form request can be approved and delivered.

August 29: Assessment roster daily change files begin, based on student enrollment data entered by the SAU into Synergy

September 2: Acacia opens for pre-administration activities

- Assign supports and accommodations
  - Accessibility Guide
  - User and Student Management Guide, Part 6
- Print test tickets (Manage Online Testing Guide, Part 3)

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Fall Administration: Important Dates

September 15 – October 24: Fall 2025 administration window

- Provide all proctors with administration directions and scripts (Assessment Administration Guide)
- Provide proctors accessing the proctor dashboard in Acacia with the Manage Online Testing Guide

Within 72 hours of assessing: Student results reports become available in Acacia (Reports Interpretive Guide)

- Schools must roster students in the MAP Growth platform in order to have Maine Through Year Assessment RIT scores integrated into MAP Growth reports
  - MAP Growth Quick Rostering Guide
  - Maine MAP Growth Reports Portfolio

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Fall Administration: Important Dates

October 17 @ 4:00 PM: Last opportunity to request assessment resets for Fall 2025

- Fall 2025 Reset Process Flow

October 23 @ 7:59 PM: Last assessment roster daily change file is generated. Any changes to student enrollments in Synergy after this time will not appear in Acacia.

October 31: Last day of SAU data cleanup window

- SAU Data Cleanup Checklist

November 14: Last day to run Operational Reports for the fall administration (not including the Student Score Data File)

December 3: Fall 2025 Student Score Data File becomes available

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Preparing Students

Student Tutorial Video

YouTube and Vimeo

Item Type Samplers

- Online or within the State Solutions Secure Browser
- Paper-based

Online answer keys and paper-based item type sampler resources are available on the Maine DOE Through Year Assessment webpage, under the ***Item Type Samplers*** *drop-down menu.*

Professional Learning Opportunities

Maine Through Year Assessment: A Balanced Approach

Topic: Maine Through Year Assessment as part of a balanced assessment system, including summative and interim components
**Includes information on the 2025 RIT score norms and the enhanced item selection algorithm.*

Offerings:
- Monday, September 15, 3:00-4:30 PM (Register)
- Monday, September 22, 12:00-1:30 PM (Register)

Maine Through Year Assessment Fall Interim Reports

Topic: Overview of Maine Through Year Assessment fall interim reports, including RIT, Student, and Report Export in Acacia, as well as MAP Growth reports

Offerings:
- Monday, September 22, 3:00-4:00 PM (Register)
- Wednesday, October 15, 12:00-1:00 PM (Register)

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Maine Through Year Assessment: *Whom do I contact?*

NWEA Maine Partner Support
(855) 430-1777
techsupport@nwea.org

- Technical issues with the Acacia platform
- Technical issues with the State Solutions Secure Browser
- Technical issues with the MAP Growth platform, including rostering in MAP

Maine DOE MEDMS Support Team
(207) 624-6896
MEDMS.Support@maine.gov

- Help determining if a student is eligible for the Maine Through Year Assessment, based on information entered by the SAU into Synergy
- Updating student enrollment information in Synergy
- Updated staff information in NEO

Maine DOE Assessment Team
(207) 215-6528
Krista.Averill@maine.gov

- Questions related to assessment content, accessibility, scoring, and reporting
- Policy-related questions
- Any problems that NWEA Maine Partner Support or the MEDMS Support Team are not able to resolve – If you have a case number (NWEA) or ticket number (MEDMS Support), please provide.

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Maine Science Assessment

Maine Department of Education

Mark Your Calendar!

Spring 2026 Administration Dates

- High School: April 1 – 17, 2026
- Grades 5 & 8: May 11 – 22, 2026

There will remain three sessions per grade level, each 50 minutes in length for high school and 60 minutes in length for grades 5 & 8.

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New District Assessment Coordinator (DAC) Accounts

- **Kite**: The reporting platform for the Maine Science Assessment
  - A new DAC file was provided to the vendor on July 24.
  - Any DACs entered into NEO after July 24 should reach out directly to Krista.Averill@maine.gov to have their Kite account created.
- **ADAM**: The Assessment Delivery and Management system
  - New DACs entered in NEO prior to mid-February 2026 will automatically have an account created in ADAM.
  - When access to ADAM opens in late-February 2026, new DACs who need additional assistance accessing their account should reach out to Krista.Averill@maine.gov.

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Score Reporting

August 25, 2025: Reports became available in the Kite reporting platform.

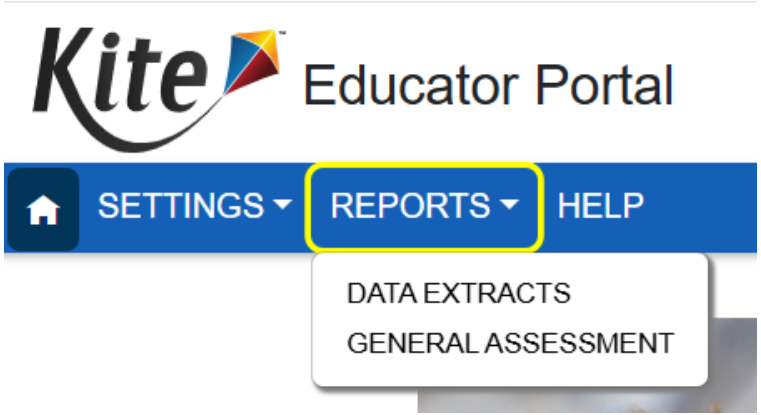
General Assessment:

SAU and School Reports (PDFs) – Big-picture overview of SAU and school performance

Individual Student Report (PDF) – For distribution to parents/guardians

Data Extracts:

Student Score Data File (CSV) – More detailed, granular information regarding student performance, including subscores



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Score Reporting

Scoring and Reporting Resources:

- Reporting Platform Guide
- Score Interpretation Guide

A brief overview of reports was provided during our August 20th Office Hours. You may view the recording here. (See minute 34:50-41:08.)

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FAQ: When should I distribute Individual Student Reports?

- SAUs are encouraged to use their local communication tools and platforms with which families are most familiar for the delivery of ISRs. Distribution can be paper-based or virtual.
- It is recommended to distribute ISRs to families within two weeks of the last ISR becoming available.

Maine Department of Education

Professional Learning Opportunities

Making Sense of the Maine Science Assessment: A 3D Approach

Topic: Connections between the 3 dimensions of the Next Generation Science Standards and the Maine Science Assessment design, scores, and reports

Offerings:

- Monday, September 8, 3:00-4:30 PM (Register)
- Wednesday, September 17, 12:00-1:30 PM (Register)

Maine Department of Education

Maine Science Assessment: *Whom do I contact?*

Kite Service Desk

Kite-support@ku.edu

(855) 277-9752

- Accessing reports from 2023-2025
- DACs creating user accounts for others within their SAU

Maine DOE Assessment Team

Krista.Averill@maine.gov

(207) 215-6528

- Questions related to assessment content, accessibility, scoring, and reporting
- Policy-related questions
- Help with the creation of DAC accounts in Kite

Manuals & Guides –

Maine Science Support Desk

https://mescience.zendesk.com/hc/en-us

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National and International Assessments

NAEP 2026 is around the corner!

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NAEP 2026 Assessments

	OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENTS		PILOT ASSESSMENTS
Purpose:	Results from the assessments will be released as the Nation's Report Card		To pilot new items for future operational assessments
Subjects and Grades:	Math & Reading Grades 4 & 8	Civics & U.S. History Grade 8	Math & Reading Grades 4, 8, &12
Devices:	NAEP & School Devices	NAEP Devices	NAEP & School Devices
Assessment Window:	**Jan 26 – Mar 20, 2026** **** Note: Assessment Window has been extended by 2 weeks**		

Preparing for NAEP 2026 – Understanding the Context

- New frameworks for the NAEP mathematics and reading assessments
- ***Continue the transition to administer NAEP on school devices***.
  - Students at schools using *school managed* Chromebooks or Windows devices that meet technical requirements will be assessed using school devices and school Wi-Fi for 2026.
  - Other schools will be assessed on NAEP devices using a NAEP provided private network.
  - iOS devices are scheduled to be added for NAEP 2028.
- *SAU and school notifications were sent the week of August 11th*.
- *Assessment dates will be provided in October.*
- ***Technology Survey contact needed! - Who would be the best person to complete this for the schools?***

NAEP 2026 Timeline

Final decisions and approvals still pending

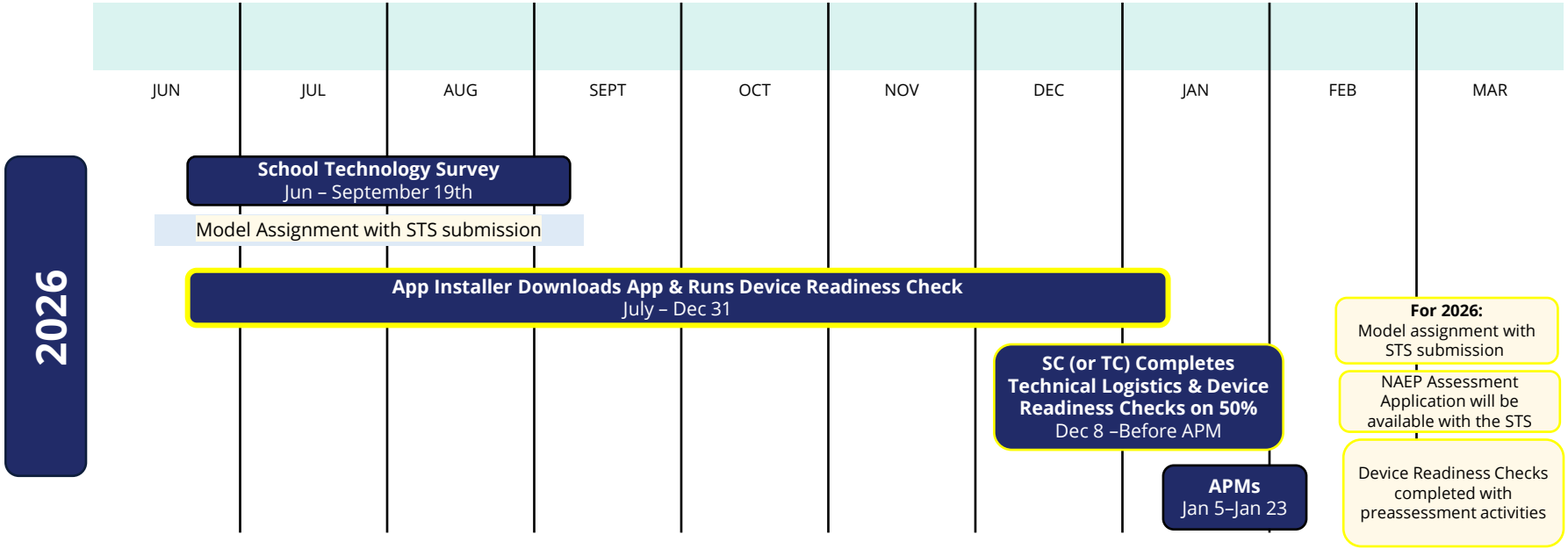
Early May
School Sample on NN

Early Jun
School Sample in AMS

Early Dec
Student Sample in AMS

	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR
Review school sample	**May – Jun**										
Block dates in scheduling application		**Jun – Sept**									
Districts and schools complete School Technology Survey (STS)		**July 15 – September 19**						**If the school technology survey has not been submitted by the deadline, the school will automatically be assigned to the school device model.**			
NAEP Application Installation/Validation		**Jun 6 – Dec 31**									
Import Student Lists Submission Window						**Oct 6 – Nov 21**					
School Preassessment Activities								**Dec 8 – Jan 24**			
Assessment Planning Meetings (APM)									**Jan 8 – 24**		
NAEP 2026 Assessment Window										**Jan 26 – Mar 20**	

Technology Timeline NAEP 2026



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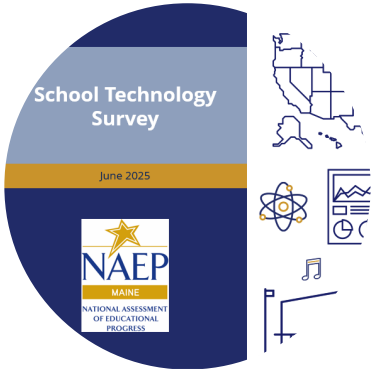
NAEP 2026 – School Device Technical Requirements

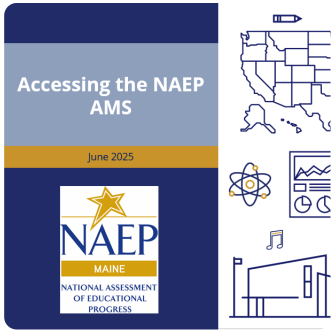
Operating System	Hardware Specifications
ChromeOS™ Version 126 and above	The **minimum hardware specifications** for Chromebooks are: • 1 GHZ Processor • 4 or more GB RAM • 2 or more GB of free disk space **Notes:** • To run the NAEP Assessment in a secure environment, devices must be connected to the management console and operate in kiosk mode. Google mandates that Chromebooks manufactured in 2017 or later must have either an Enterprise or Education license and be linked to a management domain. • In 2022, Google introduced the Long-Term Support Candidate (LTC) and Long-Term Support (LTS) channels for ChromeOS™. NAEP strongly recommends the use of these channels. For more information, click here: LTS on Chrome.
Windows® Version 10 and above	The **minimum hardware specifications** for Windows devices are: • 1 GHZ Processor • 4 or more GB RAM • 2 or more GB of free disk space **Note:** Windows devices running ChromeOS™ Flex are **NOT** supported.

LTS on Chrome Link

NAEP 2026 September Priorities

- The NAEP 2026 School Technology Survey (STS) is open.
  - Identify and designate the best person to complete the STS (completing the STS pdf resource)
  - Send contact information to regina.lewis@maine.gov
  - Deadline for submission is September 19th
  - ***Schools not completing and submitting the survey*** will automatically be designated for school device administration
- Designated staff should register for the NAEP Assessment Management System (AMS). Invitations expire after 30 days.
- Would you like to register for the NAEP 2026 AMS? If you have not yet received an invitation from naep-ams@naepnpd.org, please reach out.





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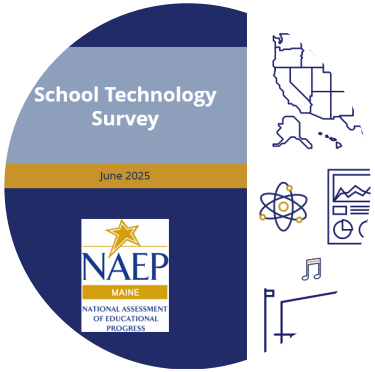
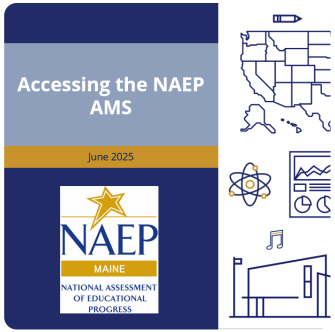
NAEP 2026 School Technology Survey Progresss



Summary

Survey not started	Survey in progress	Survey complete
84 %	1 %	15 %
165/196	1/196	30/196



Only 30 surveys have been completed and submitted as of 6:40 am, Wednesday, September 3rd.

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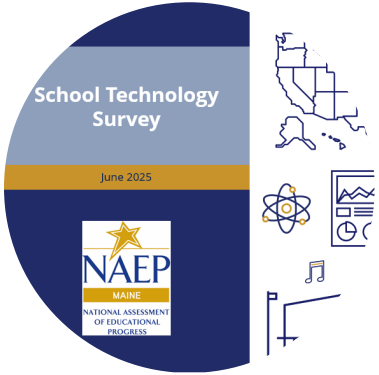
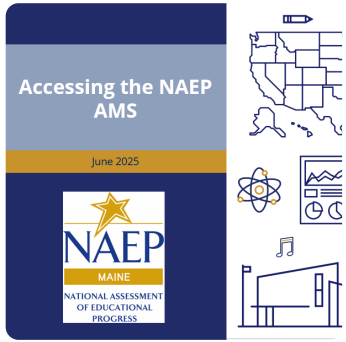
NAEP 2026 Resources

- Registering for the NAEP AMS & completing the STS pdf resource (include instructions for registration)
- An informational video for SAUs and an informational video for schools are available
- Reminders:
  - Multifactor Authentication is now a requirement for access to the AMS
  - *The AMS website and all accounts are new for 2026*
  - **Please continue to update NEO as administrative and staffing changes are finalized.**





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NAEP 2026 – Other resources

- NAEP 2026 eNAEP Download Center
- NAEP 2026 Facts for Districts
- NAEP 2026 Facts for Principals -
  - Grades 4 & 8 Mathematics and Reading
  - Grade 8 Civics and U.S. History
  - Grades 4, 8, & 12 Mathematics and Reading Pilots
- NAEP 2026 School Technology Survey - pdf preview copy
- NAEP 2026 School Device Technical Requirements

National and International Assessments - NAEP

NAEP MAINE
NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS

Whom do I contact?

NAEP Field Representative

Contact using information provided in NAEP AMS and via Email

- School Delay or closing
- Need to reschedule
- Change in Assessment Logistics

Maine DOE NAEP Coordinator

(207) 530-1355

Regina.Lewis@maine.gov

- AMS account creation
- Acquiring AMS access for additional staff
- Questions related to assessment accessibility, exclusion, and refusals
- Policy related questions
- Any problems that NAEP Field Representative and NAEP Helpdesk are unable to answer

NAEP AMS and eNAEP Helpdesk

(800) 283-6237

naephelp@westat.com

- Technical issues with AMS
- Password recovery not working
- Unable to select or manage tiles
- Student name changes
- eNAEP Download Center

Maine Department of Education

ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS

Maine's general and alternate assessments of English language proficiency

Coordinator: Mechelle Ganglfinger

January 6 – February 27, 2026

Maine Department of Education

New in 2025 – 2026
General ACCESS

- Redesigned ACCESS – complete alignment to 2020 ELD Standards Framework
- Social/instructional language embedded throughout forms, rather than just entry level folders/tasks
- Audio streaming – slowly phasing out CDs for paper-based forms
- 4th Grade Writing Booklet option – Maine specific
- Technology updates – Chrome version 15 will not work as of August 2025. Webinar with all updates available in the SEA Secure Portal, please share with Technology Coordinators

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New in 2025 – 2026 Kindergarten ACCESS

If you're familiar with Kindergarten ACCESS for ELLs, you'll notice the following changes on WIDA ACCESS for Kindergarten:

- Fewer test materials to manage (no more activity board and fewer cards!)
- All four domains connect to a single new storyline
- Each language domain is administered once, with no starting or skipping rules
- New task types reflect everyday classroom practices
- A separate score sheet to mark student scores for Listening and Speaking, Writing, and Reading
- Revised scoring protocols and rubrics for Speaking and Writing tasks

Maine Department of Education

Learn more about the changes to ACCESS on the WIDA ACCESS in 2025-2026 webpage

2025-2026 Important Dates

9/1/2025 - 10/24/2025

For students who require paper-based materials per the IEP or 504 Plan, a Paper Materials Request must be submitted by the SAU.

Access the instructions and request here: Maine DOE English Language Proficiency Assessments

11/20/2025 - 2/2026

This year, WIDA will begin providing student reports for participants in LT4D

For students who qualify for participation and reporting of less than four domains due to a documented exceptionality, a Less Than Four Domains Request must be submitted by the SAU.

Access the instructions and request here: Maine DOE English Language Proficiency Assessments

Maine Department of Education

WIDA Secure Portal 2025-2026 Trainings

District ACCESS Test Coordinators ensure that all educators administering ACCESS in SY2025-2026 complete the appropriate training course in the WIDA Secure Portal as well as the certification quiz with a score of 80% or greater.

2025-2026 Required Training for Test Administrators of WIDA ACCESS

- Speaking for Grades 1-5: Scoring WIDA ACCESS Paper
- Speaking for Grades 6-12: Scoring WIDA ACCESS Paper
- Speaking for Grades 1-5: Scoring WIDA Screener and WIDA ACCESS Braille
- Speaking for Grades 6-12: Scoring WIDA Screener and WIDA ACCESS Braille
- ACCESS Braille Speaking
- Kindergarten ACCESS: Administration and Scoring (available beginning 9/29/25)
- ACCESS 4th grade Writing Domain (paper booklet) - Maine DOE specific

Recommended Annual Recertification

- Online ACCESS: Administration
- Paper ACCESS: Administration
- WIDA Alternate ACCESS: Administration and Scoring (required if completed prior to 9/1/2024)

Maine Department of Education

WIDA Facilitated Webinar Series

Expanding Reading Instruction with Multilingual Learners

Webinar Series:

Monday, October 6th AND October 20th

3:00-4:30 p.m.

Register with QR code.
Deadline for registration: 9/26/2025

WIDA's Expanding Reading Instruction with Multilingual Learners

When Language and Disability Meet: Planning Instruction to Support Dually Identified Students

Webinar Series:
Thursday, November 13 from 3:15-5:00 p.m. AND
Thursday, November 20 from 3:15-4:45 p.m.

Register with QR code.
Deadline for registration: 11/3/2025

WIDA's When Language and Disability Meet: Planning Instruction for MLs with

Maine Department of Education

PL for 25/26 School Year

Overview of ACCESS for MLs for New Test Coordinators (all coordinators welcome)
Monday, November 17, 2025, 3:15-4:15 p.m.

Alternate ACCESS for MLs: An overview
Monday, December 1, 2025, 3:15-4:15 p.m.

Accessibility Features and Accommodations on the ACCESS Assessment
Monday, December 15, 2025, 3:15-4:15 p.m.

English Language Proficiency Data Interpretation & Integration
Monday, May 11, 2026, 3:15-4:30 p.m.

To see a full description and to register for these webinars please see the
Event Calendar | Department of Education

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WIDA ACCESS & Alternate ACCESS

Whom do I contact?

WIDA Client Services Center

(866) 276-7735

help@wida.wisc.edu

- WIDA Secure Portal account creation
- Assessment training modules
- Self-paced e-learning resources

Data Recognition Corporation (DRC)

(855) 787-9615

WIDA@datarecognitioncorp.com

- WIDA AMS account creation
- Technical issues with the WIDA AMS platform, including finding students, assigning accommodations, and creating test sessions
- Technical issues with the installation of the DRC lockdown browser

Maine Department of Education Assessment Team

(207) 242-4244

Mechelle.Ganglfinger@maine.gov

- Questions related to assessment coordination, administration, and accessibility
- Policy-related questions
- Fixing a student who appears on your assessment roster in NEO but does not appear in WIDA AMS
  - *Please wait at least 36 hours after making the update in Synergy.*
- Any problems that WIDA and DRC Customer Services are unable to answer

Maine Department of Education

Multi-State Alternate Assessment - MSAA

Maine's alternate assessments based on alternate academic achievement standards in reading, math and science (AA-AAAS)

Coordinator: Mechelle Ganglfinger

March 9 – April 24, 2026

Maine Department of Education

Important reminder!
MSAA Reports are available for download through 9/12/2025

To download reports, Test Coordinators will need their MSAA login credentials.

Guidance for downloading reports is provided on **pages 40–41** of the MSAA Online Assessment System User Guide for Test Coordinators.

For help retrieving login credentials or setting up new user accounts, please contact the MSAA Service Center at 866-834-8879.

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2025-2026 Important Dates - MSAA

9/10/25 - Alternate Assessment Office Hours

1/5/26 - 1/30/26 – SAUs complete Test Coordinator Survey to identify who will be serving as the MSAA TC

2/17/26 – MSAA System goes live for Spring 2026

2/17/26 – MSAA Training Modules available

3/9/26 – 4/24/2026 – Administration Window

Daily Office Hours will be held from 1-2pm throughout the assessment window.

To set up an office hours appointment, please reach out to Mechelle Ganglfinger.

7/13/26 - 9/18/26 – Online reporting window for 2026 MSAA and MSAA Science

Maine Department of Education

Upcoming Training Opportunities

1% - Overview of Maine's Alternate Assessments (AA-AAAS)
Wednesday, September 17, 2025, 3:15-4:15 p.m.

MSAA: 1% Action Plan Training
Wednesday, October 15, 2025, 3:15-4:15 p.m.

MSAA: Practical Applications and Intended Uses of Data
Wednesday, October 22, 2025, 3:15-4:15 p.m.

MSAA Training for Alternate Assessment Test Coordinators (TCs)
Wednesday, January 21, 2026, 3:15-4:15 p.m.

MSAA Training for Alternate Assessment Test Administrators (TAs)
Wednesday, February 4, 2026, 3:15-4:15 p.m.

MSAA Early Stopping Rule
Wednesday, February 25, 2026 3:15-4:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 3, 2026 10:00-10:45 a.m.

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To see a full description and to register for these webinars please see the Event Calendar | Department of Education

Multi-State Alternate Assessment
Whom do I contact?

MSAA Service Desk

866-834-8879

MSAAServiceCenter@cognia.org

Live Chat available

- **Issues with the platform**
- **Questions around account permissions/creation**
- **Mandatory training modules and quiz**
- **Help logging in**

Maine DOE Assessment Team

(207) 242-4244

Mechelle.Ganglfinger@maine.gov

- Questions related to assessment coordination, administration, and accessibility
- Policy-related questions
- Fixing a student who appears on your assessment roster in NEO but does not appear in the MSAA Platform
  - *Please wait at least 36 hours after making the update in Synergy*.
- Any problems that MSAA Service Desk is unable to answer

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Assessment Team
Lunch ‘n’ Learn Office Hours

Q&A

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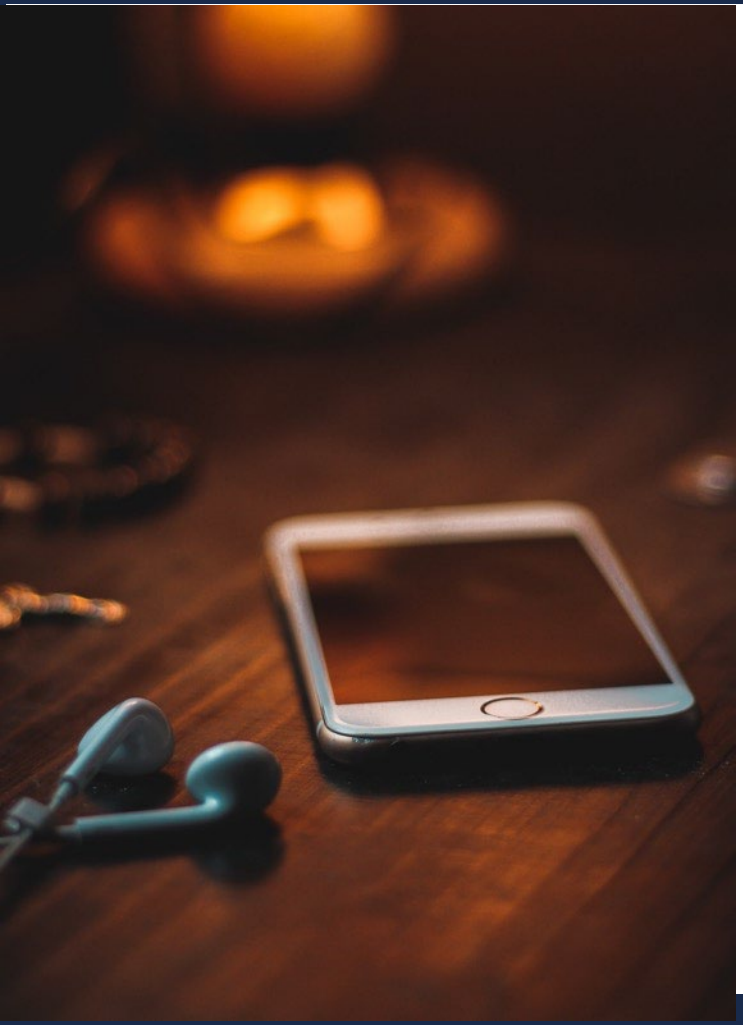

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