

# NAEP 2012 in Missouri



**NAEP is an integral part of American education.**

## What is NAEP?

NAEP, or the **National Assessment of Educational Progress**, is an essential measurement of student achievement in the United States.

- ⇒ NAEP was first administered in 1969, and is the largest continuing and nationally representative assessment of what our nation's students know and can do in core subjects such as mathematics, reading, science, and writing.
- ⇒ The schools and students participating in NAEP represent other schools and students within states, and across the country.
- ⇒ NAEP is considered the gold standard of assessments because of its high technical quality. The assessment frameworks are developed with input from assessment specialists, education experts, teachers, and content specialists from around the nation.
- ⇒ NAEP monitors student progress over time and reports on student achievement nationally and on the state level.

## How will districts/schools know they are in the NAEP 2012 sample for Missouri?

District superintendents of sampled Missouri schools will be sent letters of notification from Dr. Sharon Hoge, Assistant Commissioner, in May 2011.

Principals of sampled schools will be sent letters of notification from Cynthia Hollis, Director of NAEP, in May 2011. (District test coordinators will be copied on both letters.)

## When will the NAEP assessments be administered?

The **NAEP 2012 Long-Term Trend** in Mathematics and Reading assessment windows are as follows:

- Age 13: October 10—December 16, 2011
- Age 9: January 9—March 16, 2012
- Age 17: March 19—May 25, 2012

The assessment window for **Grade 4 Computer-Based Writing; Grade 12 Economics, Mathematics and Reading** pilot is January 23—March 2, 2012.

The scheduled assessment dates will be sent to principals of all Missouri sampled schools so the NAEP 2012 assessment date can be included on their 2011-12 school calendar.

## How are Missouri districts/schools selected for the sample?

The NAEP sample is designed to ensure that the schools and students selected to take the assessment are representative of students across the United States and is selected by a contractor with the United States Department of Education (Westat, Inc.) using the Common Core of Data (CCD).

A multi-stage, stratified random sampling process is used in which various strata (e.g., school size/location, student demographics, etc.) are considered to ensure that the sample is representative of all students in Missouri, as well as in the nation.

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## What grade levels are assessed?

Sampled schools may be selected for one or more age/grade level assessment. The NAEP 2012 Long-Term Trend assessments are administered at ages 9, 13 and/or 17; all other assessments are administered at grades 4, 8 and/or 12.

## What content areas are assessed?

The NAEP 2012 Long-Term Trend assessment includes mathematics and reading.

The NAEP Computer-Based Writing assessment will be conducted at grade 4 only.

The Economics assessment and national field test in mathematics and reading will be conducted at grade 12.

NCES may potentially conduct a set of special studies as well.

Each student selected for participation will take only one content area assessment.

## How long are the assessments?

Some NAEP 2012 assessments are paper-pencil and some are computer-based.

Paper-pencil assessments take approximately 90 minutes (including instructions, distribution and collection of materials).

The computer-based assessments may take up to 120 minutes (including instructions, distribution and collection of materials).



## Who will administer the NAEP assessment?

Contractors with the United States Department of Education (Westat, Inc.) will administer the assessment and keep track of all assessment materials before, during and after the assessment. However, it is important that a teacher (or other certified staff member) be present in the classroom during the assessment to assist with unexpected situations which may arise (e.g., child becomes ill during assessment, etc.).

## It's important to know that. . .

NAEP items can be used as a helpful educational resource in the classroom. Teachers can use actual NAEP items that have been released to see how student's performance compares to national, state and regional results on specific items.

Released NAEP items come with a scoring guide, sample student responses, and performance data by state. All of this information is provided in the **NAEP Questions Tool** which can be found at

<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/itmrlsx/>  
or on the Missouri Department of Education NAEP Webpage at  
<http://www.dese.mo.gov/divimprove/naep/index.htm>

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