



**Saraland City Schools**  
**Assessment and Evaluation of Student Learning**

**FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT**

*An intentional process during instruction to support the learning of planned instructional outcomes by monitoring student progress, providing feedback, and adjusting teaching practices*

**Teacher-designed** includes but is not limited to observing, questioning as well as use of practice, quizzes, tests, projects, checklists, rubrics, and other methods to measure student progress and instructional effectiveness.

**Alabama Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (AlaKiDs)** aids in the identification of student readiness for kindergarten. The inventory typically conducted during the first month of school by the classroom teacher is used to gauge readiness levels in student knowledge, skills, and abilities in multiple content areas, including math, literacy, and social/emotional development.

**Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS)** assesses student mastery of early reading skills of all K-3 students. Fall, winter, and spring administrations provide data for progress monitoring student growth over time.

**iReady** reading and math diagnostic assessments are used as a universal screener for all K-11 students. Diagnostic results provide data to assist in the determination of students in need of academic support. Fall, winter, and spring administrations provide data for progress monitoring student growth over time.

**SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT**

*An instructional tool used as a culminating evaluation of student mastery or understanding of target standards*

**Alabama Comprehensive Assessment Program (ACAP) Summative Assessment** is administered each spring through an online format. The ACAP Summative measures student mastery of state-mandated course of study standards in English language arts (ELA) to include reading, and math for all students in grades 2-8. Disaggregated sub-group and grade level proficiency and growth measures are reported by the state for accountability purposes. ACAP Summative grade level specific information is as follows:

- Proficiency scores for second grade students are not reported for accountability purposes, rather data are used as a baseline from which student growth in grade 3 is measured.
- A writing component is also included for grades 4 through 8.
- In addition to ELA and math, students in grades 4, 6, and 8 take a science assessment.

Online tools training and an assessment tutorial is available at [ACAP Summative Assessment](#).

**Alternate ACAP Assessment** is an alternative criterion-referenced state assessment administered to students with significant cognitive disabilities working to achieve the Alabama Alternate Achievement Standards (AAS) as prescribed in the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP). For more information on the Alternate ACAP email the system test coordinator, Dr. Frankie Mathis, [fmathis@saralandboe.org](mailto:fmathis@saralandboe.org) or the Director of Special Programs, Mrs. Amy Pippins [apippins@saralandboe.org](mailto:apippins@saralandboe.org).

**PreACT** simulates the ACT testing experience on all four ACT test subjects: English, math, reading, and science reasoning in an abbreviated format. PreACT test results predict future success on the ACT test and provide both current achievement and projected future ACT test scores on the 1-36 ACT score scale. Students in grade 10 take the PreACT in the fall as a component of the state mandated ACAP. Each spring, the district administers the PreACT to students in grade 9 as a baseline to measure future academic growth.

**ACT with Writing** is a component of the state mandated ACAP. The ACT with Writing is administered **free of charge** to all grade 11 students enrolled in Alabama public high schools. The ACT contains four curriculum-based tests which measure academic achievement in the areas of English, mathematics, reading, and science reasoning. The tests are measures of academic development which rely largely on students' skills in applying the content knowledge and reasoning skills acquired in their course work. The ACT is accepted by four-year colleges and universities in the United States for college admissions and scholarship application purposes. The state reports a calculated measure of growth based on prior student performance on the PreACT, subtests and composite. Additionally, the school/district's average ACT score on English, math, and science are reported for accountability in student achievement proficiency.

Each spring, Saraland students in grade 10 are administered the ACT without the writing assessment free of charge as a tool to progress monitor student achievement. ACT preparation resources are available. To obtain login credentials or for more information about the ACT assessment, email Saraland High School Assistant Principal, Mr. Scott Croley at [scroley@saralandboe.org](mailto:scroley@saralandboe.org).

**ACT WorkKeys** is a research-based measure used to assess foundational workplace readiness prior to graduation. In the fall and spring, students in grade 12 who have not previously earned a college or career ready credential take the Applied Mathematics, Graphic Literacy, and Workplace Documents tests. Based on the scores attained on the three assessments, students may be eligible to earn a Bronze, Silver, Gold, or Platinum ACT National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC). ACT Curriculum, an online WorkKeys preparation resource, is available. To obtain login credentials or for more information, email Mr. Scott Croley, Assistant Principal, [scroley@saralandboe.org](mailto:scroley@saralandboe.org).

**ACCESS for ELLs 2.0** is administered annually to Alabama students in grades K-12 identified as an English language learner until a composite score of 4.8 is achieved. The assessment monitors students' progress in acquiring academic English within the school context, as well as language associated with language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies across four domains of Speaking, Listening, Reading, and Writing. For more information, email Mrs. Lindsey Simmons, English Learner Resource Teacher, [lsimmons@saralandboe.org](mailto:lsimmons@saralandboe.org).

**PSAT/NMSQT** (or National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) is a preliminary version of the SAT. Not only does the PSAT help prepare students to take the SAT or ACT, but a great score on the PSAT can also open the door to National Merit Scholarships and other awards. Each fall, Saraland students in grade 10 enrolled in Honors/AP courses as well as grade 11 students who previously earned PSAT composite score of 80% or higher are encouraged to take the assessment. All students interested in taking the PSAT should contact a high school counselor for more information.

**National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)** is a national assessment, reporting scores in math, reading, science, and writing. Annually, the assessment is administered to a sample of students in selected schools across the nation, as determined by state and national authorities.

**College Board Advanced Placement (AP) Examination** represents a culminating assessment AP curriculum aligned with rigorous high school courses designed to mirror undergraduate college courses. After completing an AP class, students take the AP exam in that subject. A qualifying score on the exam can earn a student credits and accelerated placement in college. Students should consult with college(s) of choice for credit eligibility requirements or visit [www.collegeboard.com/research](http://www.collegeboard.com/research). The testing fee (\$95.00, non-refundable) may be reduced or waived based upon guidelines articulated by the Alabama State Department of Education for students who receive free/reduced lunches or by Saraland Board of Education supplemental funding. Currently, the Saraland Board of Education pays half of the examination fee for all students. No student will be denied participation in the AP Program due to financial hardship.