ND A+ Summative Assessment - Frequently Asked Questions

Accessibility and Accommodations

If the district uses the ND A+ Interim Assessment, will the accommodations carry over to the summative test, or do we need to re-enter them?

NDDPI did a one-time pull of student testing supports and accommodations in preparation for the ND A+ Summative Assessment. We pulled the data from TIENET on 2/2/2025 and fed it into ADAM on 2/5/2025.

You will notice in ADAM that each student has an interim accommodations profile and a separate summative accommodations profile. The initial pull and feed of student testing supports and accommodations at the beginning of the school year for the ND A+ Interims was not used to feed the summative accommodations profiles for students.

Is Speech to Text available as an embedded accommodation in TestNav?

There are two extensions that work with the TestNav app. See Appendix O of the [ND A+ Summative Assessment Test Administration Manual](#) for information. The functionality for students to use Co:Writer and Read&Write Speech to Text is embedded within TestNav, the testing platform for students. If Speech to Text is previously selected in the student's accommodation profile in ADAM, when a student logs into TestNav, they will have the option to select the appropriate Speech to Text extension before they begin testing.

Please Note:

Within any equation editor items in math, Speech to Text is not compatible and will not work appropriately with either option.

With iPads, iOS version 16.4 and forward have been able to use Co:Writer and Read&Write with the following exceptions.

> Read&Write on iOS

- After a tester uses Talk & Type, if another tester uses the same device without closing the app and relaunching, the Talk & Type feature will not be available because the permission to use the tester's microphone is not presented to the new tester. Consequently, please make sure that the app must be closed between users if devices are shared.

- Click to Speak functionality does not work on Start/Welcome Page, terms & Conditions page, and Start/End Section Pages.
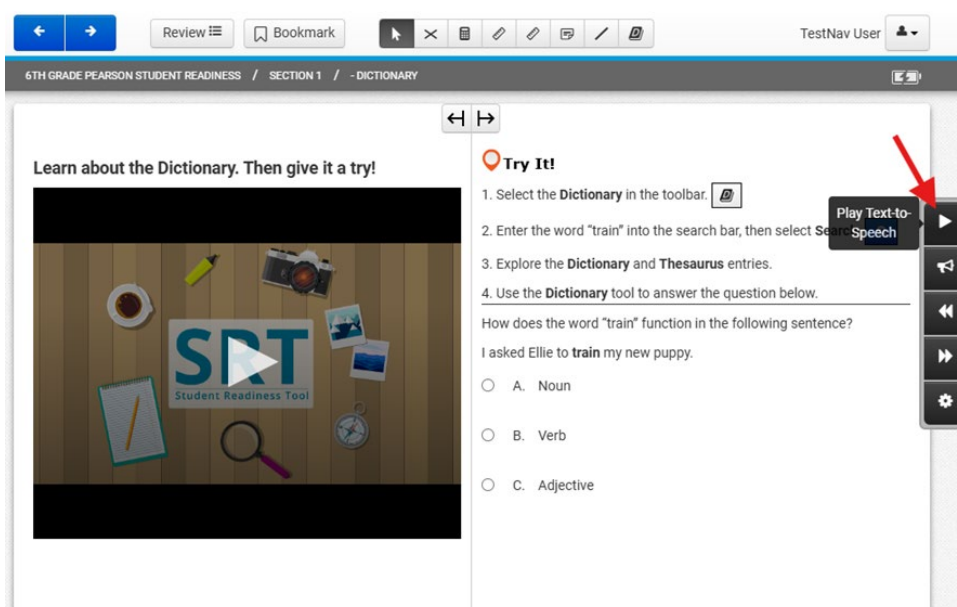
What do the different options mean in the ADAM accommodations report?

- Empty cell = no accommodation applied
- 1 = accommodation applied
- NA = accommodation not available for that test

Is Text to Speech built into TestNav? In which subject assessments is the tool available?

Text to Speech is built into TestNav, the testing platform used to deliver the ND A+ Summative Assessment to students. There is not an extra or additional app that needs to be pushed out for this feature. The Technology Setup page on the ND A+ Portal has more information and the download of TestNav. Educators and students can get an idea of how text-to-speech functions in TestNav through the practice tests and the Student Readiness Tool.

Below is a screen shot from the 6th Grade Student Readiness Tool showing the Text to Speech button in the tool bar.

Headphones need to be made available to all students during testing as Text to Speech (audio of the test) is universally available in some degree within all of the subject assessments. While students do not have to use the Text to Speech feature, headphones must be available if they choose to use that feature so as to not disturb other students during testing.

Audio of the entire test – directions, test items, questions, and response options – is available in the math and science assessments. Audio is available for the directions, reading passages, and prompts in the writing assessment. The responses/essays that the student writes will not be read aloud. In the reading assessment, only the directions can be read aloud to all students. Further Text to Speech in the reading test is only available for students with a documented accommodation and those accommodation selections made in the student's accommodation profile in ADAM.

General Information

I am a Tech Coordinator solely responsible for installing the testing application TestNav on the testing devices. Do I need an account set up in ADAM?

No. The main function of having educators or personnel with accounts in LaunchPad ADAM is so they can view and access the data and student results directly and assist with pre-administration tasks, such as viewing and editing student accommodations and creating proctor groups. If you are not involved in any of those tasks, an account is not necessary. Additional information on downloading TestNav can be found on the [ND A+ Portal](#) > [Technology Setup](#).

How do I change the role of a teacher to School Coordinator?

NDDPI has to manually make this change since the teacher role and course/class association is being pulled in during our daily data file process. Please email kwelk@nd.gov to request role updates or creation.

How would other content teachers that don't have access to ADAM view student performance results?

Other teachers can be added as a Site Admin/School Coordinator level if they need the ability to view and directly access the data and student results. In addition, student performance can be exported from ADAM and shared with teachers that do not have access.

Can Site or School admins proctor tests?

Yes.

Does attending the ND A+ workshops or webinar mean that I completed my proctoring training requirements?

No.

How far up or down by grade level does the system adapt?

The ND A+ Summative Assessment is on grade level only, based on the content standards for that grade level and subject. This was true of the NDSA as well. Please refer to the ND A+ blueprints on the [ND A+ Portal](#) for further details.

Question about the summative tests themselves. Some of our staff have heard that it is an adaptive test. Is it adaptive or fixed form?

Science is the only test that is linear/fixed form for the 2024-2025 ND A+ Summative Assessment. The other subjects are computer adaptive.

Reporting of Results

Are we able to see real time scores this year?

There is a delay in student scores and results this first year. The writing assessment is mostly being hand scored this first year, which takes more time. Also, with a transition to a new assessment, a process called standard setting must occur before scores, reports, and student results can be finalized and shared. The standard setting process involves ND educators who use the first operational test results, test items, and other information to determine the "cut scores." A cut score is the minimum scale score students must receive to be classified into a certain achievement or proficiency level (Novice, Partially Proficient, Proficient, and Advanced). The standard setting process ensures that educator committees set the parameters for acceptable grade level rigor, student expectations, and applicable ND A+ Summative Assessment scores. This process must happen any time we (or any state) change the summative assessment and typically only occurs the first year of a new assessment. After standard setting, we will then know the scale score for students and which achievement or proficiency level that places them in (Novice,

Partially Proficient, Proficient, and Advanced). That information is used for accountability, which is why that process will be delayed this year as well.

Test Administration

Can multiple proctors use the same test code and proctor password?

There is no limit on the number of proctors using the same test code and proctor password. Depending on the number of students in a single proctor group, the proctor may have to navigate through pages of students to find and take any actions for students sitting in a testing room with them.

If multiple proctors are sharing the same group, one person (either one proctor or the School Coordinator) needs to create the group.

Can a proctor have multiple testing sessions open at the same time for students that might be testing in different subject areas and/or grades?

Yes, you can have multiple proctor groups open at once. There is no limit.

Can a different proctor do a make-up session to finish the testing for students who did not finish testing in a previous session?

Yes, the proctor should share the test code proctor password with the new proctor.

In the previous summative assessment, I could have a student start their next test right away using the same session. Now do they have to wait for the entire group to finish before starting their next test?

The student cannot start another subject test in the same testing session. Each subject test is considered a separate administration in ADAM. The student would need to complete one test and log back into TestNav for a different subject test using a different test code. The proctor will have to navigate from one dashboard to another for each subject, but you can have all proctor dashboards open at one time.

Is there a separate test ticket for writing or is it included under reading?

The reading and writing tests are administered separately.

In what circumstances would re-opening a session be considered appropriate?

The guidelines are more stringent for the ND A+ Summative Assessment as opposed to the ND A+ Interims. The most common circumstance that would warrant this in the summative experience would be if a student started testing and the appropriate accommodation was not set in advance. The Test Administration Manual does state that "A test should never be reset to give a student a second opportunity. Each student is allowed one opportunity to be assessed." We may allow a re-test for a student that rushed through the test if the student was not in the test for much time, but we do check the testing time quite closely with these requests.

If students need to take a break in the middle of a test (bathroom, water, recess) do they log all the way out and then use the code to get back in or is there a pause?

There is not a pause button in TestNav. This is quite a change from our previous TIDE platform with Cambium.

There are two options to deal with a student pausing:
1. The student can exit the test and come back at later time. When students exit the test, their status will change in the proctor dashboard. When they are ready to start back up the proctor will click on the three little dots to the right of their name and select "Reseat Session". Here is a screenshot of what it looks like.

    Appendix J in the [ND A+ Summative Assessment Test Administration Manual](#) provides further details about the reseating process. Reseating will allow the student to re-enter their test code and student ID number to resume their assessment session. When exiting and re-entering the test, the students will re-enter the location within the assessment where they last were. (One side note, if the student had responded to a question/test item(s)

on the screen, then exited TestNav, the student will re-enter the assessment at that same spot, but it will not have saved the student's response(s) on that screen. The student would need to respond to the question/test item(s) on the screen and select 'Next' in order to save those responses.)

2. The second option is for the student to stay signed into the test and have the proctor monitor the student's testing device while the student is taking a break, such as a restroom break. If the device is portable, the student can give the device to the proctor. If the student is testing with a desktop or other non-portable device, the proctor must monitor the student device until the student returns. TestNav automatically logs a student out after 20 minutes of both user and student inactivity in the session and the student will be in an exited status. If that occurs, the proctor can reseat the student in the proctor dashboard.

Is there an update on how the test saves? Can a student go back and change answers?

The science tests are linear this year. That is only the case for the 2024-2025 school year. The other subjects are computer adaptive. In 2025-2026 and beyond, all subjects will be computer adaptive.

For this spring, students will be able to navigate backward and forward in the science assessment as much as they want since it is linear. They can go back to previous questions and change answers before submitting the science assessment. (There is no option to flag questions.)

The other subjects are computer adaptive. In the math assessment, the student will see a test item/question on the screen and must answer and respond before being able to move forward. Once the student selects 'Next" and advances to the next item, they cannot go back to any previous questions. In the reading assessment, there are some single item/questions like math, but most are passage based. Within a reading passage, the student can navigate back and forth through the questions related to that same passage, but they cannot go back once they move beyond that passage set. The writing is two prompts, two writing tasks. The student will see the first short reading passage and prompt. They must respond to that prompt and complete and submit that essay before they can see the second short reading passage and prompt. Once they get to the second prompt, they cannot go back to the first prompt and essay.

If the student device has been inactive for close to 20 minutes, will TestNav display a warning that they are about to be exited out of TestNav?

There is no warning displayed prior to the inactivity timer triggering an error/exit in TestNav.

Is there a set number of days that students have to finish the test?

No. Students have the entire test window – March 17th to May 9th – to complete each of the assessments.

Can you clarify the format and expectations for the writing prompts?

Each student will receive two unrelated writing prompts from three potential writing categories: informative, opinion/argumentative and narrative. Students must complete and submit the first writing prompt before they will be able to see the second writing prompt.

Some additional writing guidance was posted on the ND A+ Portal > Summative Resources.