

### Multiple Measures to Help Students Learn

The Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS), pronounced "en-skass," is a statewide assessment system that embodies Nebraska's holistic view of students and helps them prepare for success in postsecondary education, career, and civic life. It uses multiple measures throughout the year to provide educators and decision makers at all levels with the insights they need to support student learning.

### Informing Instruction to Accelerate Learning

Guided by the six tenets of AQuESTT and developed and implemented collaboratively by the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE), districts, schools, and NWEA, NSCAS provides a balance of formative, interim, and summative data and includes a strong focus on professional learning and assessment literacy.

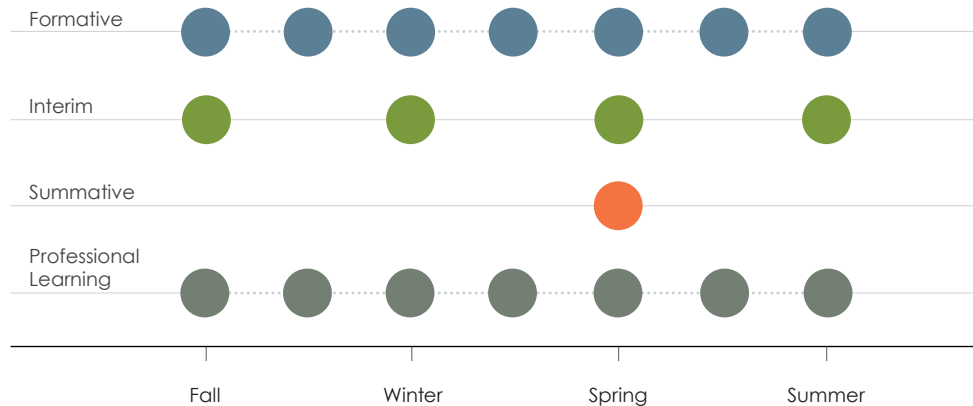
#### NSCAS GENERAL SUMMATIVE CONTENT AREA STANDARDS

##### ELA and Math (Grades 3–8)

Based on Nebraska's College and Career Ready Standards

##### Science (Grades 5&8)

Based on Nebraska's College and Career Ready Standards



### Formative

Formative assessment enables educators and students to check for understanding during instruction and adjust teaching and learning accordingly.

### Summative

The NSCAS General Summative is an adaptive statewide assessment that measures student performance against Nebraska's content area standards in English language arts and math for grades 3–8 and in science for grades 5 and 8. At the high school level, the ACT, administered to all third-year cohort students, is the summative assessment in English language arts, math, and science.

In spring 2021, a shorter test (the NSCAS Phase I Pilot) will be administered for ELA and mathematics in lieu of the NSCAS General Summative. In addition, instead of the NSCAS General Summative for science, a census field test for Nebraska's College and Career Ready Standards for Science will be administered. Given the transitional nature of the tests and the unique challenges of the 2020-21 school year, results will not be reported publicly or used for accountability.

### Interim

Interim assessments help Nebraska educators measure academic growth and identify student learning needs. NDE provides MAP® Growth™ to districts to use in concert with other interim assessments of their choice. It is currently used by all Nebraska districts to accurately measure performance—whether a student is on, above, or below grade level. Timely, easy-to-use reports help teachers teach, students learn, and administrators lead.

### Professional Learning

In addition to the professional learning already in place in districts and schools, NDE provides professional learning opportunities to support Nebraska educators in effectively using data to inform instruction and make decisions that support student learning. Online and onsite workshops led by Nebraska Certified Facilitators address formative assessment, assessment literacy, and applying growth data to instruction. Workshops are complemented with extended learning content online.

## **A Dependable Experience**

MAP Growth and the NSCAS General Summative assessment operate on the NWEA Comprehensive Assessment Platform—a secure, stable system that many districts in Nebraska know and trust. Platform continuity with the MAP Suite means student data is managed with the same proven security protocols, assessment delivery remains consistent, and integration happens just once. The familiar interface and scalable platform ensure Nebraska students and educators have a seamless testing experience.

**Implementation and support services are available to help ensure that Nebraska educators have a seamless and predictable experience with MAP Growth and the NSCAS General Summative assessment:**

### **Nebraska NWEA Support**

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