

Individual Student Report Interpretive Guide for Parents

**2025–2026 NSCAS General
English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science**

Contributors

Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) Summative and Alternate Assessments are administered by the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE):

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The assessment contractor is NWEA.

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Part 1—Introduction

About NSCAS General assessments

The Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS), pronounced “EN-skass,” is a state-wide assessment. These assessments measure student performance against Nebraska's content area standards. In the spring, all students in grades 3–8 take the NSCAS General assessments in ELA and Mathematics, and students in grades 5 and 8 take the NSCAS Science assessment.

When your student completed the NSCAS General assessments, the results were calculated and a score was generated and reported in the form of an Individual Student Report (ISR). This guide provides a sample ISR and explains the data it contains to help you understand your student's report. If you have questions after reading this guide and reviewing your student's ISR, you can find more information under the Parents/Students link at <https://connection.nwea.org/s/nebraska>. If you have additional questions, please contact your student's teacher or school.

Student achievement reporting

Student achievement on the NSCAS General assessments is reported with a scale score and achievement level.

Scale scores range from 2220–2890 for ELA, 1000–1550 for Math, and 3000–3250 for Science. The scale score is an estimate of student achievement. The estimate is generated based on the questions the student answered correctly and then converted to a standard scale.

The Nebraska State Board of Education has defined three achievement levels for each content area:

- **Developing:** Learners do not yet demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level, as specified in the assessed Nebraska College and Career Ready Standards. These results provide evidence that the student may need additional support for academic success at the next grade level.
- **On Track:** Learners demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level, as specified in the assessed Nebraska College and Career Ready Standards. These results provide evidence that the student will likely be ready for academic success at the next grade level.
- **Advanced:** Learners demonstrate high levels of proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level, as specified in the assessed Nebraska College and Career Ready Standards. These results provide evidence that the student will likely be ready for academic success at the next grade level.

Part 2—Individual Student Report

The Individual Student Report, or ISR, shows a student's achievement on the NSCAS General assessments.

A sample ISR is available on the following pages. Descriptions of the various areas of the report are below.

1. **Identification Information:** The top-right corner has the student's identification information. This includes the student's name, state student ID, grade, and the district and school where the student was enrolled when they were tested.
2. **Report Introduction:** This section describes the NSCAS General assessments and explains what the scores and achievement levels mean. It also explains how the results are used in the classroom.
3. **Overall Performance:** This section gives an overview of the student's results and also shows the average score for all Nebraska students in this grade and content area.

The student score shows the student's actual scale score in each content area, and the achievement level helps explain what the score means. The possible range shows where we would expect the student to score if they tested again under similar circumstances.

Score ranges for each content area are scaled separately. This means that you shouldn't compare the student's score number for one content area to another. To compare the student's performance in different content areas, use the achievement level (Advanced, On Track, Developing) instead.

If your student is missing a score, refer to [Common Questions](#) on page 7.

4. **Student's Yearly Growth:** This graph shows the student's growth over time and compares it to the achievement scale. If the student didn't take a test during a particular testing season, there won't be a score for that season.
5. **Student's Content Area Score:** This section shows the student's score and explains their achievement level. The diagram shows where the student's score falls on the achievement scale. The dot shows the student's score, and the lines on either side show the possible score range.

If your student is missing a score, refer to [Common Questions](#) on page 7.

6. **Reporting Category Scores:** This section shows the student's score in the different reporting categories. Each content area is split into multiple reporting categories. For example, Vocabulary is a reporting category for English Language Arts. NSCAS Science tests do not have reporting categories.

Reporting category scores provide more insight into the student's achievement in different areas and can help inform teachers on how to address learning needs.

If your student is missing a score, refer to [Common Questions](#) on page 7.

Figure 1: Individual Student Report page 1 sample



NSCAS General Assessment Spring 2026
Individual Student Report

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AGUIRRE, KAREN
ID: 9999993802
Grade: 03
School: TRAINING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 1A
District: TRAINING DISTRICT 1

What is NSCAS? NSCAS stands for Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System. Students in grades 3-8 take this assessment each spring to understand how well students are learning grade-level skills and whether they're on track for success in school, college, and beyond.

What do the NSCAS scores mean? The NSCAS score represents what the student knows about each content area in terms of what is expected for their grade level based on Nebraska content standards. The results help schools and families know how to support learning and prepare for the next school year.

What are the Achievement Levels? NSCAS uses three achievement levels to describe student learning: **Developing**, **On Track**, and **Advanced**. These levels help explain how much your child understands and what kind of support they might need. Students in the **Developing** level are still building grade-level skills and may need extra support for success in the next grade. **On Track** students meet grade-level expectations and show readiness for the next grade. Students in the **Advanced** level demonstrate advanced proficiency with grade-level standards and are prepared for success in the next grade.

KAREN's Overall Performance

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Content Area	Student Score	Achievement Level	Possible Range	State Average
English Language Arts	2499	On Track	2220-2840	2456
Mathematics	1276	Advanced	1000-1470	1160



The NSCAS score represents what the student knows about each content area in terms of what is expected for their grade level. For more information on NSCAS assessments, visit <https://www.education.ne.gov/assessment/nscas-system/> or scan the QR code.

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Figure 2: Individual Student Report page 2 sample

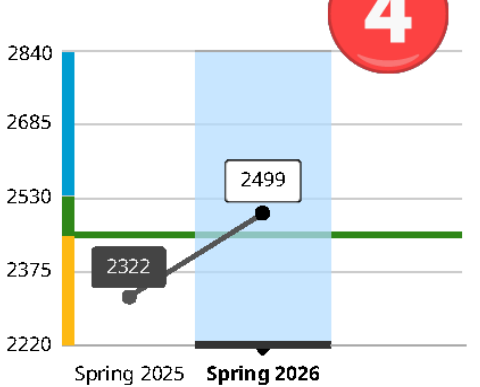


NSCAS General Assessment Spring 2026
Individual Student Report

AGUIRRE, KAREN
ID: 9999993802
Grade: 03

English Language Arts Spring 2026 Achievement Level: On Track

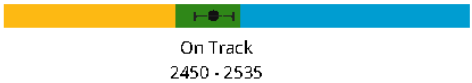
Student's Yearly Growth



Students should be at the On Track level by the end of the year to be considered ready for the next grade.

Student's English Language Arts Score

2499* Learners demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level, as specified in the assessed Nebraska College and Career Ready Standards. These results provide evidence that the student will likely be ready for academic success at the next grade level.



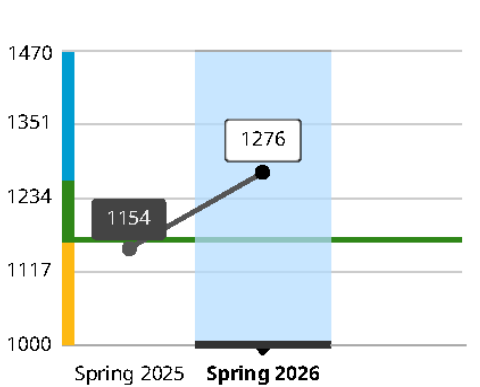
Reporting Category Scores

2571	2499	2435	2467
Reading Prose and Poetry	Reading Informational Text	Vocabulary	Writing

The overall score is not an exact average of reporting category scores.

Mathematics Spring 2026 Achievement Level: Advanced

Student's Yearly Growth



Students should be at the On Track level by the end of the year to be considered ready for the next grade.

Student's Mathematics Score

1276* Learners demonstrate high levels of proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level, as specified in the assessed Nebraska College and Career Ready Standards. These results provide evidence that the student will likely be ready for academic success at the next grade level.



Reporting Category Scores

1349	1224	1236	1251
Number	Algebra	Geometry	Data

The overall score is not an exact average of reporting category scores.

* If tested again under similar circumstances, we would expect the student's scores to fall within the range shown by the

Part 3—Common Questions

Question	Answer
How do teachers, district administrators, and state administrators use the scores from the NSCAS General assessments?	Teachers can use the scores to help them personalize learning and monitor the growth of individual students, ensuring that they are meeting state standards. Principals and administrators can use the scores to see the performance and progress of a grade level, school, or entire district in order to target investments in professional learning.
Why am I missing one of the scores for my student's test under Overall Performance?	If "No Score" appears, then the student was not assessed in that content area. If you see a three-letter code, this is called a "Not-Tested Code" (NTC). NTCs include INV (student's test was invalid), PAR (parent requested that the student not be tested), STR (student refused to be tested), and UTT (district was unable to test student). If your student had one of these NTCs assigned to their test, they received the lowest scale score and achievement level for that grade and content area.
One of the reporting category scores says NEI instead of a score. What does this mean?	NEI stands for "not enough items." It means that the student completed enough of the test to get an overall score, but did not answer enough items in this reporting category to receive a reporting category score.
How often will my student take NSCAS General assessments?	NSCAS General assessments in ELA and Mathematics are administered to students in grades 3–8, and the NSCAS General Science assessment is administered to students in grades 5 and 8 in the spring.
Are the NSCAS General assessments standardized tests?	Yes, the NSCAS General assessments are standardized tests. Standardized tests require all test takers to answer a selection of questions from a common bank of questions, and students are assessed under standardized conditions. Tests are scored in a "standard" or consistent manner, and results fulfill federal guidelines in education. Results also help educators identify student learning strengths and needs so they can tailor instruction to move student learning forward.
What types of questions are on NSCAS General assessments?	The NSCAS General assessments include multiple choice, drag-and-drop, and other types of questions. To review sample item types, visit https://connection.nwea.org/s/nebraska-practice-tests
Where do I find my student's report if I have not already received it?	Districts will distribute ISRs to schools for students to take home. If you have moved since the test was given, your report will be delivered to the new school. If you have not received the student's ISR, contact the student's school.