

Maine Department of Education
Questions and Responses
Monday, March 15, 2021
LD 277

Question: Has the use of the SAT been entirely discontinued for the purposes of assessing student performance (v. for college entry)? It was noted at the PH that DOE’s contract with the developers was discontinued last October, but it was not entirely clear if all schools had ceased use of the test.

Response: The SAT has been discontinued for implementation as the state summative assessment in order to meet ESEA mandated accountability requirements. The state will not be paying the costs associated with administering the assessment. Maine SAUs have the option to independently contract with the College Board and provide the SAT to eligible students.

Question: Has the DOE identified an alternative measure of assessment? If yes, what is that measure? If no, where does this process currently stand?

Response: As a direct response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department has contracted with NWEA in order to provide an immediate measure of student performance to support the need for actionable data to inform instructional practice. The assessment will be administered in grades 3-8, and 3rd year of high school. In response to requests from district leaders, NWEA will also be available to students in the 2nd year of high school. This latter administration is optional. The initial NWEA contract is for a period of two years. Maine is currently in the initial stages of embarking on the redesign of assessment with 145 educators statewide who have expressed interest in informing Maine’s approach to assessment and accountability.

Assessment Redesign:

4. What is your role?

[More Details](#)

Classroom Teacher	31
Superintendent	7
Curriculum Coordinator	23
Special Education directors	2
Higher Education representative	5
English learner/ESOL teachers	1
CTE Instructor	1
Administrator	25
Other	50

