
National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)



Preparing for NAEP 2013

Information for School District and School Staff

August 2012

Prepared by the
California Department of Education

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Introduction | 3 |
| NAEP 2013 Overview | 4 |
| Information for School District and School Staff | |
| Timeline of Events | 5 |
| Questions & Answers | 6 |
| District Coordinator Responsibility Checklist..... | 11 |
| School Coordinator Responsibility Checklist..... | 12 |
| Materials for Communicating with Parents and Guardians | |
| NAEP 2013 Parent and Guardian Notification Letter Template | 13 |
| NAEP 2013 School/Home Newsletter Insert Template..... | 14 |
| Resources | |
| NAEP at a Glance | 15 |
| Online Resources | 16 |

Introduction

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the only ongoing, nationally representative assessment designed to evaluate what America’s students know and can do in a variety of subjects such as reading, writing, mathematics, and science. Also known as the Nation’s Report Card, NAEP has been providing valid and reliable assessment data on student performance since 1969.

NAEP is administered by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), a division of the U.S. Department of Education. NCES contracts with the California Department of Education (CDE) to coordinate the NAEP assessments in California public schools. NAEP assessments and special studies vary from year to year. Page 15 of this packet contains a chart that displays the general schedule (i.e., NAEP at a Glance) for these assessments and special studies.

The primary purposes of this assistance packet are to prepare selected school districts and schools to participate in NAEP during the 2012–13 school year (i.e., NAEP 2013) and to assist with the communication of key information to teachers, parents, guardians, and students.

Questions about any information in this packet should be directed to Jessica Valdez, NAEP State Coordinator, CDE, by phone at 916-319-0332 or by e-mail at jvaldez@cde.ca.gov.

NAEP 2013 Overview

The NAEP 2013 assessment window is January 28 – March 8, 2013. Approximately 220 school districts and 740 schools in California have been selected to participate in NAEP 2013. The participation of all selected districts and schools in NAEP is necessary to ensure that an accurate and fair representation of student performance can be reported. Approximately 30-64 students will be randomly selected to participate from each school (some schools will have larger student samples). The list of selected school districts is posted on the CDE NAEP Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/nr/>. A more detailed description of NAEP 2013 is provided below.

NAEP 2013 Assessments

NAEP 2013 will include operational assessments in reading and mathematics for students in grades four, eight, and twelve. Results from the NAEP 2013 operational assessments will be reported at the state and national levels for grades four and eight and at the national level only for grade twelve. Additionally, school districts that are part of the NAEP Trial Urban District Assessment (TUDA) program will receive district-level results for grades four and eight in reading and mathematics. (See “Questions and Answers” for a description of the TUDA program.) Reading and mathematics results are expected to be released in fall of 2013.

NAEP 2013 also will include a computer-based pilot test in technology and engineering literacy at grade eight as well as several special studies, most of which will be spiraled into the operational assessments. Results from the pilot tests will not be released to the public.

The NAEP Timeline of Events on page 5 provides the timeline of key events that NAEP district and school coordinators should be aware of to prepare for NAEP 2013.

NAEP 2013 Timeline of Events

| | |
|--|---|
| May 2012 | School district superintendents receive notification from CDE of their district's selection for NAEP 2013, including the list of selected schools, and are asked to designate a NAEP district coordinator. |
| May 2012 | NAEP district coordinators receive notification from CDE of their district's selection for NAEP 2013 as well as a notification packet for distribution to each selected school. |
| June 2012 | NAEP district coordinators receive from CDE a test date notification packet for distribution to each selected school. |
| August 2012 | NAEP district coordinators receive from CDE a packet for each selected school with specific instructions for preparing for NAEP 2013, including designating a school coordinator. |
| September 2012 | High schools receive from CDE the NAEP <i>Best Practices</i> guide to help improve the participation and motivation of grade twelve students. New for NAEP 2013! The NAEP <i>Best Practices</i> guide will be completely electronic and will be sent to school principals on a flash drive. The guides will continue to be customized for each school, with presentations to introduce teachers and students to NAEP in their school. |
| August 1 – September 28, 2012 | Window for school and school district registration on the MySchool/MyNAEP Web site and submission of school information via the Provide School Information Web page on the MySchool/MyNAEP Web site.* (Registration must be completed prior to submission of school information.) |
| October 1–26, 2012 | Window for submission of school student list via the MySchool/MyNAEP Web site.* (This list must be submitted by either the NAEP district or school coordinator.) |
| January – February 2013 | Schools notify parents and guardians of their child's selection or possible selection to participate in NAEP 2013. <i>Please note:</i> Notification should be provided at least two weeks before the assessment date and prior to the pre-assessment visit with NAEP field staff. Notification letter and newsletter insert templates are provided on pages 13 and 14 of this packet and are available electronically on the MySchool/MyNAEP Web site.* |
| January – February 2013 | Window for NAEP field staff pre-assessment visits with NAEP school coordinators. |
| January 28 – March 8, 2013 | NAEP 2013 assessment window (Schools are assigned a specific date within this window.) |

*The MySchool/MyNAEP Web site is located at <http://www.mynaep.com/>.

Questions and Answers

What is the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)?

Often referred to as the Nation’s Report Card, NAEP is the largest nationally representative assessment of what America’s students know and can do in a variety of subjects. Federal law requires the development and administration of NAEP. The program is administered by the U.S. Department of Education’s (ED’s) National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). NAEP includes a range of studies which involve administering assessments, conducting surveys, and collecting other data in order to provide national and state-level reports about students’ educational achievement and educational experiences; teachers’ characteristics and practices; school climate; and other important educational variables.

What assessments and special studies are included in NAEP?

NAEP consists of two assessment components, main NAEP and the long-term trend (LTT). Main NAEP assesses students in grades four, eight, and twelve in a variety of subjects such as reading, writing, mathematics, and science. Most of the subjects are on different administration schedules, but some combination of main NAEP assessments are administered each year. The main NAEP frameworks and assessments are updated periodically to reflect current practices in curriculum and instruction.

The LTT assesses students ages nine, thirteen, and seventeen in reading and mathematics every four years. Unlike the main NAEP assessments, the LTT frameworks and assessments have remained essentially unchanged since they began in the early 1970s, allowing for comparisons since they began. The NAEP assessment schedule is

available on the ED NAEP Web site at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/assessmentsched.asp>.

NAEP also regularly includes special studies which may involve secondary analyses of NAEP data or special data collections to examine factors related to student achievement. Additional information is available on the NAEP Special Studies Web page at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/studies/>.

How does NAEP differ from the California Standards Tests (CSTs)?

NAEP and the CSTs differ in purpose, content, format, scoring, and reporting. While both assessments provide valid information about student achievement, it is inappropriate to make direct comparisons of results. Further detail about the differences between NAEP and the CSTs is available on the California Department of Education (CDE) NAEP Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/nr/>.

How does NAEP differ from the Smarter Balanced assessments?

NAEP is a nationwide assessment system developed and administered by the U.S. Department of Education. The main NAEP assessments measure progress in nine subjects at grades four, eight, and twelve. NAEP assessments are based on NAEP frameworks adopted by the National Assessment Governing Board, which sets NAEP policy. NAEP assesses only a sample of schools and students each year to produce group-level performance estimates, primarily at the national and state levels.

Smarter Balanced is a state-led consortium of 26 states working to develop an assessment system to measure student progress toward

college- and career-readiness. Smarter Balanced currently is developing assessments in English language arts and mathematics for grades three through eight and eleven. The assessments, which are scheduled to be implemented starting in the 2014–15 school year, will be aligned to the Common Core State Standards. All students in participating states will take the Smarter Balanced assessments, and results will be used for federal accountability purposes. Further information about Smarter Balanced is available online at <http://www.smarterbalanced.org/>.

NAEP Participation

How are schools and students selected to participate in NAEP?

For the national NAEP assessments, NCES selects a random sample of schools and students to represent the geographic, ethnic, and socio-economic diversity of the United States. For state NAEP assessments, a sample of schools and students is selected to represent each participating state.

How and when are school districts and schools notified that they have been selected to participate in NAEP?

Most school districts and schools are notified of their selection by the end of May. The CDE mails the initial notification to school district superintendents and requests that a NAEP district coordinator be designated. The CDE then mails the designated district coordinator notification packets to be distributed to each selected school.

Is participation voluntary or mandatory?

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act requires school districts that receive Title I funds to participate in the NAEP reading and mathematics assessments for grades four and eight. School participation in all other NAEP assessments is

voluntary but all selected schools are encouraged to participate.

Each student selected to participate in NAEP represents many other similar students. While it is important that each selected student participate, student participation in NAEP is voluntary. Additionally, parents or guardians may exclude their children from NAEP testing for any reason.

Why is it important for selected schools and students to participate in NAEP?

Participating in NAEP is necessary to ensure the validity of NAEP results. By design, NAEP estimates the performance of student populations rather than individual students. For each grade and age assessed, a small percentage of the student population is selected to represent the entire student population. All or nearly all of the students selected must participate in NAEP to ensure that the sample and corresponding results are truly representative of each state's and the nation's student population.

Participating in NAEP is also a civic responsibility and provides schools the opportunity to teach students about the importance of such responsibilities. NAEP continuously gauges the state of education in the U.S. and provides parents, educators, and policy makers with a picture of what their students are learning and how their students compare to those in other states. The ability of NAEP to provide this information depends on the participation of selected schools and students.

What kinds of questions should students expect to see on the NAEP assessments?

The assessments may include multiple-choice questions; questions that call for short or extended written responses; performance tasks such as hands-on experiments; and questions that may require the use of calculators, rulers, atlases, or

other materials. Most of the assessments are administered using paper and pencil, but some are administered on a computer. All materials needed for the test administration are provided to students by NAEP field staff.

Examples of NAEP questions and tasks, including scoring guides, student performance information, and sample responses used in previous administrations, are available on the NAEP Questions Tool Web page at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/itmrls/>.

How long does the assessment take?

Students selected to participate in NAEP are assessed in only one subject (e.g., reading, mathematics, or science). During the testing session, all students respond to test questions and a short questionnaire designed to provide information about their educational environment. Participation generally takes about 90 minutes of a student's time. About 60 minutes of this time is allotted for students to complete the subject-specific part of the assessment. The remainder of the time is used for proctors to distribute and collect test materials and for students to complete a questionnaire about their experiences with the subject area of the test and other factors related to learning.

What can school districts and schools do to improve the participation of students?

School districts and schools may consider implementing the following strategies to improve the participation of students:

- Distribute reminder cards to students with the date, time, and location of NAEP testing. These cards are available from the NAEP field staff member who visits the school prior to testing.

- Conduct NAEP testing on a date that is not too close to the dates of other testing (e.g., CSTs, California High School Exit Examination).
- Ensure that teachers and other school staff know which students need to report for NAEP testing and the location they are to report to.
- Offer grade twelve students community service credit for participating in the NAEP assessment. Certificates of Community Service are available from NAEP field staff.
- Review the NAEP *Best Practices* guide for ways to help improve the participation and motivation of grade twelve and age seventeen students. The NAEP *Best Practices* guides are sent to each participating high school in the fall.

Does NAEP provide accommodations for students with disabilities and English learners?

NAEP allows certain accommodations for students with disabilities and English learners. Most of the accommodations students receive on NAEP are the same as those provided on state or school district assessments. For NAEP's inclusion policy as well as a list of the accommodations allowed on NAEP, go to the Permitted NAEP Accommodations Tables at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/inclusion.asp>.

Preparing for NAEP

What is the role of the NAEP district coordinator?

The NAEP district coordinator is the key contact between the NAEP State Coordinator and the schools selected for participation within a school district. Among other responsibilities, the district

coordinator will distribute NAEP information to schools; work with the NAEP school coordinator to prepare lists of eligible students; and ensure the NAEP school coordinator notifies the parents and guardians of the students selected for participation.

What are school staff asked to do?

The NAEP school coordinator has various administrative responsibilities that include working with the NAEP district coordinator, notifying parents and guardians of their child’s selection for NAEP participation, and meeting with NAEP field staff to plan administration logistics. Some principals and teachers are asked to complete questionnaires about their educational backgrounds and practices as well as their school’s characteristics. Teachers of students with disabilities and English learners are asked to complete a worksheet for each participating student to determine appropriate testing accommodations. NAEP field staff will administer the assessment. Although school staff members are not required to remain in the testing room during the test administration, schools are encouraged to have at least one staff member present in each testing room.

What are the parent and guardian notification requirements?

Prior to the test administration, schools must notify all parents or guardians of their child’s selection to participate in NAEP. Federal law requires that parents and guardians be informed that they may exclude their children from participation in the test for any reason and that their children are not required to finish the test or answer all test questions. Parent and guardian notifications must be dated and copies made available as follows:

- A copy of the dated notification must be provided to the NAEP field staff at the pre-assessment visit that takes place prior to the test administration date.

- A copy of the dated notification must be kept on file at the school site.

The CDE requires e-mail confirmation that the parent and guardian notification has been handled as required.

Modifiable Word templates of NAEP 2013 parent and guardian notification letters and newsletter inserts are available in English and several other languages on the MySchool/MyNAEP Web site at <http://www.mynaep.com/>.

Schools selected for NAEP participation are requested to provide the test contractor with information about student participation in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). Are schools authorized to provide this information?

Yes. Under the legislation that authorized the NSLP, Congress allows disclosure of NSLP participation for selected programs, including NAEP. An explanation of this policy can be found at http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/contracts/pdf/g4_8_ac.pdf. Additionally, participating schools can access a letter of permission from the U.S. Department of Agriculture on the MySchool/MyNAEP Web site at <http://www.mynaep.com/>.

NAEP Results

When are NAEP assessment results available?

NAEP results typically are released between six months and one year after the administration of the assessments. All reports are posted on the NCES NAEP Web page at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/>. In addition, customized analyses of NAEP data can be conducted using the NCES NAEP Data Explorer at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/nde/viewresults.asp>. California-specific reports are available on the CDE NAEP Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/nr/>.

At what levels are NAEP results reported?

NAEP results are reported at the national and state levels, as well as at the district level for school districts that are part of the NAEP Trial Urban District Assessment (TUDA) program. The TUDA program is an ongoing study of the performance of fourth and eighth grade students at the school district level on NAEP in reading, writing, mathematics, and science. Three California school districts are part of the TUDA program: Fresno Unified School District, Los Angeles Unified School District, and San Diego Unified School District.

National-level results are released every year, and state and TUDA-level results are released every two years.

Are NAEP scores ever available for individual schools or students?

No. Because only a sample of students from each school participates in the assessment, scores at the school level would not be considered valid. Additionally, NAEP assessments use a matrix design in which each sampled student takes only part of the assessment. Scores for individual students cannot be reported because the subsets of items in each booklet are not directly comparable and are too few to yield reliable scores at the individual student level.

Are individual student results confidential?

Yes. Student names are removed from answer documents, so it is not possible to identify individual students.

How are NAEP results used?

NAEP results are released as The Nation's Report Card. It is common for each state's performance on NAEP to be presented in comparison with that of other states and the nation. Educators, policy makers, and researchers all use NAEP results to assess progress and develop ways to improve education in America.

More Information

Additional information about NAEP is available on the NCES Web page at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/> or by contacting Jessica Valdez, NAEP State Coordinator, CDE, by phone at 916-319-0332 or by e-mail at jvaldez@cde.ca.gov.

District Coordinator Responsibility Checklist

Directions: This checklist is intended to assist NAEP district coordinators in preparing for NAEP 2013 at their school(s). Customize a checklist for each selected school.

School Name: _____ NAEP 2013 Test Date: _____

NAEP School Coordinator Name: _____ Phone: _____

August 2012:

- Review the contents of the August mailing from the NAEP State Coordinator and the *Preparing for NAEP 2013* information packet on the California Department of Education NAEP Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/nr/>.
- Identify NAEP school coordinators and distribute the school packet from the August mailing.
- Confirm that NAEP school coordinators are aware of the NAEP test date and that the date has been placed on the school calendar.

August 13 – September 28, 2012:

- Register on the MySchool/MyNAEP Web site.* A registration ID number is included in the August mailing from the NAEP State Coordinator.
- Ensure that required school information has been provided via the MySchool/MyNAEP Web site.* (The district coordinator may submit this information on behalf of the school.)

October 1–26, 2012:

- Ensure that the school has correctly compiled a student list and has submitted it via the MySchool/MyNAEP Web site.* (The district coordinator may submit this list on behalf of the school.)

1 Month Before Test Date:

- Follow up with the NAEP school coordinator to verify the pre-assessment visit with NAEP field staff has been scheduled.

2 – 3 Weeks Before Test Date:

- Follow up with the NAEP school coordinator to make sure the required school-level responsibilities are being carried out.
- Ensure that each NAEP school coordinator has notified parents and guardians of all students eligible for NAEP participation.

Day of the NAEP Administration:

- Be available to answer questions from the NAEP school coordinator, NAEP field staff, and parents and guardians. Be available to assist the school coordinator if needed.
- Attend the post-assessment meeting between NAEP field staff and the NAEP school coordinator. (Optional)
- Notify the NAEP State Coordinator of any serious concerns or problems that arose during the NAEP test administration.

*The MySchool/MyNAEP Web site is located at <http://www.mynaep.com/>.

School Coordinator Responsibility Checklist

Directions: This checklist is intended to assist NAEP school coordinators in preparing for NAEP 2013 at their school(s). To customize this checklist, fill in the blanks with school and district-specific information.

School Name: _____ NAEP 2013 Test Date: _____

NAEP District Coordinator Name: _____ Phone: _____

August 2012:

- Review the contents of the August school packet from the NAEP State Coordinator and the *Preparing for NAEP 2013* information packet on the California Department of Education NAEP Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/nr/>.
- Ensure that the school's NAEP test date is indicated on the school calendar.

August 13 – September 28, 2012:

- Register on the MySchool/MyNAEP Web site.* A registration ID is included in the August school packet.
- Submit the required school information via the Provide School Information Web page on the MySchool/MyNAEP Web site.*

October 1–26, 2012:

- Submit the list of all students in the sampled grade via the MySchool/MyNAEP Web site.*

2 – 3 Weeks Before Test Date:

- Review contents of the pre-assessment packet sent by NAEP field staff.
- Notify parents and guardians about NAEP participation via a dated letter or newsletter insert. Notification letter and newsletter insert templates are available on the MySchool/MyNAEP Web site.*

- Distribute and collect completed school and staff questionnaires, and make copies of parent and guardian notification letters or newsletter inserts. Prepare a folder for these materials.
- Distribute and collect worksheets from the teachers of selected students with disabilities and English learners to ensure appropriate accommodations have been identified.
- Meet with NAEP field staff for a pre-assessment visit to discuss appropriate NAEP testing preparation, provide an updated list of enrolled students in the sampled grade, and provide completed worksheets for students with disabilities and English learners.

Day of the NAEP Administration:

- Provide the folder of completed questionnaires and letters to NAEP field staff and review student dismissal plan.
- Ensure all students attend appropriate test session.
- Answer questions and handle any emergency situations that may arise during testing.
- Notify the NAEP district coordinator of any serious concerns or problems that arose during testing.
- Meet with NAEP field staff after testing to ensure that all materials are accounted for and complete an evaluation survey.

*The MySchool/MyNAEP Web site is located at <http://www.mynaep.com/>.

NAEP 2013 Parent and Guardian Notification Letter Template – English*

Directions:

Before this newsletter is distributed, insert the information required, as indicated by bold type in parentheses.

(insert month, day, and year)[†]

Dear Parent or Guardian:

I am pleased to announce that our school has been selected to participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Also known as The Nation's Report Card, NAEP is the only ongoing national study that provides a picture of student achievement in various academic areas. NAEP results are reported for the nation, states, and certain large urban school districts.

Your child ***(insert has been or may be)*** selected to be part of a representative group of grade ***(insert four, eight, or twelve)*** students from our school to participate in NAEP this school year. In our school, the NAEP assessment will take place on ***(insert date)***. Students will be assessed in ***(insert reading or mathematics or technology and engineering literacy)***. The assessment will take about 90 minutes for students to complete. In addition, students will be asked some questions about their experiences with the subject area of the test and other factors related to learning. There is no need for students to study in preparation for NAEP.

Participation in NAEP is voluntary and confidential. Students will not be required to finish the assessment or answer all assessment questions. The names of students taking part in NAEP will not be recorded, and your child's grades or progress in school will not be affected by participating. Results are not reported for individual students or schools.

If you would like more information about NAEP, including sample test questions, please visit the U.S. Department of Education Web site at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/>. If you do not want your child to participate in NAEP or if you have any questions regarding your child's participation, please contact ***(insert name of school coordinator)*** at ***(insert telephone number of school coordinator)***.

By taking part in NAEP, students help to improve public education, ensuring that all students receive the education they deserve. We appreciate the participation of every student who is selected. Thank you for your assistance!

Sincerely,

(insert name of school principal), Principal

* The NAEP 2013 parent and guardian notification letter templates are available in English and several other languages on the MySchool/MyNAEP Web site at <http://www.mynaep.com/>.

[†] This document must be dated to meet the NAEP parent and guardian notification requirement.

NAEP 2013 School/Home Newsletter Insert Template – English*

Directions:

Before this newsletter is distributed, insert the information required, as indicated by bold type in parentheses.

(insert month and year)[†]

NAEP 2013 in Our School

The National Assessment of Educational Progress, or NAEP, is the only ongoing, national study designed to provide national and state information on the performance of America’s students in reading, mathematics, and other key subject areas. NAEP will be administered to a sample of grade ***(insert four, eight, or twelve)*** students in our school on ***(insert date)***.

Student Participation

Participation in NAEP takes about 90 minutes of a student’s time. Student participation in NAEP is voluntary and confidential. Students are not required to finish the test or answer all test questions, and the names of students taking part in NAEP are not recorded. The participation of every student selected is important to ensure the accuracy of the information collected through this program. Parents and guardians may excuse their children from participating by notifying the school contact shown under “More Information.”

Test Content

Students will be assessed in ***(insert reading or mathematics or technology and engineering literacy)***. The assessment will take about 90 minutes for students to complete. In addition, students will be asked some questions about their experiences with the subject area of the test and other factors related to learning. There is no need for students to study in preparation for NAEP.

Score Reports

NAEP results are reported for the nation, states, and certain large urban school districts. NAEP does not report results for individual schools or students.

More Information

If you would like more information about NAEP, including sample test questions, please visit the U.S. Department of Education Web site at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/>. If you do not want your child to participate in NAEP or if you have any questions regarding your child’s participation, please contact ***(insert name of school coordinator)*** at ***(insert telephone number of school coordinator)***.

* The NAEP 2013 school/home newsletter insert templates are available in English and several other languages on the MySchool/MyNAEP Web site at <http://www.mynaep.com/>.

† This document must be dated to meet the NAEP parent and guardian notification requirement.

NAEP at a Glance

The chart below presents the typical schedule of the assessments and special studies that make up the NAEP program. Subjects and grades assessed, as well as reporting schedules, vary depending on available funding and the impact of frameworks revisions and special studies.

| | Main NAEP | | Long-Term Trend | Pilot Tests and Special Studies |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| | National | State/TUDA [†] | | |
| Goal | To report the national and regional educational achievement in selected subjects. | To facilitate self-monitoring by states and TUDAs in selected subjects and to serve as a tool to compare subgroup performance within and between states and TUDAs. | To track changes over time in educational achievement by monitoring trend lines first set in the 1970s. | <p>Pilot tests: To collect data on new test items and determine if suitable for use on a main NAEP assessment.</p> <p>Special studies: Goal varies, depending on the study. Information about specific studies is available on the NCES NAEP Special Studies Web page at http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/studies/.</p> |
| Subject or Focus* | Reading, mathematics, science, writing, U.S. history, geography, civics, economics, and the arts | Reading, mathematics, science, and writing | Reading and mathematics | <p>Pilot tests: All subjects</p> <p>Special studies: Focus varies, depending on the study</p> |
| Grade or Age | Grades 4, 8, and 12 | Grades 4 and 8 | Ages 9, 13, and 17 | Grades 4, 8, and 12 |
| Test Session Length | 90–120 minutes | 90 minutes | 90 minutes | 90–120 minutes |
| Assessment/ Study Schedule | Subjects vary year to year (January through March) | <p>Reading and mathematics: every two years in odd-numbered years</p> <p>Writing and science: every four years in odd-numbered years</p> <p>(January through March)</p> | <p>Every four years in even-numbered years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 9 – January through March • Age 17 – March through May • Age 13 – October through December | Variable |
| General Reporting Schedule | 1 year after administration | 6 months – 1 year after administration | 1 year after administration | Varies for special studies. Results from pilot tests are not released. |

* NAEP content frameworks, which show the range of content and skills targeted, are available on the NCES NAEP Frameworks Web page at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/frameworks.asp>. This Web page includes frameworks for reading, mathematics, science, writing, U.S. history, geography, civics, economics, foreign language, and the arts.

[†] TUDA: Trial Urban District Assessment

Online Resources

California Department of Education NAEP Web Page

Contains a link to the MySchool/MyNAEP Web site; a list of school districts selected for NAEP participation; a link to the latest NAEP results for California; and access to the latest Preparing for NAEP 2013 information packet.

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/nr/>

U.S. Department of Education NAEP Web Page

Provides access to a range of information about NAEP, including a program overview and assessment schedule; frameworks for the subjects assessed; released questions; and assessment and special study results.

<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/>

MySchool/MyNAEP Web Site

This secure Web site is available only to school districts and schools that have been selected to participate in NAEP. A registration identification number is required to register and access information on this Web site.

<http://www.mynaep.com/>

NAEP Data Explorer Web Page

This secure Web page allows users to customize analyses of aggregate NAEP data, including assessment results and student background questionnaire data.

<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/naepdata/>

NAEP Released Questions Web Page

Contains links to released questions from previous NAEP administrations as well as tools that can be used to gain additional insight into the content of the assessment.

<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/itmrls/>

Sample Questions Booklets Web Page

Contains general information booklets, available in downloadable Portable Document Format (PDF). Booklets include descriptions of each test, test directions, questionnaires, and sample questions.

<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/booklets.asp>

NAEP Frameworks Web Page

Developed by the National Assessment Governing Board, the NAEP frameworks provide information on the skills and concepts targeted by the NAEP assessments.

<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/frameworks.asp>

Information for Parents and Guardians Web Page

Provides parents and guardians with information about NAEP. Information is available in English and Spanish.

<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/parents/>