

## BENTON COUNTY ASSESSMENT CALENDAR 2020-2021

Assessment	Testing Dates and Times	Purpose	Results
<b>WIDA ACCESS Placement Tests for English Language Learners</b>  Grades PreK-12	Administered to English Language Learner students at the time of enrollment  Up to 60 minutes depending on proficiency level of student	This assessment is given to students who speak a language other than English at home. It is used to help determine which kind and level of English language support they need.	Tests are scored by ESL teacher, and the results are given to parents immediately.
<b>Brigance/Teacher Constructed</b>  Grade K	Beginning of school  About 15 minutes	Brigance is a norm-referenced screening tool that compares each child's results with performance of others. The purpose of the teacher-constructed test is to analyze student abilities and levels of differentiation.	Results are distributed upon request and at Parent Teacher Conference.
<b>Universal Fall Screening</b>  Grades K-8 ELA and Math	August 24 – Sept. 18, 2020  12 minutes – 60 minutes, varies by grade level	The purpose of the <b>state-mandated</b> universal screening is to provide a data snapshot of a student's current performance. RTII (Response to Instruction and Intervention) is an instructional support system designed to give students the individual support they need to learn, no matter where they stand academically.	Screening results are not typically distributed outside the school due to their formative nature, but parents can request the information from the school as needed. Students scoring below the 25 <sup>th</sup> percentile have results sent home. Results are not used for grades.

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<b>Additional Universal Fall Screening</b>  <b>(STAR)</b> Grades 2-11  <b>(STAR Early Literacy)</b> Grade K-1	August 24 – Sept. 18, 2020  About 40 minutes total time  10-25 minutes total time	This screening provides additional information to identify each student’s specific needs in reading/language arts so he/she can get the appropriate level of instruction.	Screening results are not typically distributed outside the school due to their formative nature, but parents can request the information from the school as needed. Results are not used for grades.
<b>Written Expression Benchmark</b>  Grades 1-10	August 24 – Sept. 18, 2020  3 minutes	This screening provides additional information to identify each student’s specific needs in reading/language arts so he/she can get the appropriate level of instruction.	Screening results are not typically distributed outside the school due to their formative nature, but parents can request the information from the school as needed. Results are not used for grades.
<b>Common Benchmark Assessments</b>  Grades 1-11  Grade K	November 16 – 20, 2020 March 9 – 12, 2021  Times vary, lengthening with each common assessment  April 26 – 30, 2021	These <b>district–led</b> assessments are aligned to state academic standards and are used at three points throughout the school year to measure student progress in mastering these standards. They help teachers, principals and district staff make decisions about instruction and resources as they work to meet year-end academic goals.	Results are available soon after the test is given. School staff decide when and how to share the results with students and parents.
<b>ACT Senior Retake</b>  Grade 12	September 22, 2020  175 minutes total time	Seniors who participated in the ACT as juniors or new out-of-state transfers are eligible to test on this date at no cost.	Student-level reports are provided 3-8 weeks after the test is administered.
<b>PSAT</b>  Grades 9-11 \$15 fee (waivers available)	October 14, 2020  165 minutes total time	This <b>optional</b> assessment is the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test and provides a national benchmark for student achievement.	Scores become available online through College Board in January. Paper reports are delivered to the schools for distribution soon after the assessment. Results are not used for grades.

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<b>Civics Test</b>  Grades 9-12	End of U.S. Government course	Passing this <b>state-mandated</b> assessment is a graduation requirement for students. It is administered to all students in their U.S. Government classes, as well as to any seniors who have not yet met the requirement.	Results are recorded on the student's transcript to document participation for graduation.
<b>Universal Winter Screening</b>  Grades K-8	Nov. 30 – Dec. 17, 2020  About 40 minutes total time	The purpose of the <b>state-mandated</b> universal screening is to provide a data snapshot of a student's progress throughout the school year.	Screening results are not typically distributed outside the school due to their formative nature, but parents can request the information from the school as needed. Students scoring below the 25 <sup>th</sup> percentile have results sent home. Results are not used for grades.
<b>Additional Universal Winter Screening</b>  <b>(STAR)</b> Grades 2-11  <b>(STAR Early Literacy)</b> Grades K-1	Nov. 30 – Dec. 17, 2020  About 40 minutes total time  10-25 minutes total time	This screening provides additional information to identify each student's specific needs in reading/language arts so he/she can get the appropriate level of instruction.	Screening results are not typically distributed outside the school due to their formative nature, but parents can request the information from the school as needed. Results are not used for grades.
<b>Written Expression Benchmark</b>  Grades 1-10	Nov. 30 – Dec. 17, 2020  3 minutes	This screening provides additional information to identify each student's specific needs in reading/language arts so he/she can get the appropriate level of instruction.	Screening results are not typically distributed outside the school due to their formative nature, but parents can request the information from the school as needed. Results are not used for grades.
<b>Fall Semester Exams (Midterms)</b>  Grades 9-12 (course specific)	December 18 – 22, 2020  Time varies by exam, typically 45-120 minutes total time	All <b>district-mandated</b> semester exams are teacher-constructed assessments and administered according to the school's specific semester exam schedule.	Scores for these assessments are available on ParentVue. Results are used as 10% of the fall semester final average.

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<p><b>National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)</b></p>	<p>Jan. 28 – March 15, 2021</p> <p>120 minutes total time</p>	<p>NAEP is a national assessment of what America’s students know and can do in various subject areas, and its results serve as a common metric for all states and selected urban districts. Assessments are conducted periodically through sampling in mathematics, reading, science, writing, the arts, civics, economics, geography, US history, and technology and engineering literacy.</p>	<p>There are no district, school, or student results.</p>
<p><b>ACCESS for ELLs</b></p> <p>Grades K-12 (English language learner students only)</p>	<p>Feb. 16 – April 2, 2021 (state test administration)</p> <p>Tests are untimed, but typically about 180 minutes total time</p>	<p>The <b>state-mandated</b> ACCESS for ELLs assessment measures English language proficiency levels and is used as one criterion to determine when ELLs have attained the language proficiency needed to participate meaningfully in content area classrooms.</p>	<p>Scores and other information from this assessment are delivered to the schools for distribution in August. Results are not used for grades.</p>
<p><b>TCAP Alternate Assessments (MSAA &amp; Science/Social Studies)</b></p> <p>Grades 3-11 (select special education students only)</p>	<p>March 15 – April 30, 2021</p> <p>Tests are untimed, total time varies based on individual student needs</p>	<p>These <b>state-mandated</b> alternate assessments are for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities for whom participation in the regular state assessment is inappropriate, even with the use of extensive accommodations.</p>	<p>Scores and other information from this assessment are delivered to the schools for distribution. Results are not used for grades.</p>
<p><b>ACT</b></p> <p>Grade 11</p>	<p>March 2, 2021</p> <p>175 minutes total time</p>	<p>ACT is an achievement test that assesses students’ academic readiness for college. This is a <b>state-mandated</b> graduation requirement.</p>	<p>Like all ACT test administrations, scores are typically available online through ACT 2-4 weeks after testing. Other reporting is released soon after. Results are not used for grades.</p>

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<b>Universal Spring Screening</b>  Grades K-8	March 22 – April 23, 2021  About 40 minutes total time	The purpose of the <b>state-mandated</b> universal screening is to provide a data snapshot of a student’s progress throughout the school year.	Screening results are not typically distributed outside the school due to their formative nature, but parents can request the information from the school as needed. Students scoring below the 25 <sup>th</sup> percentile have results sent home. Results are not used for grades.
<b>Additional Universal Spring Screening</b>  <b>(STAR)</b> Grades 2-11  <b>(STAR Early Literacy)</b> Grades K-1	March 22 – April 23, 2021  About 40 minutes total time  10-25 minutes total time	This screening provides additional information to identify each student’s specific needs in reading/language arts so they can get the appropriate level of instruction.	Screening results are not typically distributed outside the school due to their formative nature, but parents can request the information from the school as needed. Results are not used for grades.
<b>Written Expression Benchmark</b>  Grades 1-10	March 22 – April 23, 2021  3 minutes	This screening provides additional information to identify each student’s specific needs in reading/language arts so he/she can get the appropriate level of instruction.	Screening results are not typically distributed outside the school due to their formative nature, but parents can request the information from the school as needed. Results are not used for grades.
<b>TCAP Summative Assessments (TNReady)</b>  Grades 2-8	April 12 – May 6, 2021  Time varies by subject/grade, between 50–230 minutes total time	The <b>state-mandated</b> TCAP Summative Assessments are operational in ELA and math in grades 2-8 and will be paper/pencil. Social Studies testing will be operational in grades 6-8 and will be paper/pencil.	Quick score results are typically available soon after the test is given so teachers can calculate final grades. Later the state releases more detailed individual student reports. These are distributed by district office staff to schools and shared with families in the fall. Scores are used as 10% of the spring semester final average in grades 6-8.

Assessment	Testing Dates and Times	Purpose	Results
<p><b>TCAP Summative Assessments for High School (TNReady End-of-Course)</b></p> <p>Grades 8-11</p>	<p>April 12 – May 6, 2021</p> <p>Time varies by course, between 75-230 minutes total time</p>	<p>The <b>state-mandated</b> TCAP Summative Assessments are operational in English, Math, Biology, and US History.</p>	<p>Quick scores used for grades will be available before the end of the semester. Full reporting will be made available in the fall of 2021. Scores are used as 15% of the spring semester final average.</p>
<p><b>State-wide Dual Credit Challenge Exams</b></p> <p>Grades 9-12 (course specific)</p>	<p>May 2021</p> <p>Time varies by course, between 120-180 minutes total time</p>	<p>All students enrolled in a statewide dual credit course are <b>required</b> to take the online challenge exam, which is used to assess mastery of the postsecondary-level learning objectives.</p>	<p>Students who pass their statewide dual credit challenge exam are eligible to receive college credit at any of the public postsecondary institutions in the state. Statewide dual credit challenge exam scores must be reported on the student's official high school transcript for the purpose of awarding credit at the postsecondary institution.</p>
<p><b>Advanced Placement (AP)</b></p> <p>Grades 9-12 (course specific)</p>	<p>May 3 – 14, 2021</p> <p>Time varies by exam, typically between 180-240 minutes total time</p>	<p>The APs are final exams for the corresponding college-level course taken in high school. Scores can be used to award credit or determine placement upon entering college.</p>	<p>Scores and other information become available online through College Board starting in July. Results are not used for grades.</p>
<p><b>Spring Semester Exams</b></p> <p>Grades 6-11 (<i>course specific</i>)</p>	<p>May 19 – 21, 2021</p> <p>Time varies by exam, typically between 45-120 minutes total time</p>	<p>All <b>district-mandated</b> semester exams are teacher-constructed assessments and administered according to the school's specific semester exam schedule.</p>	<p>Scores for these assessments are available on ParentVue. Results are used as 15% of the spring semester final average.</p>

\* All dates are subject to change