

Assessment	Grades	Subject(s) Assessed	Purpose	Legal Requirement	Time Required	Schedule	Results Timing & Format
NSCAS General Summative (ELA & Mathematics)	3–8	ELA and Mathematics	To measure student mastery of grade-level standards and inform school accountability	Mandated by ESSA and Nebraska statutes – part of NSCAS system ( <a href="http://cdn.education.ne.gov">cdn.education.ne.gov</a> )	~45 questions/test; ~90 minutes per content area ( <a href="http://cdn.education.ne.gov">cdn.education.ne.gov</a> , NWEA)	Spring: March–May (e.g., March 23–May 1, 2026) ( <a href="http://Nebraska Department of Education, cdn.education.ne.gov">Nebraska Department of Education, cdn.education.ne.gov</a> )	Individual Student Reports (digital + printed), plus school, district, state reports; delivered weeks after testing ( <a href="http://cdn.education.ne.gov">cdn.education.ne.gov</a> )
NSCAS Science Summative	5 & 8	Science	To assess mastery of science standards and contribute to accountability and instructional planning	ESSA & state mandate under NSCAS ( <a href="http://Nebraska Department of Education, cdn.education.ne.gov">Nebraska Department of Education, cdn.education.ne.gov</a> )	~36–60 questions; ~45–60 minutes ( <a href="http://cdn.education.ne.gov">cdn.education.ne.gov</a> , NWEA)	Spring: March 24–May 2, 2026 (similar window reinstated annually) ( <a href="http://Nebraska Department of Education, Nebraska Department of Education">Nebraska Department of Education, Nebraska Department of Education</a> )	Individual Student Reports + aggregate reports (school/district/state); digital & paper delivery ( <a href="http://cdn.education.ne.gov">cdn.education.ne.gov</a> )
ACT (with Writing)	11	English, Reading, Math, Science, Writing	High school accountability, college readiness indicator, federal/state reporting	Required under ESSA and Nebraska's high school accountability system ( <a href="http://pta.org">pta.org</a> , <a href="http://Education Advanced">Education Advanced</a> )	Standard ACT time (~3–4 hours)	Typically during junior year—spring session; districts schedule ( <a href="http://pta.org">pta.org</a> , <a href="http://Education Advanced">Education Advanced</a> )	Scores sent directly to students/schools post-administration (within weeks)
PreACT	10	English, Reading, Math, Science, Writing	Early indicator for college readiness	N/A	2+ hours	Spring: March - April	Individual student reports (printed + digital)
PreACT 8/9	9	English, Reading, Math, Science, Writing	Early measure of academic progress while introducing students to the style and expectations of high-stakes college readiness assessments	N/A	2+ hours	Spring: March-April	Individual student reports (printed + digital)
NSCAS Alternate Summative	3–8 (as eligibility)	ELA, Math, Science	For students with significant cognitive disabilities; meets ESSA alternate assessment requirements	ESSA-compliant alternate under Nebraska's NSCAS system ( <a href="http://cdn.education.ne.gov">cdn.education.ne.gov</a> , NWEA)	Comparable in scope/time—paper-based, not adaptive	Administered during same spring window as general NSCAS ( <a href="http://cdn.education.ne.gov">cdn.education.ne.gov</a> , <a href="http://Nebraska Department of Education">Nebraska Department of Education</a> )	Delivered via Student Reports and aggregate summaries similar to general NSCAS
ELPA21 (English Proficiency)	K–12 (ELLs)	English language proficiency	To meet federal ESSA Title III requirements for EL students	Federally required under ESSA Title III ( <a href="http://NWEA">NWEA</a> )	Standard ELPA21 timing—varies by section (~3–4 hours total)	Administered annually in spring	Results sent to schools/districts/published for Title III reporting
NWEA Map Suite	K-3	ELA	To identify students falling below the identified threshold in reading	Nebraska Reads Act	Map Fluency - 35 minutes Map Growth - 40-60 minutes	Administered three times a year (Fall, Winter, Spring)	Individual student results