

Assessments are administered for different purposes. The tables below provide more detailed information about each of the assessments the Pinnacle Assessment Department administers.

ACCESS for ELLs	
What is ACCESS for ELLs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ State Mandated Assessment. ➤ Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners (ACCESS for ELLs) is a secure large-scale English language proficiency assessment given to Kindergarten through 12th graders who have been identified as English Language Learners (ELLs).
Purpose of ACCESS for ELLs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The ACCESS for ELLs test assesses students' English language proficiency in five areas: Social and Instructional Language (SIL), which incorporates proficiencies needed to deal with the general language of the classroom and the school; the language of English Language Arts (LoLA); the language of Mathematics (LoMA); the language of Science (LoSC); and the language of Social Studies (LoSS). ➤ It provides educators and parent's information about the English language proficiency level in the language domains of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing.
Who Takes ACCESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ All students in grades K-12 who have been identified as Non-English Proficient (NEP) or Limited-English Proficient (LEP) are required to take the ACCESS for ELLs.
Testing Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Timing is dependent upon grade level. Grade levels are broken up by tiered levels. Not all tiers will be tested on the same day. Below are the estimated times it takes to complete each testing unit. Listening: Between 25 to 40 minutes. Reading: Between 35 to 50 minutes. Writing: Between 30 to 60 minutes. Speaking: 15 to 45 minutes.
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ WIDA Website ➤ CDE's English Language Assessment ➤ CSI's Federal Programs: English Language Learners ➤ CDE's ELL Guidebook (pdf)
ACT	
What is ACT?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ State Mandated Assessment. ➤ The CO ACT Assessment helps students prepare for postsecondary educational opportunities. ACT results are accepted by many four-year colleges and universities in the US.
Purpose of ACT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This is a college entrance exam. Results from this assessment can be submitted by the student to their college or university of choice. ➤ Some schools require a minimum score before accepting a student's application.
Who Takes ACT?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ All 11th grade students. ➤ Test can be re-taken.
Testing Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Approximately 3 hours
Resources and Misc. Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ http://www.cde.state.co.us/assessment/CoACT.asp ➤ http://www.csi.state.co.us/school_resources/assessments/COACT/
CMAS: PARCC: ELA/L and Mathematics	
What is CMAS: PARCC ELA/L and Mathematics?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ State Mandated Assessment. ➤ The PARCC assessments are designed to measure proficiency for English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics in grades 3–9. ➤ The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) is a group of 19 states working together to develop a common set of computer-based K–12 assessments in English Language Arts/Literacy and Math linked to the new, more rigorous Common Core State Standards (CCSS).
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To determine the level at which Colorado students meet the Colorado Academic Standards in the content areas assessed.

Purpose of CMAS: PARCC ELA/L and Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Developed in response to the longstanding concerns of educators, parents and employers who want assessments that better measure students' critical-thinking and problem-solving skills and their ability to communicate clearly. ➤ To ensure that every child is on a path to college and career readiness by measuring what students should know at each grade level. ➤ To provide parents and teachers with timely information to identify students who may be falling behind and need extra help.
Who takes CMAS: PARCC ELA/L and Mathematics?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ According to state law, every Colorado student enrolled in a public school in grades 3-9 for English Language Arts (ELA) are required to take the PARCC or CoAlt (alternate assessment). ➤ Grades 3-9 for Mathematics.
Testing Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Math Unit Times: 3rd-5th grades take four 60-min units; 6th-8th grades take three 80-min. units; 9th grade takes three 90-min. units ➤ ELA/L Unit Times: 3rd – 9th grades take three 60-90 min. units
Resources and Misc. Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ http://www.csi.state.co.us/school_resources/assessments/PARCC ➤ http://www.parconline.org/about-parcc

CMAS: Science and Social Studies

What is CMAS: Science and Social Studies?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ State Mandated Assessment. ➤ Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) are the new Colorado state assessments. Aligned to the Colorado Academic Standards. CMAS exams provide valuable information for students, parents and educators about whether students are on track to graduate prepared for college and career in the 21st century. ➤ CMAS replaced these former state assessments: Colorado Student Assessment Program (CSAP) and Transitional Colorado Assessment Program (TCAP).
Purpose of CMAS: Science and Social Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To determine the level at which Colorado students meet the Colorado Academic Standards in the content areas assessed. ➤ To fulfill the requirement by State law to take a standards-based summative assessment each year in the specified content areas and grade levels. ➤ To measure the progress of Colorado students over time.
Who takes CMAS: Science and Social Studies?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ According to state law, every Colorado student enrolled in a public school in grades 4, 5, 7, 8 and at some time during high school (grade still being determined by CDE) students are required to take the CMAS or CoAlt (alternate assessment).
Testing Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Science Unit Times: 5th & 8th grades will take three 80-min. units; 11th grade will take three 60-90 min. units ➤ Social Studies Unit Times: 4th & 7th grades will take three 80- min. units
Resources and Misc. Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ http://www.cde.state.co.us/assessment/NewAssess-Sum.asp ➤ http://www.pearsonaccess.com/cs/Satellite?pagename=Pearson/QuickLink/co ➤ http://www.pearsonaccess.com/cs/Satellite?c=Page&childpagename=Colorado%2FcoPALPLLayout_v2&cid=1205794393643&pagename=coPALPWrapper ➤ http://www.cde.state.co.us/assessment/cmasplpc

DIBELS

What is DIBELS?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ State Mandated Assessment for Kindergarten through 3rd grade ➤ Grades 4 & 5 are locally mandated by school administration ➤ DIBELS stands for Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills. It is comprised of six measures that function as indicators of the essential skills that every child must master to become a proficient reader. ➤ The DIBELS® measures are brief (most take one minute to administer), and are used to regularly monitor the development of early literacy and early reading skills.
Purpose of DIBELS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ DIBELS was designed for use in identifying children experiencing difficulty in the acquisition of basic early literacy skills, in order to provide support early and prevent the occurrence of later reading difficulties. ➤ To help teachers identify areas to target instructional support; ➤ To monitor at-risk students while they receive additional, targeted instruction; and ➤ To examine the effectiveness of your school's system of instructional supports.
Who Takes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ All students in Kindergarten through 5th grade

DIBELS?	
Testing Time	➤ Tests are performed by teachers in the classroom. Depending on grade level the assessment can be completed within 5 to 15 minutes.
Resources and Misc. Information	➤ Colorado READ Act

Galileo

What is Galileo?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Locally mandated by school administration. ➤ Galileo Instructional Improvement and Instructional Effectiveness System is a comprehensive, standards-based, and research supported assessment. ➤ The system offers an array of assessment, instruction, educator effectiveness, and reporting tools supporting both the integration of Common Core assessments and teaching strategies while meeting new responsibilities related to educator effectiveness. ➤ Assessments are valid, reliable, and aligned to the Colorado Academic Standards.
Purpose of Galileo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To measure student growth and achievement. ➤ To help teachers identify areas to target instructional support. ➤ To examine the effectiveness of the school's system of instructional supports.
Who Takes Galileo?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ All students in grades K-12 are required to take Galileo 3 times a year. ➤ Kindergarteners & 1st grade take the ELBAS – Early Literacy Benchmark Assessment Series--Reading test and the Early Math Benchmark Assessment Series (EMBAS). ➤ 2nd grade takes--Reading, Writing & Math. ➤ Grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 take Reading, Writing & Math & Science. ➤ Grades 9, 10 and 11 take Reading, Writing & Math.
Testing Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Benchmark 1 BOY (September through October) – approximately 60 minutes for each test given within grade level ➤ Benchmark 2 MOY (December) – approximately 60 minutes for each test given within grade level ➤ Benchmark 3 EOY (March through April) - approximately 60 minutes for each test given within grade level
Resources and Misc. Information	➤ http://ati-online.com/

PSAT

What is the PSAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Locally mandated by school administration ➤ The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) is a standardized test administered by the College Board and co-sponsored by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) in the United States.
Purpose of the PSAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The test is composed of three sections: Math, Critical Reading, and Writing Skills. ➤ Focused, clear, and useful assessments that reflect the knowledge and skills that current research shows are essential for college and career readiness and success. ➤ Offers college opportunities through scholarships, fee waivers, and AP credit. ➤ Powerful career-planning tool.
Who Takes the PSAT?	➤ 11 th grade students
Testing Time	➤ Two and a half hours
Resources and Misc. Information	➤ https://www.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt

W-APT

What is W-APT?	➤ W-APT™, or the WIDA-ACCESS Placement Test, is the screening assessment used to assist in the identification of students that qualify for English Language Development (ELD) programming.
Purpose of W-APT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To identify students who may be candidates for English Language Development services. ➤ To determine the academic English language proficiency level of students new to a school or to the U.S. school system in order to establish appropriate levels and amounts of instructional services. ➤ To accurately assign students identified as English Language Learners to one of the 3 tiers for ACCESS for ELLs® testing.

Who Takes W-APT?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Every student new to The Pinnacle with a home language survey indicating that a language other than English is spoken at home must be tested, regardless of whether a student was previously identified. Every student designated as Limited English Proficient (LEP) or Non-English Proficient (NEP) must have a W-APT test score and will take the ACCESS for ELLs assessment in January.
Testing Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Testing must take place within 30 days of enrollment and within 2 weeks of starting school for late enrollees. ➤ Depending on their grade level, each student will complete the assessment within 15 minutes to an hour.
Resources and Misc. Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ www.wida.us ➤ www.wida.us/assessment/w-apt/ScoreCalculator.aspx ➤ http://www.cde.state.co.us/assessment/ela-additionalresources (state cut points for determining ELL eligibility and NEP/LEP classification) ➤ CDE's ELL Guidebook (pdf) This guidebook provides details on appropriate identification, parental notification, and placement of ELLs