

COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 303

ASSESSMENT PLAN 2025-2026

[2025-26 IL State Assessment Dates](#)

2025-26 CUSD 303 Calendar

[ENG SPA](#)

Grade	Test	Dates	Description (Use)	Required By	2022-23 CUSD 303 Calendar Structure Type	Which Students	Average Testing Time
K	KIDS	Observation Window = Aug. 13 – Oct. 14 Data Entry Window = Oct 7 – Oct 21	Teacher observations and recording of student behaviors for better understanding of developmental readiness.	State Board of Education	US	All*	c. 1 hour
	i-Ready	Sept 2 – Sept 12 Dec 1 – Dec 12 May 4 – May 15	Diagnostic/benchmark assessments, the diagnostic sets the personalized online instruction for each student to start the year and readjust during the year. Teachers monitor student pathways with check-ins and ability to make adjustments.	District	US D BM	All*	c. 1 hour for Reading, and 1 hour for Math
	ACCESS	Jan 14 - Mar 3	Language proficiency test for English Language Learners used to measure growth in English proficiency and ability to access the curriculum in English	State Board of Education	US D	English Language Learners	c.4 hours total, 4 tests

Structure Type: Universal Screener (US), Diagnostic (D), Progress Monitoring (PM), Benchmarking (BM)

*The purpose of the assessment is to gain an understanding of all students. However, if the test is not appropriate, an alternative may be available. For instance, IAR is the state accountability test for all students except those who will take the DLM.



COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 303

ASSESSMENT PLAN 2025-2026

[2025-26 IL State Assessment Dates](#)

2025-26 CUSD 303 Calendar

[ENG SPA](#)

Grade	Test	Dates	Description (Use)	Required By	Structure Type	Which Students	Average Testing Time
1	i-Ready	Aug 18 – Aug 28 Dec 1 – Dec 12 May 4 – May 15	Diagnostic/benchmark assessments, the diagnostic sets the personalized online instruction for each student to start the year and readjust during the year. Teachers monitor student pathways with check-ins and ability to make adjustments.	District	US D BM	All*	c. 1 hour for Reading and c.1 for Math
	ACCESS	Jan 14 - Mar 3	Language proficiency test for English Language Learners used to measure growth in English proficiency and ability to access the curriculum in English	State Board of Education	US D	English Language Learners	c.4 hours total, 4 tests

Structure Type: Universal Screener (US), Diagnostic (D), Progress Monitoring (PM), Benchmarking (BM)

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COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 303

ASSESSMENT PLAN 2025-2026

[2025-26 IL State Assessment Dates](#)

2025-26 CUSD 303 Calendar

[ENG SPA](#)

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2	i-Ready	Aug 18 – Aug 28 Dec 1 – Dec 12 May 4 – May 15	Diagnostic/benchmark assessments, the diagnostic sets the personalized online instruction for each student to start the year and readjust during the year. Teachers monitor student pathways with check-ins and ability to make adjustments.	District	US D BM	All*	c. 1 hour for Reading and c.1 for Math
	ACCESS	Jan 14 - Mar 3	Language proficiency test for English Language Learners used to measure growth in English proficiency and ability to access the curriculum in English	State Board of Education	US D	English Language Learners	c. 4 hours total, 4 tests

Structure Type: Universal Screener (US), Diagnostic (D), Progress Monitoring (PM), Benchmarking (BM)

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COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 303

ASSESSMENT PLAN 2025-2026

[2025-26 IL State Assessment Dates](#)

2025-26 CUSD 303 Calendar

[ENG SPA](#)

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3	i-Ready	Aug 18 – Aug 28 Dec 1 – Dec 12 May 4 – May 15	Diagnostic/benchmark assessments, the diagnostic sets the personalized online instruction for each student to start the year and readjust during the year. Teachers monitor student pathways with check-ins and ability to make adjustments.	District	US D BM	All*	c. 1 hour for Reading and c.1 for Math
	SEL	Sept 22 – Sept 26 April 20 - April 24 Nov 17 Feb 23	SEL survey highlights areas of strength and provides insights to the student areas for development and growth. In November and February students will respond to the four or five question Sense of Belonging portion of the survey.	District	US	All*	c. 20 min per student c. 5 min per student
	CogAT	Nov 10 - 21	Cognitive abilities have to do with how we learn, remember, and problem-solve. Used to gain an understanding of students and groups of students as learners.	District	US	All*	10 minutes per test, totaling 90 minutes of test time
	ACCESS	Jan 14 - Mar 3	Language proficiency test for English Language Learners used to measure growth in English proficiency and ability to access the curriculum in English	State Board of Education	US D	English Language Learners	c.4 hours total, 4 tests
	IAR	PBT Mar 2 - April 3 (includes transcriptions) CBT ELA: Mar 16 - Mar 27 CBT Math: Apr 6 - Apr 16	State standards test in Reading and Math. Used as a piece of information about students, groups, and cohorts, as well as for setting goals and evaluating curriculum.	State Board of Education	US BM	All*	6 hours over 5 tests
	DLM-AA	Mar 11 - May 6	Alternate assessment system for students with disabilities, used to measure student, group, and cohort progress towards attainment of state standards for students who are on an alternative curriculum path.	State Board of Education	US D BM	Students with Special Needs	c.2 ½ to 3 ½ hrs. per student
	FitnessGram	Jan 6- May 27	A non-competitive health-related fitness assessment to help evaluate and evolve physical education programming.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c. 3 to 4 hours

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COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 303

ASSESSMENT PLAN 2025-2026

[2025-26 IL State Assessment Dates](#)

2025-26 CUSD 303 Calendar

[ENG SPA](#)

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4	i-Ready	Aug 18 – Aug 28 Dec 1 – Dec 12 May 4 – May 15	Diagnostic/benchmark assessments, the diagnostic sets the personalized online instruction for each student to start the year and readjust during the year. Teachers monitor student pathways with check-ins and ability to make adjustments.	District	US D BM	All*	c. 1 hour for Reading and c.1 for Math
	SEL	Sept 22 – Sept 26 April 20 - April 24 Nov 17 Feb 23	SEL survey highlights areas of strength and provides insights to the student areas for development and growth. In November and February students will respond to the four or five question Sense of Belonging portion of the survey.	District	US	All*	c. 20 min per student c. 5 min per student
	ACCESS	Jan 14 - Mar 3	Language proficiency test for English Language Learners used to measure growth in English proficiency and ability to access the curriculum in English	State Board of Education	US D	English Language Learners	c.4 hours total, 4 tests
	5Essentials	Feb 3 - Mar 13	The 5Essentials Survey identifies school strengths in leadership, collaborative staff, involved families, supportive environment, and ambitious instruction.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c. 20 min
	IAR	PBT Mar 2 - April 3 (includes transcriptions) CBT ELA: Mar 16 - Mar 27 CBT Math: Apr 6 - Apr 16	State standards test in Reading and Math. Used as a piece of information about students, groups, and cohorts, as well as for setting goals and evaluating curriculum.	State Board of Education	US BM	All*	6 hours over 5 tests
	DLM-AA	Mar 11 - May 6	Alternate assessment system for students with disabilities, used to measure student, group, and cohort progress towards attainment of state standards for students who are on an alternative curriculum path.	State Board of Education	US D BM	Students with Special Needs	c.2 ½ to 3 ½ hrs. per student
	FitnessGram	Jan 6- May 27	A non-competitive health-related fitness assessment to help evaluate and evolve physical education programming.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c. 3 to 4 hours

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COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 303

ASSESSMENT PLAN 2025-2026

[2025-26 IL State Assessment Dates](#)

2025-26 CUSD 303 Calendar

[ENG SPA](#)

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5	i-Ready	Aug 18 – Aug 28 Dec 1 – Dec 12 May 4 – May 15	Diagnostic/benchmark assessments, the diagnostic sets the personalized online instruction for each student to start the year and readjust during the year. Teachers monitor student pathways with check-ins and ability to make adjustments.	District	US D BM	All*	c. 1 hour for Reading and c.1 for Math
	SEL	Sept 22 – Sept 26 April 20 - April 24 Nov 17 Feb 23	SEL survey highlights areas of strength and provides insights to the student areas for development and growth. In November and February students will respond to the four or five question Sense of Belonging portion of the survey.	District	US	All*	c. 20 min per student c. 5 min per student
	CogAT	Nov 10 - 21	Cognitive abilities have to do with how we learn, remember, and problem-solve. Used to gain an understanding of students and groups of students as learners.	District	US	All*	10 minutes per test, totaling 90 minutes of test time
	ACCESS	Jan 14 - Mar 3	Language proficiency test for English Language Learners used to measure growth in English proficiency and ability to access the curriculum in English	State Board of Education	US D	English Language Learners	c.4 hours total, 4 tests
	5Essentials	Feb 3 - Mar 13	The 5Essentials Survey identifies school strengths in leadership, collaborative staff, involved families, supportive environment, and ambitious instruction.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c. 20 min
	IAR	PBT Mar 2 - April 3 (includes transcriptions) CBT ELA: Mar 16 - Mar 27 CBT Math: Apr 6 - Apr 16	State standards test in Reading and Math. Used as a piece of information about students, groups, and cohorts, as well as for setting goals and evaluating curriculum.	State Board of Education	US BM	All*	6 hours over 5 tests
	ISA	April 20 - April 30	Illinois Science Assessment designed to measure the Next Generation Science Standards. Used to help students understand their progress towards NGSS Standards and evaluate curriculum.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c.2.5 hours
	DLM-AA	Mar 11 - May 6	Alternate assessment system for students with disabilities, used to measure student, group, and cohort progress towards attainment of state standards for students who are on an alternative curriculum path.	State Board of Education	US D BM	Students with Special Needs	c.2 ½ to 3 ½ hrs. per student
FitnessGram	Jan 6- May 27	A non-competitive health-related fitness assessment to help evaluate and evolve physical education programming.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c. 3 to 4 hours	

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COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 303

ASSESSMENT PLAN 2025-2026

[2025-26 IL State Assessment Dates](#)

2025-26 CUSD 303 Calendar

[ENG SPA](#)

Grade	Test	Dates	Description (Use)	Required By	Structure Type	Which Students	Average Testing Time
6	i-Ready	Aug 18 – Aug 28 Dec 1 – Dec 12 May 4 – May 15	Diagnostic/benchmark assessments, the diagnostic sets the personalized online instruction for each student to start the year and readjust during the year. Teachers monitor student pathways with check-ins and ability to make adjustments.	District	US D BM	All*	c. 1 hour for Reading and c.1 for Math
	ThinkCERC A Writing	Aug 25 - Aug 28 Nov 3 - Nov 7 April 20 - April 24	Diagnostic/skills assessment that measures baseline and growth of writing skills for grades 6-8. Instructional recommendations for the whole group, small groups, and personalized learning are provided.	District	US D BM	All*	45-60 minutes
	SEL	Sept 22 – Sept 26 April 20 - April 24 Nov 17 Feb 23	SEL survey highlights areas of strength and provides insights to the student areas for development and growth. In November and February students will respond to the four or five question Sense of Belonging portion of the survey.	District	US	All*	c. 20 min per student c. 5 min per student
	ACCESS	Jan 14 - Mar 3	Language proficiency test for English Language Learners used to measure growth in English proficiency and ability to access the curriculum in English	State Board of Education	US D	English Language Learners	c.4 hours total, 4 tests
	5Essentials	Feb 3 - Mar 13	The 5Essentials Survey identifies school strengths in leadership, collaborative staff, involved families, supportive environment, and ambitious instruction.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c. 20 min
	IAR	PBT Mar 2 - April 3 (includes transcriptions) CBT ELA: Mar 16 - Mar 27 CBT Math: Apr 6 - Apr 16	State standards test in Reading and Math. Used as a piece of information about students, groups, and cohorts, as well as for setting goals and evaluating curriculum.	State Board of Education	US BM	All*	6 hours over 5 tests
	DLM-AA	Mar 11 - May 6	Alternate assessment system for students with disabilities, used to measure student, group, and cohort progress towards attainment of state standards for students who are on an alternative curriculum path.	State Board of Education	US D BM	Students with Special Needs	c.2 ½ to 3 ½ hrs. per student
	FitnessGram	Jan 6- May 27	A non-competitive health-related fitness assessment to help evaluate and evolve physical education programming.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c. 3 to 4 hours

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COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 303

ASSESSMENT PLAN 2025-2026

[2025-26 IL State Assessment Dates](#)

2025-26 CUSD 303 Calendar

[ENG SPA](#)

Grade	Test	Dates	Description (Use)	Required By	Structure Type	Which Students	Average Testing Time
7	i-Ready	Aug 18 – Aug 28 Dec 1 – Dec 12 May 4 – May 15	Diagnostic/benchmark assessments, the diagnostic sets the personalized online instruction for each student to start the year and readjust during the year. Teachers monitor student pathways with check-ins and ability to make adjustments.	District	US D BM	All*	c. 1 hour for Reading and c.1 for Math
	ThinkCERCA Writing	Aug 25 - Aug 28 Nov 3 - Nov 7 April 20 - April 24	Diagnostic/skills assessment that measures baseline and growth of writing skills for grades 6-8. Instructional recommendations for the whole group, small groups, and personalized learning are provided.	District	US D BM	All*	45-60 minutes
	SEL	Sept 22 – Sept 26 April 20 - April 24 Nov 17 Feb 23	SEL survey highlights areas of strength and provides insights to the student areas for development and growth. In November and February students will respond to the four or five question Sense of Belonging portion of the survey.	District	US	All*	c. 20 min per student c. 5 min per student
	ACCESS	Jan 14 - Mar 3	Language proficiency test for English Language Learners used to measure growth in English proficiency and ability to access the curriculum in English	State Board of Education	US D	English Language Learners	c.4 hours total, 4 tests
	5Essentials	Feb 3 - Mar 13	The 5Essentials Survey identifies school strengths in leadership, collaborative staff, involved families, supportive environment, and ambitious instruction.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c. 20 min
	IAR	PBT Mar 2 - April 3 (includes transcriptions) CBT ELA: Mar 16 - Mar 27 CBT Math: Apr 6 - Apr 16	State standards test in Reading and Math. Used as a piece of information about students, groups, and cohorts, as well as for setting goals and evaluating curriculum.	State Board of Education	US BM	All*	6 hours over 5 tests
	DLM-AA	Mar 11 - May 6	Alternate assessment system for students with disabilities, used to measure student, group, and cohort progress towards attainment of state standards for students who are on an alternative curriculum path.	State Board of Education	US D BM	Students with Special Needs	c.2 ½ to 3 ½ hrs. per student
	FitnessGram	Jan 6- May 27	A non-competitive health-related fitness assessment to help evaluate and evolve physical education programming.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c. 3 to 4 hours

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COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 303

ASSESSMENT PLAN 2025-2026

[2025-26 IL State Assessment Dates](#)

2025-26 CUSD 303 Calendar

[ENG SPA](#)

Grade	Test	Dates	Description (Use)	Required By	Structure Type	Which Students	Average Testing Time
8	i-Ready	Aug 18 – Aug 28 Dec 1 – Dec 12 May 4 – May 15	Diagnostic/benchmark assessments, the diagnostic sets the personalized online instruction for each student to start the year and readjust during the year. Teachers monitor student pathways with check-ins and ability to make adjustments.	District	US D BM	All*	c. 1 hour for Reading and c. 1 for Math
	ThinkCERC A Writing	Aug 25 - Aug 28 Nov 3 - Nov 7 April 20 - April 24	Diagnostic/skills assessment that measures baseline and growth of writing skills for grades 6-8. Instructional recommendations for the whole group, small groups, and personalized learning are provided.	District	US D BM	All*	45-60 minutes
	SEL	Sept 22 – Sept 26 April 20 - April 24 Nov 17 Feb 23	SEL survey highlights areas of strength and provides insights to the student areas for development and growth. In November and February students will respond to the four or five question Sense of Belonging portion of the survey.	District	US	All*	c. 20 min per student c. 5 min per student
	ACCESS	Jan 14 - Mar 3	Language proficiency test for English Language Learners used to measure growth in English proficiency and ability to access the curriculum in English	State Board of Education	US D	English Language Learners	c.4 hours total, 4 tests
	5Essentials	Feb 3 - Mar 13	The 5Essentials Survey identifies school strengths in leadership, collaborative staff, involved families, supportive environment, and ambitious instruction.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c. 20 min
	IAR	PBT Mar 2 - April 3 (includes transcriptions) CBT ELA: Mar 16 - Mar 27 CBT Math: Apr 6 - Apr 16	State standards test in Reading and Math. Used as a piece of information about students, groups, and cohorts, as well as for setting goals and evaluating curriculum.	State Board of Education	US BM	All*	6 hours over 5 tests
	ISA	April 20 - April 30	Illinois Science Assessment designed to measure the Next Generation Science Standards. Used to help students understand their progress towards NGSS Standards and evaluate curriculum.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c.2.5 hours
	DLM-AA	Mar 11 - May 6	Alternate assessment system for students with disabilities, used to measure student, group, and cohort progress towards attainment of state standards for students who are on an alternative curriculum path.	State Board of Education	US D BM	Students with Special Needs	c.2 ½ to 3 ½ hrs. per student
	FitnessGram	Jan 6- May 27	A non-competitive health-related fitness assessment to help evaluate and evolve physical education programming.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c. 3 to 4 hours

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COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 303

ASSESSMENT PLAN 2025-2026

[2025-26 IL State Assessment Dates](#)

2025-26 CUSD 303 Calendar

[ENG SPA](#)

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9	SEL	Sept 22 – Sept 26 April 20 - April 24 Nov 17 Feb 23	SEL survey highlights areas of strength and provides insights to the student areas for development and growth. In November and February students will respond to the four or five question Sense of Belonging portion of the survey.	District	US	All*	c. 20 min per student c. 5 min per student
	Practice ACT	Oct 1	A practice assessment that mirrors the ACT. Used by students to understand their progress towards readiness for college and career, as well as understanding individual, group, and cohort growth, and evaluate curriculum.	District	US BM	All*	2 hours and 55 minutes
	ACCESS	Jan 14 - Mar 3	Language proficiency test for English Language Learners used to measure growth in English proficiency and ability to access the curriculum in English	State Board of Education	US D	English Language Learners	c.4 hours total, 4 tests
	5Essentials	Feb 3 - Mar 13	The 5Essentials Survey identifies school strengths in leadership, collaborative staff, involved families, supportive environment, and ambitious instruction.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c. 20 min
	DLM-AA	Mar 11 - May 6	Alternate assessment system for students with disabilities, used to measure student, group, and cohort progress towards attainment of state standards for students who are on an alternative curriculum path.	State Board of Education	US D BM	Students with Special Needs	c.2 ½ to 3 ½ hrs. per student
	PreACT	Apr 15	Used by students to understand their progress towards readiness for college and career, as well as understanding individual, group, and cohort growth, and evaluate curriculum.	State Board of Education	US BM	All*	2 hours and 55 minutes
	AP Exams	May 4 - 15	AP courses have college-level curriculum and rigor. Students can earn college credit by passing an AP class and by their score on the AP Exam.	District	US BM	Students enrolled in an AP class	c.2-3 hours
	FitnessGram	Jan 6- May 27	A non-competitive health-related fitness assessment to help evaluate and evolve physical education programming.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c. 3 to 4 hours

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COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 303

ASSESSMENT PLAN 2025-2026

[2025-26 IL State Assessment Dates](#)

2025-26 CUSD 303 Calendar

[ENG SPA](#)

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10	SEL	Sept 22 – Sept 26 April 20 - April 24 Nov 17 Feb 23	SEL survey highlights areas of strength and provides insights to the student areas for development and growth. In November and February students will respond to the four or five question Sense of Belonging portion of the survey.	District	US	All*	c. 20 min per student c. 5 min per student
	Practice ACT	Oct 1	A practice assessment that mirrors the ACT. Used by students to understand their progress towards readiness for college and career, as well as understanding individual, group, and cohort growth, and evaluate curriculum.	District	US BM	All*	2 hours and 55 minutes
	ACCESS	Jan 14 - Mar 3	Language proficiency test for English Language Learners used to measure growth in English proficiency and ability to access the curriculum in English	State Board of Education	US D	English Language Learners	c.4 hours total, 4 tests
	5Essentials	Feb 3 - Mar 13	The 5Essentials Survey identifies school strengths in leadership, collaborative staff, involved families, supportive environment, and ambitious instruction.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c. 20 min
	DLM-AA	Mar 11 - May 6	Alternate assessment system for students with disabilities, used to measure student, group, and cohort progress towards attainment of state standards for students who are on an alternative curriculum path.	State Board of Education	US D BM	Students with Special Needs	c.2 ½ to 3 ½ hrs. per student
	PreACT	Apr 15	Used by students to understand their progress towards readiness for college and career, as well as understanding individual, group, and cohort growth, and evaluate curriculum.	State Board of Education	US BM	All*	2 hours and 55 minutes
	AP Exams	May 4 - 15	AP courses have college-level curriculum and rigor. Students can earn college credit by passing an AP class and by their score on the AP Exam.	District	US BM	Students enrolled in an AP class	c.2-3 hours
	FitnessGram	Jan 6- May 27	A non-competitive health-related fitness assessment to help evaluate and evolve physical education programming.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c. 3 to 4 hours

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COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 303

ASSESSMENT PLAN 2025-2026

[2025-26 IL State Assessment Dates](#)

2025-26 CUSD 303 Calendar

[ENG SPA](#)

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11	SEL	Sept 22 – Sept 26 April 20 - April 24 Nov 17 Feb 23	SEL survey highlights areas of strength and provides insights to the student areas for development and growth. In November and February students will respond to the four or five question Sense of Belonging portion of the survey.	District	US	All*	c. 20 min per student c. 5 min per student
	Practice ACT	Oct 1	A practice assessment that mirrors the ACT. Used by students to understand their progress towards readiness for college and career, as well as understanding individual, group, and cohort growth, and evaluate curriculum.	District	US BM	All*	2 hours and 55 minutes
	PSAT NMSQT	Oct 22	Part of the SAT Suite of Assessments. A measure of college and career readiness and AP potential. Used by students to understand their progress towards readiness for college and career, as well as understanding individual, group, and cohort growth, and evaluate curriculum.	District	US BM	All*	2 hours and 14 minutes
	ACCESS	Jan 14 - Mar 3	Language proficiency test for English Language Learners used to measure growth in English proficiency and ability to access the curriculum in English	State Board of Education	US D	English Language Learners	c.4 hours total, 4 tests
	5Essentials	Feb 3 - Mar 13	The 5Essentials Survey identifies school strengths in leadership, collaborative staff, involved families, supportive environment, and ambitious instruction.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c. 20 min
	DLM-AA	Mar 11 - May 6	Alternate assessment system for students with disabilities, used to measure student, group, and cohort progress towards attainment of state standards for students who are on an alternative curriculum path.	State Board of Education	US D BM	Students with Special Needs	c.2 ½ to 3 ½ hrs. per student
	ACT	Apr 15	Used by students to understand their progress towards readiness for college and career, as well as understanding individual, group, and cohort growth, and evaluate curriculum.	State Board of Education	US BM	All*	3 hours and 35 minutes
	AP Exams	May 4 - 15	AP courses have college-level curriculum and rigor. Students can earn college credit by passing an AP class and by their score on the AP Exam.	District	US BM	Students enrolled in an AP class	c.2-3 hours
	FitnessGram	Jan 6- May 27	A non-competitive health-related fitness assessment to help evaluate and evolve physical education programming.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c. 3 to 4 hours

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COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 303

ASSESSMENT PLAN 2025-2026

[2025-26 IL State Assessment Dates](#)

2025-26 CUSD 303 Calendar

[ENG SPA](#)

Grade	Test	Dates	Description (Use)	Required By	Structure Type	Which Students	Average Testing Time
12	SEL	Sept 22 – Sept 26 April 20 - April 24 Nov 17 Feb 23	SEL survey highlights areas of strength and provides insights to the student areas for development and growth. In November and February students will respond to the four or five question Sense of Belonging portion of the survey.	District	US	All*	c. 20 min per student c. 5 min per student
	ACCESS	Jan 14 - Mar 3	Language proficiency test for English Language Learners used to measure growth in English proficiency and ability to access the curriculum in English	State Board of Education	US D	English Language Learners	c.4 hours total, 4 tests
	5Essentials	Feb 3 - Mar 13	The 5Essentials Survey identifies school strengths in leadership, collaborative staff, involved families, supportive environment, and ambitious instruction.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c. 20 min
	AP Exams	May 4 - 15	AP courses have college-level curriculum and rigor. Students can earn college credit by passing an AP class and by their score on the AP Exam.	District	US BM	Students enrolled in an AP class	c.2-3 hours
	FitnessGram	Jan 6- May 27	A non-competitive health-related fitness assessment to help evaluate and evolve physical education programming.	State Board of Education	BM	All*	c. 3 to 4 hours

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