



Testing Schedule 2024-2025

The MCA tests are annual, summative measurements of student achievement that are used, along with many other school and classroom assessments, to evaluate student learning and skills. The Reading and Math MCAs are given in 3rd through 8th grade, and the Science MCA is given in 5th and 8th grade.

The ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs are English language proficiency assessments used to meet federal and state legislative requirements. These assessments are used to monitor English learners' progress as they develop academic language skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking.

The NWEA is an interim assessment given to all Twin Lakes STEM Academy students three times per year to measure student growth and learning needs. The school uses both reading and math sections of the NWEA.

Source:

The MCAs and ACCESS tests are required by the state of Minnesota. More information about these assessments from the Minnesota Department of Education can be found at: <https://education.mn.gov/MDE/fam/tests/>

The NWEA is required by Twin Lakes STEM Academy's authorizer, Volunteers of America. More information about the Volunteers of America charter school authorizing program can be found at <https://www.voa.org>.

Average Time Spent on Assessments:

Students are allowed to take as much time as needed on assessments. The average time that students take on each assessment is:

- MCA Reading: 2.5-3.5 hours
- MCA Math: 1.5-3 hours
- MCA Science: 1.5-2 hours
- ACCESS: up to 2 hours and 50 minutes
- NWEA Reading: 1 hour
- NWEA Math: 1 hour

Disseminating Results:

Results of the MCA tests will be mailed to parents before the first parent-teacher conferences in the following school year.

Results of the ACCESS test will be mailed to parents within the first 30 days of the following school year.

Results of the NWEA tests will be mailed to parents with student report cards at the following grading period.

Annual Assessment Calendar:

<i>Assessment:</i>	<i>Grade(s):</i>	<i>Dates:</i>
MCA Reading	3-7	April 14, 2025 - April 18, 2025
MCA Math	3-7	April 28, 2025 - May 2, 2025
MCA Science	5	May 7, 2025
ACCESS Listening	1-7	February 3, 2025 - February 7, 2025
ACCESS Reading	1-7	February 10, 2025 - February 14, 2025
ACCESS Writing	1-7	February 18, 2025 - February 21, 2025
ACCESS Speaking & Kindergarten	K-7	January 27, 2025 - March 21, 2025
NWEA Reading & Math & Science	K-7	Fall: September 16-27, 2024 Winter: January 13-24, 2025 Spring (K-2, 6-7 Science only): May 5-16, 2025