

Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment (DLM-AA)

2020 Testing Dates

March 11 — May 6, 2020

The assessment is administered once a year.

What is DLM-AA? The **Dynamic Learning Maps™** (DLM®) offers an innovative way for all students with significant cognitive disabilities to demonstrate their learning throughout the school year via the DLM Alternate Assessment System. Traditional multiple-choice testing does not always allow students with significant cognitive disabilities to fully demonstrate their knowledge. By integrating assessment with instruction during the year and providing a year-end assessment, the DLM system maps student learning aligned with college and career readiness standards in English language arts and mathematics.

The DLM system is accessible by students with significant cognitive disabilities, including those who also have hearing or visual disabilities, and/or neuromuscular, orthopedic, or other motor disabilities. DLM assessments are flexible. They allow for the use of common assistive technologies in addition to keyboard and mouse and touch-screen technology.

DLM-AA Content Areas

Grade	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
English Language Arts	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mathematics	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Science			✓			✓			✓

What is the purpose of this assessment?

The DLM Alternate Assessment System helps educators facilitate student success by illustrating the interrelation among the knowledge, skills, and understandings necessary to meet academic content standards in a *learning map model*. The learning map model plots out individual concepts in nodes, and the connections among these nodes show the multiple ways that students' knowledge, skills, and understandings develop over time.

Who should be tested?

The DLM system is accessible by students with significant cognitive disabilities, including those who also have hearing or visual disabilities, and/or neuromuscular, orthopedic, or other motor disabilities. DLM assessments are flexible. They allow for the use of common assistive technologies in addition to keyboard and mouse and touch-screen technology.

How are results reported?

Results are reported at the student and district levels. Parent reports are also available.

Student performance on this assessment is categorized as Emerging, Approaching the Target, at Target, and Advanced.

How are results used?

The DLM-AA instructionally relevant assessment:

- Enables a student's school to document academic growth
- Supplies the IEP team with information to celebrate successes
- Is used to gauge student progress in relation to state academic standards

Where can I find additional information about DLM-AA?

CPS staff can find additional information on the CPS Knowledge Center DLM-AA page here:

<https://sites.google.com/a/cps.edu/kc/assessment/dlm-aa>

Parents can find additional information at <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/DLM-AA.aspx>

Visit cps.edu/assessment for information on Chicago Public Schools full assessment system.

