



**NSCAS** NEBRASKA STUDENT-CENTERED  
ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

# **NSCAS-G**

## **Overview**

June 2022

# Agenda



- NSCAS-Growth Through-Year Model
- Who is Testing in What Subject?
- When are Tests Given?
- What Content is Tested?
- What Is the NSCAS-Growth Test Like?
- What is the Science Test Like?
- What do Students Experience?
- What Can We Learn?
- What do the Reports Look Like?



# NSCAS: Through Year Model

## Fall

NSCAS  
Growth  
(ELA, Math)

## Winter

NSCAS  
Growth  
(ELA, Math)

ELPA 21 (EL  
Students  
Feb/March)

## Spring

NSCAS Growth  
(ELA, Math)

NSCAS  
Summative  
(Science,  
Alternate)

# NSCAS



## Who is Tested in What Subject?

- NSCAS Growth
  - 3-8 ELA and Math
- NSCAS Alternate
  - 3-8 ELA and Math, SC
- NSCAS-SC
  - 5th and 8th Science
- NSCAS ACT (English, Math, Science)
  - 11th Graders
- ELPA21 (Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening)
  - K-12 English Learner students



# NSCAS Timeline

## When are Tests Given?

- NSCAS Growth, NSCAS-SC, ACT, and NSCAS Alternate Spring

**ACT-** April 2023

**ELPA-21-** Feb. 6, 2023 – March 17, 2023

### **NSCAS Growth**

#### **NSCAS Growth Fall Window**

Aug 15 – Sep 30, 2022

#### **NSCAS Growth Winter Window**

Dec 1, 2022 – Jan 31, 2023

#### **NSCAS Growth & Science**

Apr 3 – May 12, 2023



# NSCAS

## What Content is Tested?

- Nebraska has standards
- Teachers/NDE use the standards to create a plan for the test
  - What standards are tested?
  - How many questions?
  - What level of rigor?

*How Do Students Know? What Don't they Know?*



# NSCAS ACT

## What Is the Test Like?

NSCAS ACT is exactly the same as the regular ACT test.

PCS takes the paper/pencil version of the test.



# NSCAS Alternate What Is the Test Like?

NSCAS Alternate is specifically designed to show what students with significant special education needs know and what they are able to do.

It is only in the DRC system.





# ELPA21

## What Is the Test Like?

The ELPA21 is designed to assess reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

It is aligned to NDE EL standards.

During the test there are many different question types. Students are required to listen to passages, respond verbally, etc.

Headphones with speakers are needed.

The test is online and is in a separate system.



# NSCAS Growth

## What Is the Test Like?

- The test mixes what is best from NWEA and our old state test.

NSCAS-Growth is:

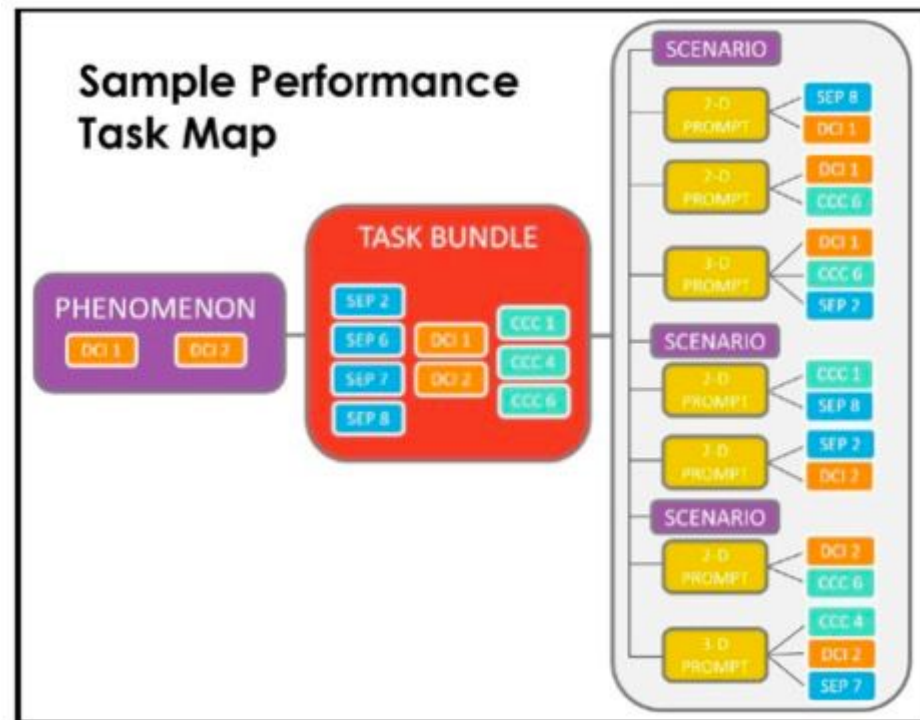
- Adaptive
- Focuses on grade-level standards first
- Can dig deeper
- All questions are based on Plan (Table of Specifications)
- Not all students get the same questions
- System uses previous answers to select next question and hone in on the student's achievement level
- The test is taken online and is housed in the NWEA Assessment system.

# Science Task Map



## What is the Science Test Like?

Science is organized differently than Math and ELA. It is not a through year test and it is not adaptive.



# NSCAS-Growth



## What Do Students Experience?

- The test is taken on a computer for most students.
- IEPs and 504 Accommodations are used
- Each test takes about 90 minutes.
- Teachers decide how best to organize the test.
- Students are told not to worry but to do their best. We use the information to improve what we do.



# NSCAS-Growth

## What Can We Learn?

NSCAS-Growth Can:

- Show student achievement as a scale score (State created)
- Show student achievement as a RIT score (Nationally Normed)
- Show growth from Fall to Spring
- Show how a student compares to others in the class



# NSCAS-Growth

## What Can We Learn?

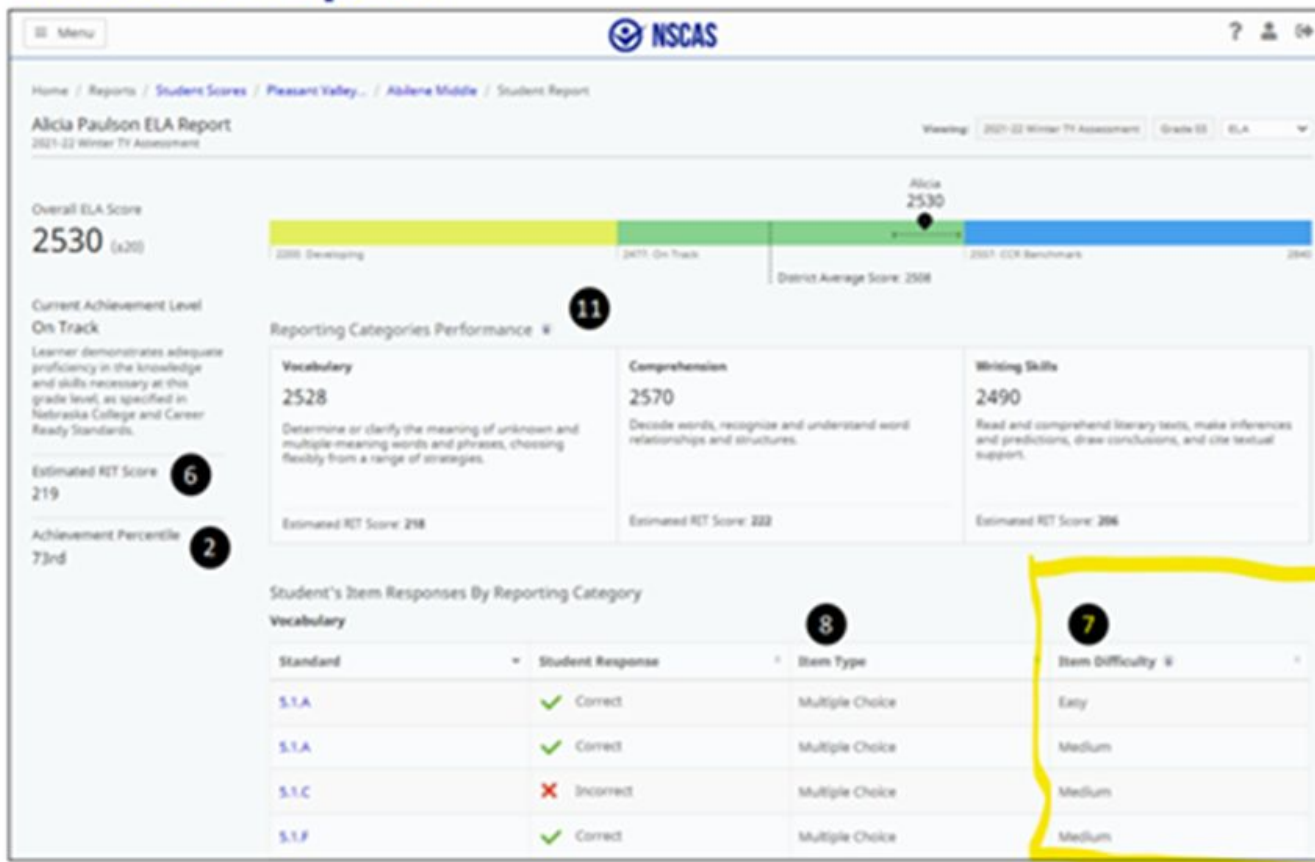
NSCAS-Growth Can Also:

- Give teachers information about how a student did on each question
  - right/wrong
  - how hard the question was
  - what standard the question addressed
- Give administration information about groups of students and their achievements
- Give administration comparative data  
*Teachers don't see the questions.*



# What are the Reports Like?

## Student Report



**2 Achievement Percentile:** The percentage of students in the NWEA national norm sample for a grade and subject area that a given student's score (or group of students' mean score) equaled or exceeded.

**6 Estimated RET Score:** Correlated to the numeric scale score used by MAP Growth.

**7 Item Difficulty:** Defines how difficult an item is compared to the program or state-specific proficiency scale and achievement level categories.

**8 Item Type:** Describes the way the item's possible answers are displayed and function.

**11 Reporting Categories:** Provide insight into a student's achievement in different areas and can help inform teachers on how to address learning needs.

▲ Instructor

■ Administrator

◆ School Coordinator

● District Coordinator



# Student Report

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Alicia Paulson ELA Report  
2021-22 Winter TY Assessment

Viewing: 2021-22 Winter TY Assessment Grade 03 ELA

Overall ELA Score

## 2530 (±20)

Current Achievement Level  
On Track

Learner demonstrates adequate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level, as specified in Nebraska College and Career Ready Standards.

Estimated RIT Score **6**

219

Achievement Percentile **2**

73rd

Reporting Categories Performance **11**

Vocabulary	Comprehension	Writing Skills
<p><b>2528</b></p> <p>Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.</p> <p>Estimated RIT Score: <b>218</b></p>	<p><b>2570</b></p> <p>Decode words, recognize and understand word relationships and structures.</p> <p>Estimated RIT Score: <b>222</b></p>	<p><b>2490</b></p> <p>Read and comprehend literary texts, make inferences and predictions, draw conclusions, and cite textual support.</p> <p>Estimated RIT Score: <b>206</b></p>

Student's Item Responses By Reporting Category

**Vocabulary**

Standard	Student Response	Item Type	Item Difficulty
5.1.A	✓ Correct	Multiple Choice	Easy
5.1.A	✓ Correct	Multiple Choice	Medium
5.1.C	✗ Incorrect	Multiple Choice	Medium
5.1.F	✓ Correct	Multiple Choice	Medium

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# NSCAS-G Reports Group Level



## Abilene Middle ELA Report

2021-22 Winter TY Assessment

Viewing: 2021-22 Winter TY Assessment

Grade 3

ELA

All Groups

Report Categories

Median Scale Score

2510

Students Tested

36

of 40

## Student Scores ⓘ

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#	Student Name	Scale Score	Current Achievement Level	Score Range <span>ⓘ</span>	Reporting Categories		
					Vocabulary	Comprehension	Reading Skills
1	Anderson, Andre M	2550	On Track		2218	2614	2218
2	Bledsoe, Bethany A	2804	CCR Benchmark		2808	2218	2718
3	Donaldson, David W	2790	CCR Benchmark		2718	2534	2718
4	Enders, Erica M	2520	On Track		2218	2534	2618
5	Karloose, Cara A	2220	Developing		2134	2110	2234



NSCAS-G

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*Thank You!*

*If you have any questions, contact  
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