

9th GRADE

ACT Aspire: Your student will be taking the ACT Aspire [English, math, reading, science and writing] assessment at designated times. This assessment is given and analyzed at the district level (it is not a state requirement). ACT Aspire will give important information that will allow us to determine how your child is progressing at their current grade level, as well as along their overall path toward future college and career readiness. It includes important skills, abilities, and knowledge your student has now, and which ones still need to be learned, in order to be academically successful in post-secondary opportunities. ACT Aspire will also provide specific suggestions for improving skills. This assessment is completely online and takes approximately five hours in total time. The results of this assessment are typically available in 3 months.

10th GRADE

Pre-ACT: Your student will be taking the PreACT [English, math, reading, and science] assessment at designated times. This assessment is given and analyzed at the district level (it is not a state requirement). Taking the PreACT is the first actionable step a student will take to practice for the ACT test. PreACT will help your student, and their teacher, understand where your student is succeeding, as well as where extra help or academic focus is needed. PreACT will also provide specific suggestions for improving skills. This assessment is in paper/pencil format and takes a little over three hours to administer. The results of this assessment are typically available in one month.

11th GRADE

Smarter Balanced: With the current state standards, students are working harder, thinking more critically, and applying their learning to the real world. To measure these standards, educators from multiple states have worked together to develop high-quality tests in English and Math for grades 3–8 and 11. Not only do these tests aid Riggs High School in school improvement and state accreditation, they also offer an additional assessment for colleges to use when placing students in the appropriate classes at the post-secondary level. This assessment will be completely online and are under no time constraints. The four sections in this assessment typically take students about 6 hours to complete. Results are typically available within 6 weeks.

South Dakota Science Assessment (SDSA): The South Dakota Science tests measures students' mastery of the South Dakota State Academic Standards in Science adopted in May, 2015 at grades 5, 8, and 11. This test will cover the grade spans of 3-5, 6-8, and high school. Questions will come equally as possible from life, physical, and earth sciences at all 3 tested levels. This assessment will be completely online and has no time constraints. The administration of the three sections of this assessment takes most students approximately two hours. The results to this assessment are typically available within 3 months.

12th GRADE

National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) T. F. Riggs High School partners with the South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation to offer all seniors a unique opportunity to take the NCRC assessment. This is a district sponsored assessment and is not required for student. The National Career Readiness Certification is a credential based on the WorkKeys® assessments that substantiates to employers that an individual possesses the basic workplace skills required for 21st century jobs. The NCRC is a benefit to our senior students, giving them a head start if they are entering the world of work immediately after graduation or several years down the road following college graduation. The administration of this exam takes approximately four hours. Students receive their scores within two days of completing the exam.

ASSESSMENTS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (in all grades)

WIDA Screener The WIDA Screener is an English language proficiency assessment given to incoming students in Grades 1-12 to assist educators with the identification of students as English learners (EL). The purpose of this assessment is to help educators make decisions about whether a student is deemed eligible for EL services. The WIDA Screener Online is flexible and on-demand. Administration takes about two hours.

ACCESS ACCESS for ELLs 2.0® stands for Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners. This large-scale test addresses the academic English language proficiency (ELP) standards at the core of the WIDA Consortium's approach to instructing and evaluating the progress of English learners. ACCESS for ELLs is taken annually by identified English learners to measure their English proficiency. The South Dakota Department of Education requires ELs in Grades 1-12 be administered online. The paper-based version will also be available as an accommodation. Administration takes approximately three hours. Results to this assessment are available after approximately 1 month.