

NAEP Budget and 2026 Administration Update (CLOSED)

Goal

The goals for this session are to provide an update on: (1) the current state and future projections for the NAEP budget and (2) the status of planning for the 2026 NAEP administration.

Overview

Acting Commissioner for the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Matthew Soldner and Gina Broxterman, Director of Strategic Partnerships for NCES, will present on the status of the NAEP budget and the planning underway for the 2026 NAEP assessment. Time for questions and discussion will follow.

Background

The 2026 NAEP assessments will include 4th and 8th grade math and reading for the nation, 53 states and jurisdictions, and 25 of the nation's largest urban school districts who volunteer to participate in the Trial Urban District Assessment (TUDA) program, as well as 8th grade U.S. history and civics for the nation. Testing will begin in January 2026 and run through March.

Planning by NCES and contractors to support NAEP 2026 has been underway for years. In recent months, staff from the Governing Board have helped NCES oversee and manage NAEP operations.

In its role as overseeing the program to ensure its integrity and effectiveness, the Board receives regular updates on all planned NAEP administrations.