Statewide Testing: 6 Reasons Why

mn DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
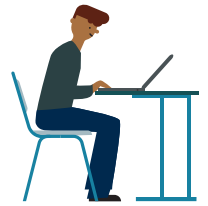
Why are staff other than Test Monitors required to complete test security training?

Even staff that are indirectly involved (for example, setting up technology, receiving test material boxes, or having keys to rooms or cabinets with test materials) must be trained to avoid unintentional security violations.

Why is test security training required every year?

Because statewide testing only happens once a year, it is critical for you to review the importance of test security.

Why do I have to cover or remove all materials on walls and desks?

It is required to make sure students are not provided extra support or guidance on the test. For example, a poster of an astronaut could help a student who has a reading passage about astronauts.

Why can I only say the things scripted in the *Testing Directions*?

You have to use the scripted directions for consistency across the state. If the test is given in the same way, we can be confident that results mean the same statewide.
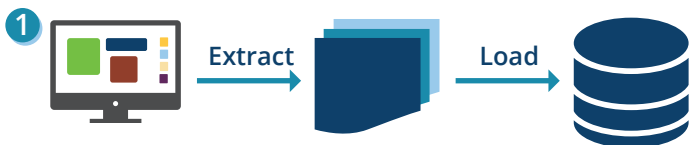
Why can't my students that finished on the first day sit quietly in the room and read while my other students finish on the second day?

This policy is meant to reduce distractions and pressure to finish for students still testing. It also helps to make sure test security is maintained.
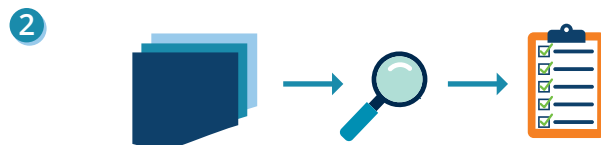
Why can't we test later in the school year?

Multiple steps must happen after students are done testing before MDE is able to provide final results in late summer:

1 Extract → Load

Downloading student scores from testing systems to create data files for uploading into MDE's systems

2

Completing multiple quality checks to ensure test scores are correct

3

Providing your district time to review all test and enrollment information to correct any errors

4

Providing results to your district in stages as each type of report is available