

Memo

Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority

15 July 2025

Prep – Year 10

Number: 026/25

NAPLAN 2026 — access arrangements and reasonable adjustments (AARA) for students with disability

Purpose

To inform schools of key dates for NAPLAN AARA applications for 2026 NAPLAN testing.

Background

In 2026, NAPLAN will be held from **Wednesday 11 March to Monday 23 March**.

All eligible students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in the NAPLAN tests.

Under the Disability Standards for Education 2005 (Cth), schools consult with students and/or parents/carers about AARA and implement approved AARA to enable students with disability to access and participate in the tests on the same basis as students without disability.

Information

Section 6 of the [National protocols for test administration](#) contains important information about adjustments for students with disability and disability adjustments codes (DACs).

Further resources to support schools to make decisions about NAPLAN AARA are available on the [National Assessment Program \(NAP\) website](#), including disability adjustment scenarios, videos and guidelines.

NAPLAN demonstration tests are available on the [NAP Public demonstration site](#) and in the NAPLAN training and practice environment.

The *Record of adjustment for disability (school use only) form* is available in the NAPLAN administration app (Forms & resources tab) and the NAPLAN AARA app (Home tab). This form is signed by both the parent/carer and principal. The school retains the original completed form and provides a copy to the parent/carer. A copy is not submitted to the QCAA.

The NAPLAN AARA app is available in the [QCAA Portal](#), to enable schools to submit applications for NAPLAN AARA requiring QCAA approval.

Key dates

Due dates for applications for QCAA-approved NAPLAN AARA are shown in the table below.

QCAA-approved NAPLAN AARA	Application due
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternative format — braille 	Term 4, 2025* 13 October
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternative format — large print Alternative format — black and white Alternative format — electronic PDF 	Term 4, 2025* 7 November
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assistive technology that requires an unsecured browser Colour contrast modification that requires an unsecured browser Computer or iPad (Year 3 writing test only) Extra time — double the total test time Scribe (writing test only) 	Term 1, 2026 13 February

*Schools should submit applications for Year 7 students and other new enrolments as soon as possible after enrolment in Term 1, 2026.

Other adjustments are approved at the school level by the principal or principal's delegate.

School-approved AARA are **not** recorded in the NAPLAN AARA app. However, the relevant DAC must be assigned in the Assessment Platform prior to the start of applicable test sessions.

School-approved NAPLAN AARA	May be approved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extra time Rest breaks Oral/signed support NAPLAN support person Assistive technology that does not require an unsecured browser, e.g. ergonomic mouse Alternative items (audio and/or visual) Colour themes 	Term 1, 2026 Up to the start of a test session

What you need to do

In Term 4, 2025:

- refer to section 6 of the NAPLAN [National protocols for test administration](#)
- begin consultation with students and/or parents/carers about NAPLAN AARA. Download the *Record of adjustment for disability (school use only) form* to assist in this process
- submit applications for alternative formats to the QCAA via the NAPLAN AARA app by due dates. **Note:** Students with disability should be encouraged to use platform adjustments wherever possible to gain access to the online NAPLAN tests, e.g. the zoom function to enlarge the online tests, visual alternative items and/or colour themes. Students must be given the opportunity to practise using platform adjustments in the [NAPLAN public demonstration site](#). An application for alternative formats should only be submitted for students who are unable to access the tests using adjustments in the platform.

In Term 1, 2026:

- submit applications for other QCAA-approved NAPLAN AARA, if required
- finalise school-approved NAPLAN AARA and *Record of adjustment for disability (school use only)* forms
- ensure that DACs are entered correctly on the Assessment Platform prior to NAPLAN test sessions.

Finding out more

For further information and support regarding NAPLAN AARA and to register for NAPLAN webinars, see the QCAA website or contact the AARA Unit at:

- web — www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/p-10/naplan/disability-adjustments
- email — aara@qcaa.qld.edu.au
- phone — 1300 381 575.

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