

Department of Education

Mission and philosophy

The Wyoming Department of Education's mission is to ensure a quality education in a safe learning environment through service and leadership.

The Wyoming Department of Education is a service organization dedicated to the people of the state. The department believes that continuous improvement of education is at the heart of strong communities, the economy and an improved quality of life. The department is committed to ensuring that all learners have appropriate opportunities to master an ambitious common core of knowledge and skills.

The Wyoming Department of Education stands for student achievement, meeting federal requirements within the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act and exemplary customer service.

Results of outcomes

The Wyoming Department of Education continues to have a broad goal of increasing student achievement through capacity building to provide instruction and services to students throughout the State of Wyoming.

The Wyoming Comprehensive Assessment System (WyCAS) and school accreditation process are two means of measuring the effectiveness of our achievement in these goal areas.

WyCAS results

The WyCAS was given to 4th, 8th and 11th grade students in Wyoming school districts in March 2005. The test measures the effects of districts' program work in math and language arts (the latter embodies reading and writing skills). The results for the five years that WyCAS has been administered are listed in the following tables.

4th Grade WyCAS results - % Proficient or Advanced

School Year	Reading	Writing	Math
2000-01	45%	45%	34%
2001-02	44%	43%	33%
2002-03	44%	37%	37%
2003-04	47%	40%	39%
2004-05	47%	38%	39%

8th Grade WyCAS Results - % Proficient or Advanced

School Year	Reading	Writing	Math
2000-01	39%	51%	32%
2001-02	38%	53%	33%
2002-03	39%	48%	35%
2003-04	41%	57%	40%
2004-05	39%	53%	38%

General information

Dr. Jim McBride,
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Agency contact

Tim Lockwood, Public Information Officer
(307) 777-7690
2300 Capitol Avenue
Hathaway Building, 2nd Floor
Cheyenne, WY 82002-0050
info@educ.state.wy.us

Other locations

Laramie, Riverton, Casper, Rawlins, Riverton, Sheridan, Powell

Year Established

1890

Statutory references

Wyoming Constitution Article 1, Section 23 and Article 7 and W.S. 21-2-104, 21-2-201 and 21-2-202

Authorized personnel

108 full-time employees, 5 part-time employees, and 39 AWEC employees

Organizational structure

Accountability & School Improvement, Standards & Assessments, Administration, Career Technical & Distance Education & Technology, Federal Programs, Finance, Health & Safety, and Special Education.

Clients served

The public including students, parents, educators and legislators

Budget information

Department operations	\$15,943,379
School finance.....	\$556,650,545
Total	\$572,593,894
State.....	\$7,802,782
Federal	\$108,297,435
Other.....	\$456,493,677

11th Grade WyCAS Results - % Proficient or Advanced

School Year	Reading	Writing	Math
2000-01	50%	58%	40%
2001-02	47%	58%	41%
2002-03	47%	62%	43%
2003-04	50%	59%	44%
2004-05	52%	60%	49%

Accreditation

The Wyoming State Board of Education changed the method of evaluating school districts for accreditation. Starting with the 2003-2004 school year, the North Central Association's (NCA) evaluation system was used for accreditation purposes. All 48 school districts had the option of participating in this accreditation process. All but one Wyoming school district has chosen to participate in the NCA accreditation method.

The percentage of North Central Association (NCA) schools that demonstrate increased student achievement in their school improvement goals as reflected in the school's Standard Unit Summary Report was 100 percent.

The percentage of all districts that received either full accreditation or accreditation with follow-up was 100 percent for the 2004-2005 year.

Strategic plan changes

There were no significant changes to the strategic plan.

Department of Education organizational chart

