

Technical Requirements

Assessing Your Technology Environment

NWEA WORKS TO ENSURE that you have a successful testing experience. The following technical requirements for MAP will serve as a guide as you assess your technology and plan for test implementation. Your technology will need to support three major MAP components: 1) Network Test Environment (NTE) server, 2) Test Administration Application (TAA), and 3) the TestTaker workstation.

Network Test Environment (NTE) Server

The NTE server stores the student and test database information. The minimum system requirements for the NTE server are:

Minimum NTE Server Requirements ¹	
CPU	Pentium II (266 MHz) Mac G4
RAM	256 MB ²
Available Disk Space	600 MB (1.5 GB for Spanish Voice translations) ³
Operating System ⁴	Novell 4.0; Mac OSX Server; Windows 2000 Server; Windows 2000 Advanced Server; Windows 2003 Server
Network	Windows 2000 Server; Mac using SMB; Mac G3 (with AppleShare 6.3 ⁵) Novell 4.0; Mac using AFP
Anti-virus	Any anti-virus package must have an exclusion to prevent it from actively scanning any NTE folder during testing.

1. These requirements assume the NTE server is dedicated to MAP while testing is in progress.
 2. 256MB per lab or class of 30 TestTaker client workstations.
 3. Audio files are shipped separately and are not part of the test download package.
 4. Operating systems should be server-class operating systems. Using desktop systems in a server role can dramatically reduce performance.
 5. Earlier AppleShare versions do not support enough open shares for MAP system usability.

The NTE server's CPU, RAM, and available disk space all contribute to the overall test-system performance.

Test Administration Application (TAA) Workstation

The TAA workstation performs the downloading and uploading of data to the NTE server for use by the TestTaker client workstations. The TAA workstation must have Internet access and must be able to access the NTE server. TAA can be accessed by opening up an Internet Explorer browser and navigating to www.nwea.org/taa (run when prompted).

Minimum TAA Requirements	
CPU	Pentium II (266 MHz)
RAM	256 MB
Available Disk Space	600 MB
Operating System	Windows 2000; Windows XP; Windows 2003 Server; Windows Vista; Windows 7 (32-bit versions only.)
Connectivity	The Internet connection must allow the passing of Active-X controls, Active Server Pages (ASP), and secure http pages (https://)
Monitor Resolution	800 x 600 SVGA
Browser	Microsoft Internet Explorer 6.0 - 8.0
Permissions	The user logged on must have full rights to the NTE. User must also have local administrator rights on the PC running TAA.
Anti-virus	Any anti-virus package must have an exclusion to prevent it from actively scanning the C:/WINNT/System32/packages folder (Windows 2000) or the C:/WINDOWS/System32/packages folder (all other Windows OS)

TestTaker Client Workstation

Students use the TestTaker Client Workstation to take MAP tests. The TestTaker workstation must have network access to the NTE server.

Minimum TestTaker Requirements

CPU	Pentium II (266 MHz), Mac G4
RAM	256 MB
Operating System	Windows 2000; Windows XP; Windows Vista; Windows 7; Mac OS X 10.5 and 10.6
Network	Windows 2000; Novell 4.0; Mac using AFP 2.x or 3.x
Monitor Resolution	800 x 600 SVGA, 256 color resolution
Sound Card	Required for Spanish voice translation Mathematics tests
Headphones	Required for Spanish voice translation Mathematics tests
Permissions	Users will need full Read/Write permissions to the NTE folder and all subfolders within. For Novell users create/modify permissions are required.

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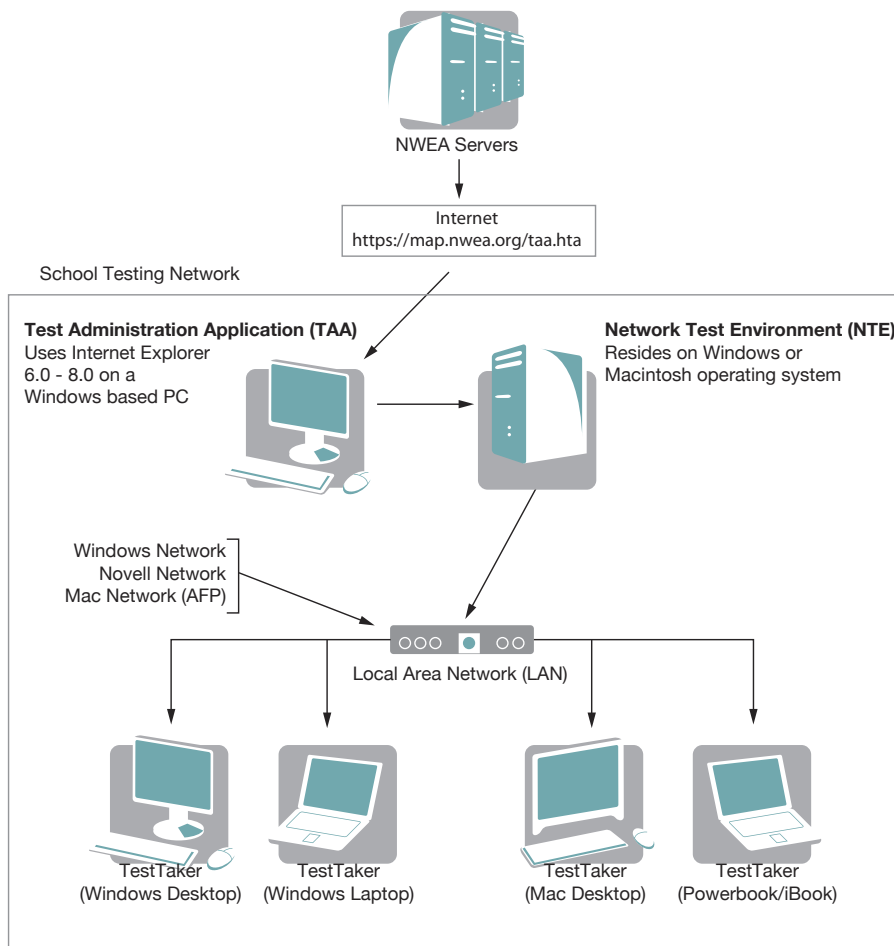
TECHNICAL SUPPORT:

877.4NWEA.TS (877.469.3287)

Wireless Recommendations

The following are the minimum recommendations for testing in a wireless environment (LAN only). NWEA requires a persistent connection to the wireless access point, free of interruptions to successfully run. Any outages in the connection, regardless of how brief, will cause errors during testing.

Protocol	802.11 G (54 mb/s)
# of concurrent connections	15 connections per airport/access point (20 max)



Additional System Information

The NTE server, TAA workstation, and TestTaker client workstations may be installed on other configurations. NWEA has not tested all possible configurations for workstations with MAP software. If you are planning to use an untested configuration, NWEA strongly recommends you spend time evaluating if the MAP system will reliably operate on that configuration.

Notes:

The TAA and NTE can reside on the same machine. If you use a wireless LAN, please consult your hardware documentation for capacity questions. NWEA does not support wireless WAN connections.