

ImPACT Concussion Testing FAQ

By implementing concussion testing at our school, we are taking valuable measures to help prepare our staff and students for when a concussion is suspected. Students in grades 9-12 are required to take the baseline concussion test before participating in sports. The test will be repeated in two years.

What is ImPACT?

ImPACT (Immediate Post-Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing) is the most scientifically validated computerized neurocognitive test used by more than **7,400 high schools and 1,000 colleges and universities** to help evaluate and manage suspected concussions. Since 2006, over 7.5 million individuals have taken the ImPACT test.

ImPACT comes in two forms:

1. **Baseline Test** – Administered by a physician, nurse, athletic trainer, athletic director, or coach before the start of a sport season. ImPACT recommends re-administering the baseline test every two years.
2. **Post-Injury Test** – Administered by a licensed healthcare provider when a concussion is suspected. Test results are compared to baseline scores and/or normative data scores as part of a healthcare provider's assessment of the injury. Multiple post-injury tests may be given to an individual during the course of treatment and rehabilitation.

Here's How ImPACT Works:

- 25-minute computerized, online test
- Delivered via a secure web portal
- Taken via a desktop computer (PC and Mac compatible) that has an internet connection and a mouse
- Administered in the presence of a physician, nurse, athletic trainer, athletic director, or coach (only a licensed healthcare provider can administer an ImPACT post-injury test)
- Results interpreted by a licensed healthcare provider
- School personnel do not have access to testing results. Staff administering the test will receive a confirmation number when a student completes the test.

What does ImPACT measure?

The test tracks a student's symptoms and measures multiple aspects of cognitive functioning, including attention span, working memory, sustained and selective attention time, non-verbal problem solving, and reaction time.

If you have further questions about the concussion testing at school, please contact the school nurse.