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(Canada)

**PAN-CANADIAN ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (PCAP) 2027
FIELD TEST**

**PROGRESS IN INTERNATIONAL READING LITERACY STUDY (PIRLS) 2026
MAIN STUDY**

REQUEST FOR CODERS AND TEAM LEADERS

**In-person Coding Sessions, Ottawa, Ontario
July 6–24, 2026**

The Pan-Canadian Assessment Program (PCAP) is a cyclical program of assessment of student achievement in Grade 8/Secondary II in reading, science, and mathematics, and is conducted by the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC). Each PCAP assessment has one of these areas of learning as the primary domain and includes the other two components as minor domains. In 2027, the primary domain is reading. Therefore, reading items alone will be tested and coded for the field test, in advance of the main study. Around 2,700 students from approximately 130 schools across Canada are taking part in the PCAP 2027 Field Test in spring 2026.

The Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) is an international assessment administered every five years that measures trends in students' reading-literacy achievement, as well as policies and practices related to literacy. The target population assessed by PIRLS is students in Grade 4, and the mean age at the time of testing is at least 9.5 years. This study is carried out under the aegis of the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA), a consortium of research institutions in 60 countries. In Canada, about 22,000 students from over 900 schools are taking part in the PIRLS 2026 Main Study, which is being administered in spring 2026.

The PCAP 2027 Field Test and PIRLS 2026 Main Study will be coded in person in Ottawa, Ontario, from July 6 to 24, 2026. Coding involves assigning standardized codes (i.e., scores or marks) to student responses to constructed-response questions, based on predefined coding guidelines/rubrics.

Up to 70 coders and up to 10 team leaders (English, French, or bilingual) will be hired for the sessions, with some participants coming from ministries and departments of education from across the country. In addition, openings will be available for coders and team leaders from the **Ottawa region**.

Team leaders will be responsible for training coders and for assisting coders throughout the coding session. Team leaders will also work closely with coding leaders and other team leaders.

Prospective candidates are invited to outline their qualifications and experience using the electronic form available at <https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/coding-codage2026>. All applications will be considered.

Applicants must:

- have a background in teaching reading literacy or language arts to the target age group (PCAP – Grade 8/Secondary II; PIRLS – Grade 4);
- be a regular teacher, substitute teacher, retired teacher, or future teacher;
- have knowledge of the provincial programs of study for the target age group (PCAP – Grade 8/Secondary II; PIRLS – Grade 4);
- be available for the **entire duration** of the coding session to which they are applying; and
- *for team leader positions only*: have experience coding past cycles of PCAP, PIRLS, other international assessments, or provincial/territorial assessments.

Bilingualism and previous experience with coding student responses are considered to be assets for all coders.

Coders and team leaders will receive training, and perform their duties, as shown in the schedule below. Coding leaders and team leaders will meet in advance of the coding session for training. The allocation of coders and team leaders was determined by the PCAP and PIRLS coding requirements. The maximum number of anticipated working days is shown below. In addition to weekdays, some coding may be scheduled on Saturday. The expected working hours are **from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EDT**.

	Reading
PCAP 2027 Field Test – Team leaders’ training (Grade 8/Secondary II)	July 6–10, 2026 Contract up to 5 days
PCAP 2027 Field Test – Coding (Grade 8/Secondary II)	July 13–18, 2026* Contract up to 6 days (*may include Saturday, July 18)
PIRLS 2026 Main Study – Team leaders’ training (Grade 4)	July 6–10, 2026 Contract up to 5 days
PIRLS 2026 Main Study – Coding (Grade 4)	July 13–24, 2026* Contract up to 11 days (*may include Saturday, July 18)

The fee for coders is \$250 per day (including statutory vacation pay), plus reimbursement for

incidental expenses as per policy. The fee for team leaders is \$300 per day (including statutory vacation pay), plus reimbursement for incidental expenses as per policy. No other expenses (e.g., meals, transportation, parking, daycare) will be reimbursed.

The application deadline is April 30, 2026. Applicants are encouraged to submit their application as soon as possible. CMEC thanks all candidates for their interest. Only successful candidates will be notified of the status of their application.