

## NCTest Required Software

The North Carolina Annual Testing Program requires that NCTest be accessed only through approved, secure platforms. Remote Management software that allows teachers or tech staff to remotely control a student's testing device is NOT to be used during test administration.

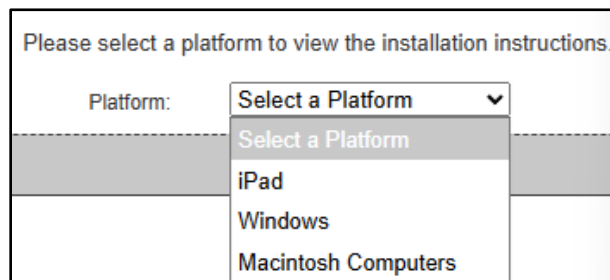
- Windows and Mac computers access NCTest through the [NCTest Secure Exam Browser \(SEB.\)](#)
- iPads access NCTest through the [NCTest iPad App](#).
  - The app provides its own security measures.
  - Scroll bars should be set to 'Always show.'
- Chromebooks access NCTest through the [Progressive Web App \(PWA.\)](#)
  - Tests must be administered in Kiosk mode.

### Installing the NCTest Secure Exam Browser and iPad App

Testing programs, their technical requirements, and installation instructions for Windows and Mac computers and iPads are accessed through:

<https://center.ncsu.edu/ncinstruct/>

1. Select the testing platform from the dropdown.



The screenshot shows a web form with the heading "Please select a platform to view the installation instructions." Below the heading is a label "Platform:" followed by a dropdown menu. The dropdown menu is open, showing the following options: "Select a Platform" (the selected option), "iPad", "Windows", and "Macintosh Computers".

2. Ensure the testing device meets the indicated technical requirements.
3. Follow the download and installation instructions until the student login step.
  - Non-public Schools do not use the Student Login section.
  - If there are any issues with the program or installation process, contact the Help Desk.

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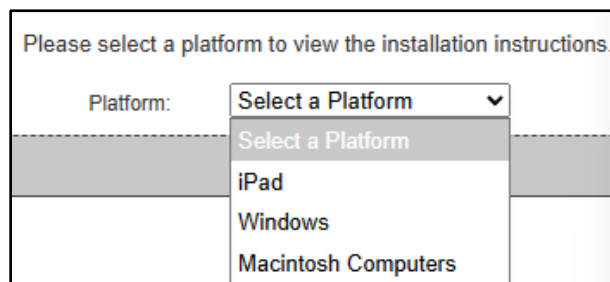
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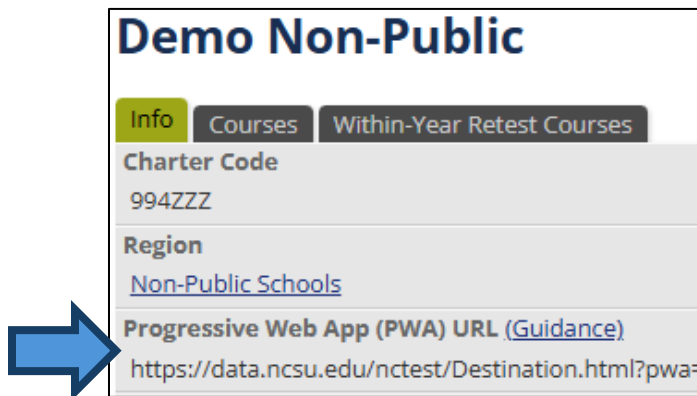
The screenshot shows a web form with the text "Please select a platform to view the installation instructions." at the top. Below this text is a label "Platform:" followed by a dropdown menu. The dropdown menu is currently open, showing a list of options: "Select a Platform" (with a downward arrow), "Select a Platform", "iPad", "Windows", and "Macintosh Computers". The "Select a Platform" option at the top of the list is highlighted in grey.

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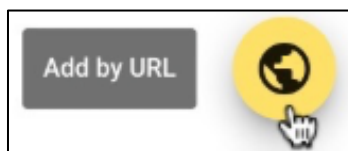
## Installing the Progressive Web App

As of February 20, 2026, Chromebooks must access NCTest through the Progressive Web App.

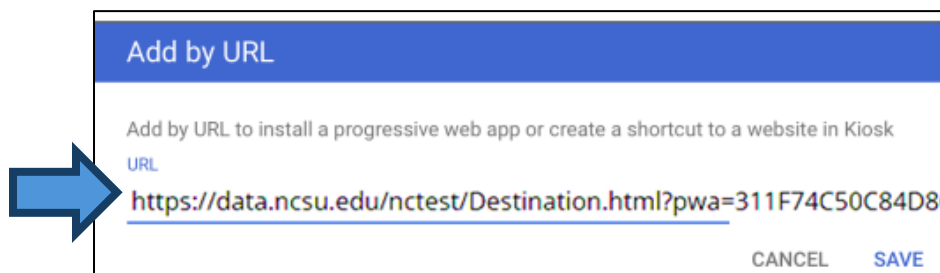
1. Inform the NPSTS Coordinator (Brian Swiger) that the school will be testing with Chromebooks. A unique PWA URL will then be created for the school.
  - Each school will receive a unique URL to install the PWA on all Chromebook testing devices.
  - The PWA URL will appear in the school's 'Info' tab in NCTest Admin.

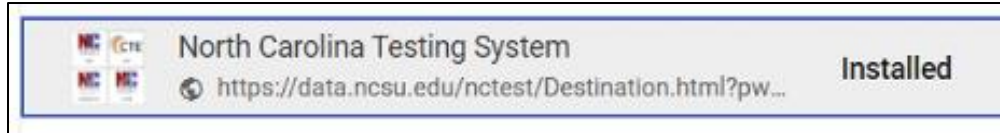


2. If the NCTest Chrome App is installed, uninstall it and restart the device to ensure the caches and App data are fully cleared.
  - The PWA will not function while the NCTest Chrome app is installed.
3. Browse to admin.google.com and log in with an administrator account.
4. Navigate to Devices > Chrome > Apps & Extensions > Kiosks.
5. Click + (Add) in the lower right, and select the Globe (Add By URL.)

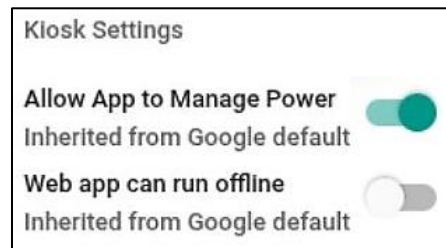


6. Copy/paste the PWA URL from the 'Info' tab in NCTest Admin, then click 'Save.'

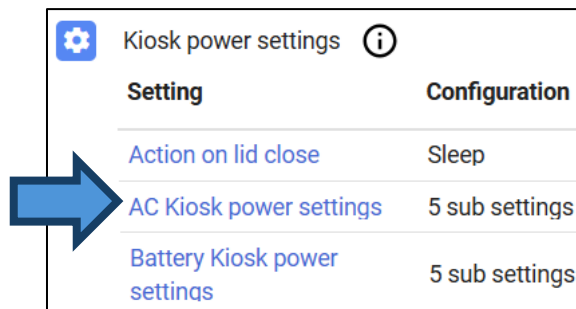




- If there is no PWA link in NCTest Admin, contact the NPSTS Coordinator.
7. Once the PWA is installed, click on 'North Carolina Testing System' to access the kiosk settings and:
- Set 'Allow the app to Manage Power' to **enabled**.
  - Set 'Web app can run offline' to **off**.



8. In the left-hand menu click Settings > Device and then select 'AC Kiosk power settings.'



9. In the Kiosk Power Settings section:
- Set 'Action on idle,' to **Do nothing**.
  - Set 'Screen dim timeout' to **0** minutes to prevent dimming.
  - Set 'Screen off timeout' to **0** minutes to prevent the screen from turning off.

Action on idle

Do nothing ▼

Screen dim timeout in minutes  
0

Enter zero to never dim the screen.


Screen off timeout in minutes  
0

10. Click Save.

11. Allow Google to push any changes, and then the application can run.

12. The app's name should read 'NCTest PWA' in the Apps list.

- If any other name appears: ensure the old NCTest Chrome app has been uninstalled and restart the device to clear all caches and app data.
- For additional installation support, click the 'Guidance' link on the Info page of NCTest Admin and refer to the 'Step 1: Add web apps to kiosks' section.

**Progressive Web App (PWA) URL (Guidance)**   
<https://data.ncsu.edu/nctest/Destination.html?pwa>

- If there are any issues with the program or installation process, contact the Help Desk.

## Using the PWA

- Kiosk Mode
  - Tests must be administered in Kiosk mode.
- Launching the PWA
  - Launch the PWA from the Apps menu on the Chromebook login screen.
    - Do not log in to the Chromebook or any google account. No login is required to launch the PWA.
- Exiting/Closing the PWA
  - Briefly press the Power button on the Chromebook and choose Log Off or Shut Down.

- The PWA cannot be closed, suspended, or minimized any other way to prevent students accidentally exiting or disrupting testing sessions.
- Error Code 160
  - This error occurs when launching a testing session. It is caused by entering an incorrect or mistyped URL during PWA installation. PWA URLs are unique, case sensitive, cannot be exchanged or shared between schools.
    - To correct the error, reinstall the PWA and copy/paste the school's URL directly from NCTest Admin.
    - Contact the Help Desk for further assistance.