AN UPDATE FROM STATEWIDE STUDENT ASSESSMENT AND DATA ANALYTICS—AUGUST 19, 2020

QUICK LINKS	IMPORTANT DATES
• 2020 Extended ACCESS Testing Window Important Dates • Final Reports Delivery and Resources • Test Specifications Development Committee: Alternate MCA • Upcoming Opportunities	*Aug. 20: Individual Student Reports (ISRs) arrive in districts for students who participated* *Aug. 20: ISRs available in WIDA AMS and PearsonAccess Next*

2020 Extended ACCESS Testing Window Important Dates

For districts participating in the extended ACCESS testing window, the following table provides the important dates for this administration.

TASK	DATES
Test Materials Ordering Window in WIDA AMS	Currently available–Sept. 1
Test Administration Window	Aug. 3–Sept. 25
Deadline to Ship Materials Back to DRC	Oct. 1

Keep in mind that the extended spring 2020 testing window for ACCESS is being provided as an option **only** for English learners (ELs) who would have been eligible to exit a Language Instruction Educational Program (LIEP) based on previous scores and/or their other completed domain scores this past spring – **not** all ELs who were unable to complete testing last spring. The decision to participate in this extended testing window is determined by the district. Testing must be in-person and cannot be administered remotely. **Participating districts must order materials by Sept. 1.**

Further details on student eligibility are included in the *2020 Extended ACCESS Testing Window* and more information on test materials ordering and shipping are available in the *Continuing Administration for 2019-2020 DIRECTIONS*; both documents are on the Minnesota page of the WIDA website.

Final Reports Delivery and Resources

Individual Student Reports (ISRs) for both MCA/MTAS and ACCESS/Alternate ACCESS are scheduled to arrive in districts tomorrow, Aug. 20. (Note: For MCA/MTAS, a few districts may not receive their reports until Friday, Aug. 21.)

- ISRs for ACCESS/Alternate ACCESS will be provided for all students who participated in ACCESS/Alternate ACCESS.

- ISRs for MCA/MTAS will be provided only for students with a valid score in at least one subject.

Since ISRs contain private student data, **it is important for districts (that will be receiving an ISR shipment) to ensure someone is available to receive the reports and secure them until distribution**. Refer to last week's *Assessment Update* for detailed information about this shipment.

Final Results in Vendor Systems

Electronic copies of ISRs and other final results will also be available in the applicable vendor systems tomorrow, Aug. 20.

- For ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS, electronic copies of ISRs and rosters will be available in WIDA AMS. Translated versions of ISRs can be downloaded in WIDA AMS, as needed. Note: For 2020, no district or school frequency reports will be available in WIDA AMS.

- For MCA and MTAS, electronic copies of ISRs will be available in PearsonAccess Next under Published Reports. These ISRs are available by grade and subject (by school) or in a zipped file of individual results separated by student (by district and school). Note: Users will need software such WinZip, WinRAR, 7-Zip, etc. to open the zipped file.

  o For 2020, rosters, benchmark reports, and longitudinal reports will not be available.

  o Longitudinal exports and historical student data will be available, but the data is limited.

ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS Score Interpretation Resources

As educators review ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS scores, WIDA has updated the [ACCESS for ELLs Scores and Reports](#) and the [Alternate ACCESS Scores and Reports](#) pages on their website.

Here are some key resources:

- Newly updated and revamped ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs [interpretive guides for score reports](#)

- WIDA's *[Parent Guide for ACCESS for ELLs Score Reports](#)* and *[Parent Guide for Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Score Reports](#)* can help you discuss student scores with families

- *Individual Student Score Notes Template* is another resource to support you during conversations with students and their families about ACCESS

- Lesson plans for talking with students about ACCESS testing and results

- ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS Speaking and Writing rubrics for classroom assessment

- An infographic for educators providing more information on how to analyze ACCESS scores, communicate results, collaborate with colleagues, and take action.

MCA and MTAS Resources

ISR resources and samples are available on the ISR Resources page:

- Interpretive Guide for Minnesota Reports: This comprehensive guide contains detailed information on how to read the ISRs and interpret the test data. Details are provided throughout the guide about data not available on the 2020 ISRs due to COVID-19.

- MCA and MTAS ISR Quick Guides: The quick guides provide a high-level overview of how to read the ISRs and may be useful for educators to use when reviewing student results with parents or guardians.

- Understanding the MCA and MTAS ISR Videos: These short videos provide a high-level overview of the information presented on the ISRs.

- Samples of MCA and MTAS ISRs

New for 2019-20: The following short video trainings will be available on Friday, Aug. 21, in the Training Management System (TMS), on the Data and Reporting tab, under the Pearson Data and Reporting Trainings category:

- Published Reports in PearsonAccess Next

- Longitudinal Reports in Pearson Access Next

These short video trainings provide an overview of the reports and data available in PearsonAccess Next, and how to access data in the system.

In addition, the following user guides for 2019–20 are available on the Additional Reporting Resources page: *Longitudinal Reports and Export User Guide*, *Historical Student Data User Guide*, and *Published Reports Quick Guide*.

Test Specifications Development Committee: Alternate MCA

MDE is looking for diverse group of K–12 special education, reading, and science educators to use their expertise to develop test specifications for the Alternate MCA (previously MTAS) in science and reading. The Alternate MCA is the redesigned alternate assessment aligned to alternate achievement standards designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

The purpose of the committee is to decrease the depth, breadth, and complexity of the science and reading standards on the Alternate MCA by developing assessment boundaries and access points for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. The committee will meet virtually throughout the 2020–21 school year.

Share this opportunity with educators in your districts who work with students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. View the [Specifications Committee for Alternate MCA: 2020–21 application](#) for more information and to apply. Interested educators must complete the application by Sept. 18.

Upcoming Opportunities

Teaching and Learning Led by Evidence Webinar Series

This series of webinars is for any teacher or school leader who wants to center instruction on evidence of student learning. Kendra Olsen, MDE's Outreach Specialist in Statewide Student Assessment and Data Analytics, will facilitate each session to engage teachers and school leaders in making sense of assessment and data, so that it can be used to build trust and collaboration and develop fluency in decision making to help close gaps in instruction and learning.

Registration is required for each WebEx session, using the links in the table below. Note: A fifth session is now included in this table, and registration has been added for all 5 sessions. Participants will earn one continuing education unit for each session. All sessions will be recorded and posted for future reference. Please contact Kendra at kendra.olsen@state.mn.us with any questions.

SESSION #	DATE AND TIME	TOPIC AND DETAILS	LEARNING OBJECTIVES
2	Thursday, August 27, 11 a.m.–noon	Balancing Your Assessment System to Reflect Your Students [Register for Session 2](#)	Participants will gain: • An understanding of the purpose of various assessment types, and their recommended frequency of use • A framework for facilitating a team discussion to choose/use assessments for their intended purpose, and determining the right balance of assessment types for your school or district

SESSION #	DATE AND TIME	TOPIC AND DETAILS	LEARNING OBJECTIVES
3	Thursday, Sept. 24, 4–5 p.m.	Leading Instructional Decisions with Evidence Register for Session 3	Participants will be able to: • Use or modify an ORID (Objective, Reflective, Interpretive, Decisional) framework to facilitate staff discussions about student learning led by evidence • Understand how data use cycles can influence systems in schools, which impact student achievement
4	Thursday, Oct. 22, 4–5 p.m.	Assessment *for* Learning – How do we know what our students really know? Register for Session 4	Participants will be able to: • Integrate simple, frequent "checks for understanding" into existing instructional plans that elicit an accurate picture of the depth of what students know • Improve rigor and alignment of formative assessment to the standards • Define success criteria for students
5	Thursday, Nov. 12, 4–5 p.m.	Assessment *of* Learning – Summative Assessments for your Classroom Register for Session 5	Participants will be able to: • Improve alignment of classroom assessments to standards • Increase the rigor of questions to eliminate student misconceptions • Ensure assessments measure the extent students have mastered the standards for an instructional unit

STATEWIDE STUDENT ASSESSMENT AND DATA ANALYTICS

Minnesota Department of Education

education.mn.gov > Districts, Schools and Educators > Teaching and Learning > Statewide Testing

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