AN UPDATE FROM ACADEMIC STANDARDS, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT—JULY 19, 2023

QUICK LINKS	IMPORTANT DATES
- Embargoed Test Results Summary - Entering Reimbursement Requests in GRR - MDE Employment Opportunity - PearsonAccess Next Reports: Planned Unavailability - Upcoming Opportunities	**July 26** *Access embargoed final school, district, and state summary results in Test Results Summary in Secure Reports*

Embargoed Test Results Summary

Next Wednesday, July 26, embargoed assessment results will be available in Test Results Summary on the Secure Reports page of the MDE website. The Test Results Summary reports will include final summary data for MCA, MTAS, ACCESS, and Alternate ACCESS. All assessment results continue to be under embargo until Aug. 24. During the embargo, districts can use the final assessment results to prepare for questions from the media and local stakeholders. They may share the results with district teachers and staff for planning or instructional purposes, but may not share the results publicly.

MDE is now reporting students using eight state-defined racial and ethnic groups, including the use of the state definition of American Indian and the new "Other Indigenous" group. Students count as American Indian if they meet the state definition regardless of any other racial or ethnic groups with which they may have identified. The state of Minnesota's definition of American Indian includes any of the original people within what is now the borders of the United States (excluding Hawaii) or Canada who maintain cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.

The following resources about the embargoed summary results are or will be available to support districts:

- The *2022–23 Test Results Summary User Guide* will be available on the Assessment Secure Reports Data Submissions page before the release, and provides data and format information about the summary files available for 2019, 2021, 2022 and 2023 test administrations at the school and district level.

- The *Statewide Assessments: Using Test Results Summary* one-page resource is available on the District Resources page (under the Test Score Interpretation Resources expandable heading) and includes information about the summary files for district staff.

Entering Reimbursement Requests in GRR

Districts that have received assessment results for the college entrance exam they administered (ACT or SAT) should enter requests for reimbursements in the Graduation Requirements Records (GRR) system for eligible students. If a district has not previously received reimbursement for a grade 11 or 12 student, the following criteria applies to reimbursement requests:

- Districts will be reimbursed for students eligible for a free/reduced-priced meal (FRP) who are entered into GRR.

- Districts may also be reimbursed on a prorated basis (if necessary) for students who are unable to pay for the exam. Districts must determine the criteria for unable to pay and enter those requests in GRR.

Districts must submit eligible reimbursement requests no later than Sept. 8.

Common Issues

Any student identity error must first be resolved in student enrollment data submitted to MDE and/or the Student ID Validation system before the record can be added into GRR. Student data entered in GRR must match enrollment data. If you receive the "Student match based on matching rules, but ID is different" message, check the following:

- A nickname has been entered instead of the full name (for example, "Ben" instead of "Benjamin").

- The student uses a name that does not match student enrollment data (in some cases, the student may have legally changed their name, and student enrollment data submitted to MDE still is reporting the previous name).

- The student's last name is incomplete or not entered correctly (for example, "Carlson" or "Carlson-Hernandez" instead of "Carlson Hernandez").

Reimbursement Reports

After districts enter reimbursement requests in GRR, they must confirm that the students for which they expect reimbursement are included in the reimbursement reports; these reports are refreshed each morning. It is important to confirm student information is entered correctly to avoid incorrect reimbursements made to the district. The following reports are available:

- The *Claimed Student Detail Report* details what records will be reimbursed (or the reason records will not be reimbursed).

- The *Estimated Student Amount Report* gives an estimate of the amount to be received.

Resources

More information is in the *[Graduation Requirements Records (GRR) User Guide](#)* and in the *MDE Graduation Requirements Records (GRR) Training*, which is posted in the [Training Management System (TMS)](#) on the District Assessment Coordinator tab under the MDE Recorded Webinars category.

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MDE Employment Opportunity: Data Governance Manager

The Data Practices and Analytics division is currently seeking a data governance manager to support and advance enterprise data governance for the Minnesota Department of Education.

If you or someone you know may be interested in a new and challenging opportunity, consult the position description and application instructions on the State of Minnesota Careers website. The Job ID is 67104, and the **posting is open until July 24**. Visit the [State of Minnesota Careers](#) website for more information and to apply.

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PearsonAccess Next Reports: Planned Unavailability

In preparation for loading the MCA and MTAS 2023 reporting data in PearsonAccess Next, the following data will be unavailable July 28–Aug. 23:

- Longitudinal Reports in [PearsonAccess Next](#) (login required) under Reports > Longitudinal Reports.

- Historical Student Data in [PearsonAccess Next](#) (login required) under Reports > Historical Student Data.

- [Subscore Reports](#) on the PearsonAccess Next website.

All current Longitudinal Reports, Historical Student Data, and Subscore Reports will again be available on Aug. 24.

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Upcoming Opportunities

New DAC Reporting Training 2 (Repeat)

The *New DAC Reporting Training 2* will be held virtually on Thursday, July 27, from 2–3:30 p.m. It will focus on reporting stages, and how to find and use the District and School Student Results (DSR/SSR) files. All DACs are welcome to attend; however, this training is specifically designed to support new DACs. Register for the [New](#)

[DAC Reporting Training 2](#). For those unable to attend, the training will also be recorded and posted on July 28 in the [Training Management System (TMS)](#).

This is the second of two trainings geared to new DACs about reporting. The first training was held virtually on June 29, and a recorded training is available in the TMS on the District Assessment Coordinator tab under MDE Recorded Webinars on June 30. The prerequisites for the second training are completion of *New DAC Reporting Training 1*, Chapter 11 of the [*Procedures Manual*](#), and the *Appropriate and Inappropriate Uses of MCA and ACCESS Results* infographics available on the [District Resources](#) page of the MDE website under the Test Score Interpretation Resources expandable heading.

Please note: MDE aims to deliver our presentations in a way that will be accessible for our participants. If you anticipate needing accommodations, contact mde.testing@state.mn.us. MDE requests a two-week advance notice to provide accommodations and 48-hour notice to cancel them. If the request comes within two weeks of the event, MDE will still make an effort to provide the accommodation.

Assessment Inventory Session 2: Using the findings from an assessment inventory to balance your local assessment system toward equity

Join us for the second session of a three-part series focused on stepping back to take stock of the assessments used in your district, including what information they are providing, and how they can tell you more. Save the dates below and confirm your registration on Zoom for Sessions 2 and 3 to receive a calendar invite. All interested teaching and learning staff, district/school leaders, DACs, and teacher leaders are welcome to join.

Session 2 will be held on Thursday, Aug. 3, from 1–4 p.m. [Register for the Assessment Inventory Session 2](#). Session outcomes include:

- Learn from other district leaders who completed an assessment inventory process: What were their takeaways and how did they plan it? What are their next steps?

- Share and discuss findings/implications.

- Discuss next steps for either planning an inventory process in your district OR for making recommendations for next steps.

Resources from Session 1 were provided in a [shared folder](#) and will be used to guide discussions in Session 2. Session 3 will focus on developing a theory of action for your Balanced Assessment System and will be on Tuesday, Sept. 26, from 1–4 p.m. [Register for Session 3](#).

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If you have any questions or want to unsubscribe, please send an email to mde.testing@state.mn.us.