

AN UPDATE FROM ACADEMIC STANDARDS, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT—JULY 28, 2021

QUICK LINKS	IMPORTANT DATES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised Important Dates • Embargoed Test Results Summary • Secure PearsonAccess Next System Home Page Updates • Upcoming Opportunities 	<p>Aug. 6: Retrieve embargoed Test Results Summary reports in Secure Reports</p> <p>Aug. 25: Access embargoed assessment downloadable data file including state, all districts, and all school-level data in Secure Reports</p> <p>Aug. 26: Retrieve results in WIDA AMS</p> <p>Aug. 26: Retrieve Published Reports in PearsonAccess Next</p> <p>Aug. 26: Individual Student Reports (ISRs) and other reports arrive in districts (unless district requested not to receive paper copies for MCA/MTAS)</p> <p>Aug. 26: Media receives access to embargoed assessment downloadable data file including state, all districts, and all school-level data</p> <p>Aug. 27: Public release of final assessment results in Data Center</p>

Revised Important Dates

The [Revised 2020–21 Important Dates](#) document has been updated to reflect finalized public reporting dates. It replaces previous versions, including the one available at the beginning of the *Procedures Manual for the Minnesota Assessments 2020–21*.

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Embargoed Test Results Summary

Embargoed 2020–21 assessment results will be available in Test Results Summary on Aug. 6 in [Secure Reports](#). These results will be under embargo until the public release of assessment results on Aug. 27. During the embargo, districts can use final assessment results to prepare for questions from the media and local stakeholders. It is up to the district to determine whether or not to share embargoed assessment data with students, families, and staff for instructional purposes. Embargoed results cannot, however, be discussed in public forums, reflected in public meeting minutes (e.g., school board meetings), or shared with the general public or media until the final assessment results have been released publicly.

Additional Resources

The following resources are, or will soon be, available to support districts with using and understanding the results:

- The first part of the [2021 Statewide Assessment Reporting Guidance](#), located under Test Score Interpretation Resources, provides guidance for districts with information on using 2021 results appropriately and in context. The second part is planned to be available near the end of August, prior to the public release of results.
- The [Revised 2020–21 Important Dates](#) provides an updated timeline for the release of results.
- Chapter 11 of the [Procedures Manual](#) provides guidelines for using the assessment data and abiding by the embargo.
- The [Test Results Summary User Guide](#) provides information about the content and file format of reports (will be posted by Aug. 6).
- The [Statewide Assessments: Using Test Results Summary](#), located under Test Score Interpretation Resources, is a one-page resource that provides information for district staff about using these summary results for statewide assessments, including specific contexts to consider for this year.
- The *New DAC Reporting Training 2: Test Results Summary Reports and Public Reporting* training will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 3, from 2–3 p.m. The training will also be recorded and posted, along with handouts, in the [Training Management System \(TMS\)](#) on the District Assessment Coordinator tab under MDE Recorded Webinars by Aug. 6.

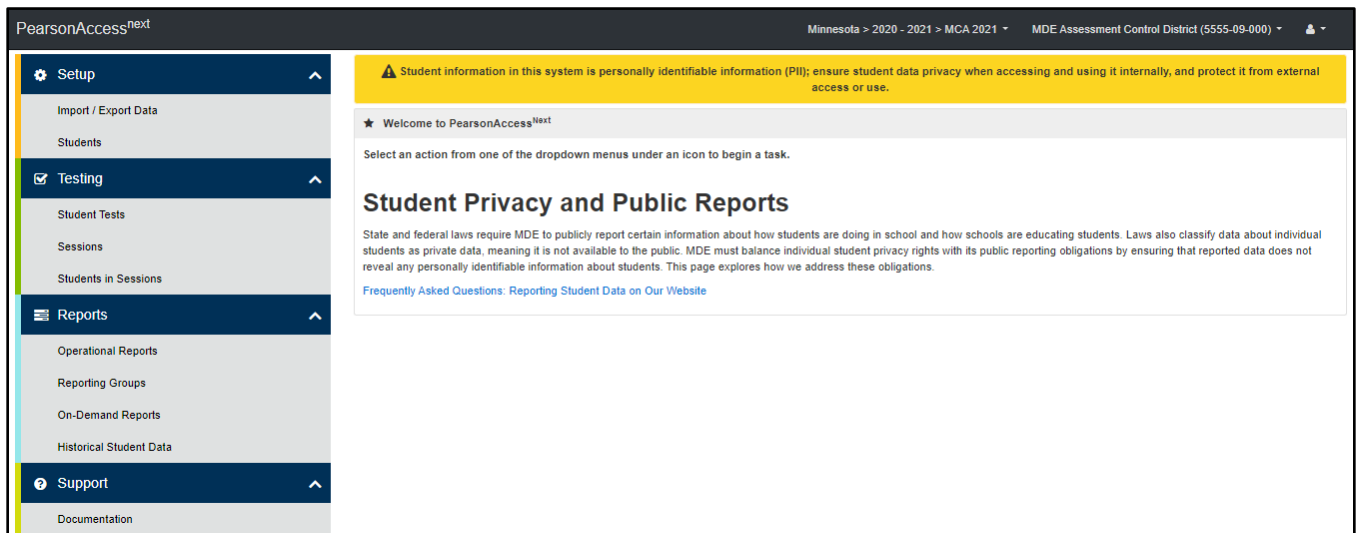
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Secure PearsonAccess Next System Home Page Updates

The home page of the secure [PearsonAccess Next](#) system will be updated on July 29 to feature the task menus (e.g., Setup, Testing, Reports, Support) within a navigation panel along the left side of the page once a user logs in.

- For users with the District Assessment Coordinator (DAC) or Assessment Administrator (AA) user role, the task menus will be initially collapsed. Users will select the task to expand the menu to access the available subtasks by user role (e.g. Testing > Student Tests).
- For users with the Test Monitor/Data Entry, Tech Staff, or MTAS Score Entry user roles, the task menu will be expanded displaying the available subtasks by user role.

Pearson and MDE will update all applicable user guides throughout the year to feature updated PearsonAccess Next home page screenshots. Note: This update only applies to the home page. All task pages will have the same layout as previous test administrations.



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Upcoming Opportunities

New DAC Reporting Training 2: Test Results Summary Reports and Public Reporting

The *New DAC Reporting Training 2: Test Results Summary Reports and Public Reporting* training will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 3, from 2–3 p.m. The training will also be recorded and posted in the [Training Management System \(TMS\)](#).

This is the second of two trainings geared to new DACs about reporting; a recording of the first training is available in the TMS on the District Assessment Coordinator tab under MDE Recorded Webinars. The prerequisites for the second training are Chapter 11 of the [Procedures Manual](#) and the *Appropriate and Inappropriate Uses of MCA and ACCESS Results* infographics available on the [District Resources](#) page under Test Score Interpretation Resources.

Register for the [New DAC Reporting Training 2](#). Details for joining the webinar will be provided once participants register.

WIDA Webinar: Get Familiar with the Redesigned WIDA Secure Portal

The [Get Familiar with the Redesigned WIDA Secure Portal Q&A Webinar](#) will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 10, 1–2:30 p.m., and will provide an overview of the new WIDA Secure Portal including navigation, training, and professional learning.

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