

AN UPDATE FROM ACADEMIC STANDARDS, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT — SEPT. 20, 2023

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Learning Management System (LMS) Webinar and Office Hours

As announced in the Sept. 13 [Assessment Update](#), Pearson will replace the [Training Management System](#) (TMS) with a new Learning Management System (LMS), which will go live on Monday, Oct. 2.

In preparation for the go live date, Pearson will be hosting virtual webinars and Office Hours with District Assessment Coordinators (DACs) to review the LMS and answer DAC questions. Registration links and office hour descriptions are in the following table. Please note that for the LMS Office Hours, DACs can enter their questions in this [online form](#) that will be reviewed during the call.

DATE AND TIME	TOPIC	REGISTRATION LINK
Thursday, Sept. 28 10–11 a.m.	LMS Webinar for DACs: Logging into the LMS, LMS walk through and navigation, catalog structure and filters, assigning/enrolling in courses, marking learners complete, running reports Q&A	Register for LMS Webinar

DATE AND TIME	TOPIC	REGISTRATION LINK
Thursday, Oct. 5 10–11 a.m.	LMS Office Hour #1: Questions for LMS Q&A form, logging into the LMS, LMS walkthrough and navigation, assigning/enrolling in courses, completing a course, Q&A	Register for LMS Office Hour #1
Thursday, Oct. 12 10–11 a.m.	LMS Office Hour #2: Questions for LMS Q&A form, badges, running reports, Q&A	Register for LMS Office Hour #2
Thursday, Oct. 19 10–11 a.m.	LMS Office Hour #3: Questions for LMS Q&A form, marking learners complete, running reports, Q&A	Register for LMS Office Hour #3

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Data and Assessment Literacy Community of Practice Series

In partnership with COMPASS, the Academic Standards, Instruction, and Assessment division is launching a monthly Community of Practice series focused on the content of the Minnesota Data and Assessment Literacy (MnDAL) [online learning modules](#). We invite school and district leaders to come together to collaborate around ways to use content from the MnDAL modules to enhance data and assessment literacy throughout their system, leading to improved educational opportunities for students and teachers.

Meetings will be held virtually once a month beginning in September, with a Tuesday afternoon and a Friday morning option available to participants.

Register by Sept. 22:

- [MnDAL Community of Practice Series, Tuesday afternoon option](#)
- [MnDAL Community of Practice Series, Friday morning option](#)

For more information about the MnDAL course and other professional learning about data and assessment literacy, please visit the [Professional Learning Opportunities page on Testing 1, 2, 3](#).

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Assessment Inventory Session 3

Join us for the third and final session of a three-part series, “Connecting your Assessment System to a Theory of Action for Instructional Improvement,” 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 date below and confirm your registration on Zoom for Session 3 to receive a calendar invite. All interested teaching and learning staff, district/school leaders, DACs, and teacher leaders are welcome to join.

Register for the [Assessment Inventory Session 3, Sept. 26 from 1–4 p.m.](#) Session outcomes include discussing next steps for making recommendations from your assessment inventory process; and designing or updating your theory of action for how your balanced assessment system guides teaching and learning.

Resources from Session 1 and 2 were provided in a [shared folder](#) and will be used to wrap up discussions in Session 3.

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New for 2023–24: MCA and MTAS Student Results Label PDFs

MCA and MTAS student results label PDFs provide test score information for students participating in the assessments. The label PDFs are posted by school under Published Reports in PearsonAccess Next and can be downloaded and printed at the district or school. To print the PDF labels, use a 12-label sheet with 4" x 1.5" labels (for example, Avery label #5197). Labels may also be printed on a single label sheet and manually cut at the district or school. For more information, review the [Published Reports Quick Guide](#) (Reporting Resources > Additional Reporting Resources).

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Alternate Assessment Coffee Break Series

Meet with Alternate Assessment Specialists to Give Feedback and Ask Questions

The Academic Standards, Instruction, and Assessment Division will host a series of virtual coffee break sessions for MTAS test administrators and special education staff to ask any questions around alternate assessment, share your feedback, and connect with other special education staff from across the state. Bring your favorite beverage, along with your questions and any feedback you have, to share at this informal time focused around alternate assessment.

Join us for the first one of the year on Oct. 10 from 4–5 p.m. via Zoom: 2023–24 Alternate Assessment Coffee Break Series. Please [register for the coffee break](#). This month we will be discussing the MTAS eligibility guidelines for choosing assessments for students, planning for assessment during IEP meetings, and asking the group for feedback on a few Alternate MCA topics.

We will be meeting the second Tuesday of each month during the school year. You only need to register once to join any of the monthly coffee breaks that work for you. The Coffee Break dates for this year are: Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 9, Feb. 13, March 12, April 9, and May 14 at 4 p.m. For more information, contact Alt.Assessment.MDE@state.mn.us.

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New DAC Orientation (repeat)

In October, MDE and Pearson will present the New DAC Orientation, which will provide an overview of the various roles and responsibilities of a District Assessment Coordinator (DAC), the statewide assessments administered in Minnesota, relevant MDE and WIDA systems, available resources, and training opportunities. Pearson will provide information on their systems and available resources. While this training is specifically designed for new DACs, experienced DACs are also welcome to attend.

MDE is offering this training in three formats: an all-day in-person training event in Northeast Minneapolis, a three-part series of live virtual trainings spread over three days, and pre-recorded trainings that will be posted in the Learning Management System (LMS). MDE recommends that DACs attend either the in-person or virtual sessions, if possible, as they will include opportunities to collaborate with other DACs from across the state.

Prerequisites: To prepare for the orientation, new DACs are encouraged to review the *New District Assessment Coordinators: Getting Access* document under the District Assessment Coordinator Resources expandable header on the [District Resources](#) page on the MDE Statewide Testing website.

Registration links are in the following table. 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.

FORMAT	DATE AND TIME	REGISTRATION LINK
In-Person	Tuesday, Oct. 3 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Delta Hotels by Marriott Minneapolis Northeast Minneapolis Ballroom 1330 Industrial Boulevard Northeast Minneapolis, MN 55413	Register for In-Person Training
Virtual (must attend all three sessions)	Session 1: Monday, Oct. 9 9–11 a.m. Session 2: Tuesday, Oct. 10 9–11 a.m. Session 3: Wednesday, Oct. 11 9–11 a.m.	Register for Virtual Trainings

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Odds and Ends

Minnesota Report Card Maintenance

The Minnesota Report Card will be down for maintenance from Sept. 20 at 8 a.m. to Sept. 21 at 8 a.m.

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ACADEMIC STANDARDS, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT

Minnesota Department of Education

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

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