

AN UPDATE FROM ACADEMIC STANDARDS, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT—NOV. 2, 2022

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## ***November Q&A Session 1: Training Preparation***

MDE will host two virtual Q&A sessions for DACs in November. The first session will be on Tuesday, Nov. 15, from 2–3 p.m. and will focus on the overview of test administration and required training for staff members. New and experienced DACs are welcome to attend. [Register for the November Q&A Session 1](#). Details for joining will be provided after participants register. The second November Q&A session will be on Tuesday, Nov. 29, and will focus on Pretest Editing tasks.

The prerequisites for the first November Q&A session are the following chapters of the *Procedures Manual*:

- Chapter 6: Overview of Test Administration
- Chapter 7: Before Test Administration

MDE collects questions from DACs prior to the event to help prepare and find relevant resources to share. After reading the chapters, [submit questions for the November DAC Q&A Session 1](#).

Note: Q&A Sessions are not recorded and CEUs are not provided as these sessions are an additional support rather than a training event.

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## ***Alternate ACCESS Field Test – Test Administrator Manual Updates***

Please share with your Alternate ACCESS Test Administrators.

During the process of finalizing the test forms for the Alternate ACCESS Field Test, further guidance was added to the *Alternate ACCESS Field Test – Test Administrator Manual* on how to score the Speaking and Writing domains. A transcription guidance and more information on how to return field test materials have been added to the manual as well. The updated *Test Administrator Manual* is available in the resources section of the Alternate ACCESS for ELLs: Administration and Scoring training course in the [WIDA Secure Portal](#) (under Assessment Training).

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## Upcoming Opportunities

### ACCESS/Alternate ACCESS

WIDA and DRC will be hosting the following webinars:

- Pre-Testing: Technology Coordinator Support for Test Administrators: Tuesday, Nov. 8 at 1–2 p.m.
- Kindergarten ACCESS for ELLs for New Test Administrators: Tuesday, Nov. 15 at 1–2 p.m.
- During Testing: Managing Students in WIDA AMS: Thursday, Nov. 17 at 1–2 p.m.
- Alternate ACCESS for ELLs for New Test Administrators: Tuesday, Nov. 22 at 1–2 p.m.

More information, including the webinar links, can be found in the [WIDA Secure Portal](#) on the Webinars page. Find technology-related webinar links and recordings by going to the WIDA AMS landing page and selecting View Documentation. Then, select Memos/Documents from the Document type dropdown menu and the 2022–23 Q&A Webinar Schedule for Technology Coordinators.

Note: Recordings of WIDA Q&A Webinars are posted to the WIDA Secure Portal on the Webinars page within a week of the presentation.

## Odds and Ends

### Educator Edition

The November issue of the *Educator Edition* will be sent on Nov. 7. Archived copies are posted on the [Educator Edition](#) page of the PearsonAccess Next website. Educators, DACs, and Curriculum Directors are encouraged to [sign up for the Educator Edition](#).

### Service Provider Customer Service Hours of Operation

- WIDA: Monday–Thursday, 7 a.m.–6 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. 866-276-7735 or [help@wida.us](mailto:help@wida.us).
- DRC: Monday–Friday, 7 a.m.–6 p.m. 855-787-9615 or [WIDA@datarecognitioncorp.com](mailto:WIDA@datarecognitioncorp.com).
- Pearson: Monday–Friday, 6 a.m.–7:30 p.m. 888-817-8659 or submit a [Pearson help desk request online](#).

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Minnesota Department of Education

[education.mn.gov](http://education.mn.gov) > Districts, Schools and Educators > Teaching and Learning > Statewide Testing

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