

AN UPDATE FROM ACADEMIC STANDARDS, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT—JUNE 1, 2022

QUICK LINKS	IMPORTANT DATES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">The Minnesota Questions Tool (MQT)</a></li> <li><a href="#">Student Data Privacy Reminder</a></li> <li><a href="#">Posttest Editing Reminders</a></li> <li><a href="#">Student Results labels for MCA/MTAS</a></li> <li><a href="#">Verifying Information in MDE-ORG</a></li> <li><a href="#">Infinite Campus Local Use Data Field</a></li> <li><a href="#">Upcoming Opportunities</a></li> <li><a href="#">Tech Update</a></li> </ul>	<p><b>May 23:</b> Posttest Editing in Test WES opened</p> <p><b>May 23–June 28:</b> Retrieve early student-level results in Test WES for ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS</p> <p><b>June 9:</b> Deadline to update MARSS data for Posttest Editing</p> <p><b>June 10:</b> Deadline to confirm in Test WES if the district wants to receive student results labels and paper copies of ISRs for MCA/MTAS</p> <p><b>June 10:</b> Posttest Editing in Test WES closes at 10 p.m.</p>

## The Minnesota Questions Tool (MQT)

Please share with your teachers.

As previously announced, MDE has developed a new resource for educators, the Minnesota Questions Tool (MQT). The MQT will provide educators with content aligned to the Minnesota Academic Standards to support or supplement their grade-level instructional materials for the classroom.

Educators will have access to released content from past administrations of all grades of the Reading and Mathematics Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments – Series III (MCA-III).

- Reading content in the MQT will have two to four passages per grade with the associated content, including several interactive item types.
- Mathematics content in the MQT will have over 250 items for grades 3–5, over 250 items for grades 6–8, and several questions in grade 11.

- Science content in the MQT is aligned to the 2019 Academic Standards and represents the type of content that will be used on MCA-IV. The MQT will have one phenomenon and associated content for each grade in science.

MDE will release the MQT with Reading and Mathematics MCA-III and Science MCA-IV on June 13. More content for Reading and Mathematics MCA-III will be added by December.

The MQT will replace the Released Items and Passages Sets currently available on the MDE website. As there are additional items released in the MQT, updates will be provided in the *Assessment Update*.

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## ***Student Data Privacy Reminder***

When contacting MDE or a service provider with a question about a specific student's test or situation, only use the student's MARSS number. For student privacy, **do not send student names in an email or a help desk request; this applies to screenshots or attachments as well.**

If specific student data needs to be sent to MDE, districts can upload information securely using the File Exchange in [Test WES](#).

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## ***Posttest Editing Reminders***

The following resources are available for districts working on Posttest Editing:

- The *Test WES Posttest Editing User Guide 2021–22* posted on the [Test WES](#) page of the MDE website, provides detailed information on Posttest Editing for DACs.
- The New DAC Posttest Editing Training, which is posted in the [Training Management System \(TMS\)](#) on the District Assessment Coordinator tab (under the MDE Recorded Webinars category).

### **Indicating EL in MARSS**

For English learners to be eligible to take the ACCESS or Alternate ACCESS, they **must be indicated** as EL in MARSS. If a student took the assessment but their enrollment record indicates they are not EL, the report code will be set to INV (Invalid) when published, and it cannot be changed. If these students are ELs, you **must** update their enrollment record in MARSS by June 9.

### **Confirming Inactive Records are Correct for ACCESS**

In the case where a record is missing one or more domains for ACCESS, the report code will be NC (not complete). These are not necessarily discrepancies in Posttest Editing, and districts often notice these by seeing no composite score in the early student-level results file. If the student did not participate in the missing domain, you can indicate the reason by changing the test code for the applicable domain(s).

If the student did participate in the missing domain, then the records were not merged by DRC because student information on the two records did not match. Test WES may have been able to match (but not merge) the records; in such cases, districts can confirm the scores will be merged by ensuring that the demographic information matches exactly on both the active and inactive records. Since the records are merged after Posttest Editing, the NC report code will remain throughout Posttest Editing even after both records have been edited. Contact [mde.testing@state.mn.us](mailto:mde.testing@state.mn.us) if edits are needed to an inactive record. More information starts on page 41 of the [Test WES Posttest Editing User Guide](#).

## MARSS Enrollment Matching Issues

When verifying student enrollment data to resolve MARSS Enrollment Matching Issues, DACs must work with the MARSS Coordinator and check enrollment data in MARSS as Student Information Systems (SIS) do not sync automatically with MARSS. Your MARSS Coordinator may need to update the information in MARSS and submit a new file to MDE. District MARSS Coordinators should reach out to Marilyn Loehr, MDE MARSS Coordinator, at [marss@state.mn.us](mailto:marss@state.mn.us) with [MARS questions](#).

Note: During Posttest Editing, MARSS updates will appear in Test WES within minutes of the MARSS Coordinator submitting a file.

## Correct Discrepancies

A discrepancy of assessment records without MARSS enrollments is a correct discrepancy for home-schooled and shared-time students who participated in testing. Shared-time students who received eligible EL instruction through the public school and are EL-identified in MARSS must take an English language proficiency accountability assessment (ACCESS or Alternate ACCESS). These students will receive a discrepancy of an assessment without an enrollment because they are not considered enrolled for accountability purposes.

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## *Student Results Labels for MCA/MTAS*

Districts that want to receive adhesive student results labels with test score information must indicate this on the District Options page in [Test WES](#) by **Friday, June 10**. The default is to **not** receive the labels. If selected, the labels will be sent with the final Individual Student Reports (in late August). DACs may need to work with their student record specialists to determine if student results labels are needed.

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# ***Verifying Information in MDE-ORG***

## **DAC Assignments**

As MDE or Pearson may need to contact districts this summer, please ensure that the DAC contact information is current in the [Minnesota Department of Education-Organization Reference Glossary \(MDE-ORG\)](#). If the primary DAC is not available this summer, please add an Alternate DAC who will be available.

All contact information in MDE-ORG is updated and maintained by the district's Site Verification Coordinator (SVC). You can look up the SVC for your district in the [MDE-ORG](#). If the SVC has any questions about the process, they can contact [mde.school-verify@state.mn.us](mailto:mde.school-verify@state.mn.us) for support.

## **Shipping Addresses**

All addresses used to ship Individual Student Reports (ISRs) and student results labels (if indicated) will be populated from [MDE-ORG](#). Districts should verify the shipping addresses in MDE-ORG as needed.

- The Assessment Shipping address is a separate field in MDE-ORG that allows districts and schools to indicate a specific address where they would like test materials shipped at both the district and school levels.
- If there is no Assessment Shipping address present in MDE-ORG, the Location: Physical address will be used; if no Location: Physical address exists, the Mailing address will be used (but updates may be required as test materials cannot be shipped to P.O. boxes).
- If the Location: Physical address is the correct address to ship test materials, then a separate Assessment Shipping address does not need to be added for the district and/or each school.

If updates are needed in MDE-ORG, the district's Site Verification Coordinator must make changes in the [MDE District and School Site Verification system](#).

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## ***Infinite Campus Local Use Data Field***

MDE has been made aware that Infinite Campus made changes to the Local Use Data field in the MARSS B file. This may affect districts who currently use the Local Use Data field to support work in a variety of areas, including School Finance, Statewide Testing, and Nutrition Services. MDE is aware of the issue and is working to communicate how this field should be used with Student Information System (SIS) vendors.

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## Upcoming Opportunities

### MDE Summer Training Opportunities for DACs

As announced in the [May 25 Assessment Update](#), MDE is providing the following virtual events to support DACs. Use the links below to access a description and register for each ZoomGov event.

- Thursday, June 30 – [New DAC Reporting Training 1](#)
- Tuesday, July 19 – [July Q&A Webinar for New DACs](#)
- Thursday, July 28 – [New DAC Reporting Training 2](#)
- Tuesday, Aug. 9 – [August Q&A Webinar for New DACs](#)

### COMPASS Cohort Launch: Student Agency in Learning (SAIL) Pilot

MDE and WestEd are launching a year-long formative assessment cohort pilot, in which up to 20 teams of educators and leaders for across the state will have the opportunity to join Minnesota’s first [Student Agency in Learning \(SAIL\)](#) cohort pilot through COMPASS.

To apply, school leaders should complete the [SAIL Cohort - interest form](#) by **June 16**. Refer to the [May 11 Assessment Update](#) for detailed information.

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## Tech Update

### TestNav System Requirements: Review and Prepare for the 2022–23 School Year

Pearson recommends that districts review its established [TestNav System Requirement Policy](#) to anticipate upcoming support changes for the 2022–23 school year. This policy aligns TestNav system requirements with manufacturer-supported operating systems (OSs) and devices. District personnel should bookmark and familiarize themselves with the policy to assess technology needs every school year. This best practice ensures that all district personnel and students experience efficient and reliable testing sessions.

Note: Manufacturer development cycles vary, and release details are often vague until close to release dates. As a result, Pearson’s policy requires referencing manufacturer policies. Annually, Pearson will base support for OSs and devices on manufacturer support as of each July 15.

Technology personnel should evaluate manufacturer support **as of July 15** to determine technology planning for the upcoming school year. For example, based on the information available at this time, and dependent on Pearson testing, districts can estimate support for the 2022-23 school year to be the following:

Operation System (OS)	Estimated Minimum Version Support (2022-23)
Tablets, Chromebooks, Chromeboxes	
Chrome OS	Stable Channel (S)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 102+ Long Term Support (LTS)*</li> <li>• 96 LTS through Aug. 2022</li> <li>• 102+ LTS after Aug. 2022</li> </ul> <p>*See <a href="#">Google's documentation</a> on Chrome OS LTS.</p>
iOS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15.2, 15.3, 15.4</li> </ul>
Laptops, Desktops	
Linux	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fedora 33+ x 64</li> <li>• Ubuntu 18.04+ x64</li> </ul>
macOS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11, 12</li> </ul>
Windows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 x64 – 20H2, 21H1, 21H2</li> <li>• 11+ x 64</li> </ul>
Other	
Android (item samplers only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11+ on a supported Chrome browser link</li> </ul>

Note: This information is also available in the [May 25 Technical Bulletin](#).

Additional details for the upcoming school year in the **Upcoming Support Changes** section at the bottom of the [TestNav System Requirements](#) page as they become available. For question, contact the Pearson help desk at 888-817-8659 or submit a [help desk request online](#).

## Planned DRC Outage

WIDA AMS Services may be unavailable for approximately 60–90 minutes on June 2, 5–8 p.m.

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Minnesota Department of Education

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

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