mn DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Assessment Update

QUICK LINKS	IMPORTANT DATES
	June 28: Last day to retrieve early student-level results in Test WES for ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS *June 29:* District and School Student Results (DSR and SSR) files available in Secure Reports

Release of the Minnesota Questions Tool (MQT)

The Minnesota Questions Tool (MQT) is now available on the Released MCA Questions page of the Testing 1, 2, 3 website. A user guide is available for download on this page as well.

The MQT contains released test questions from past MCA tests, as well as links to data about each item. Educators can use these test questions to better understand how the MCA is aligned to the Minnesota K–12 Academic Standards, and how the items are written to reflect the rigor and complexity of the standards. The released content, data tables, and rationales can be used to explore examples of questions that evaluate the knowledge and skills expected in the standards.

More content for Reading and Mathematics MCA-III will be added by December and communicated in the *Assessment Update*.

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2021–22 Assessment and Accountability Results Release Timeline

In mid-February, MDE shared a standalone *2021–22 Important Dates* document with updated assessment and accountability reporting dates for all statewide assessments (ACCESS, Alternate ACCESS, MCA, and MTAS). It is

posted on the [Districts, Schools and Educators Statewide Testing](#) page of the MDE website (under the Testing Calendars expandable header), and on the [Policies and Procedures](#) page of the PearsonAccess Next website.

Note: The *Procedures Manual* was updated accordingly on Feb. 28. Ensure that you are using the most updated version of the *Procedures Manual* when looking for reporting dates for the 2021–22 assessment data.

Kindergarten ACCESS for English Learners

Please share with your EL teachers.

WIDA and the Center for Applied Linguistics (CAL) are looking for 12 educators with experience working with kindergarten English learners to contribute to the development of a new Kindergarten ACCESS for ELLs. This assessment is being refreshed to represent the WIDA English Language Development (ELD) Standards Framework, 2020 Edition. An online workshop will take place on Aug. 8, 11–4 p.m. Each participant will receive a $200 honorarium for participating in the full workshop. To apply, educators must complete the [participation survey](#) by July 1.

Refer to the [Kindergarten ACCESS Recruitment Flyer](#) for additional information.

Verifying Information in MDE-ORG (Repeat)

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 MDE-ORG. If the SVC has any questions about the process, they can contact 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 **by July 14**.

- 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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Odds and Ends

MDE will be closed on Monday, June 20, in observance of Juneteenth.

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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. All of the events listed below start at 2 p.m.

- 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

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