

AN UPDATE FROM ACADEMIC STANDARDS, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT—JULY 20, 2022

QUICK LINKS	IMPORTANT DATES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New DAC Reporting Training 2 • Embargoed Test Results Summary • Entering Reimbursement Requests in GRR • WIDA Secure Portal Enhancements • Upcoming Opportunities 	<p>July 27: Final school and district summary results available in Secure Reports</p>

New DAC Reporting Training 2

The *New DAC Reporting Training 2: Test Results Summary Reports and Public Reporting* training will be held on Thursday, July 28, from 2–3:30 p.m. The training will also be recorded and posted July 29 to the [Training Management System \(TMS\)](#). [Register for the New DAC Reporting Training 2](#).

This is the second of two trainings geared to new DACs about reporting. The first training was held virtually on June 30, and a recorded training is available in the TMS on the District Assessment Coordinator tab under MDE Recorded Webinars. The prerequisites for the second training are completion of *New DAC Reporting Training 1*, Chapter 11 of the [Procedures Manual](#), and the *Appropriate and Inappropriate Uses of MCA and ACCESS Results* infographics available on the [District Resources](#) page of the MDE website under the Test Score Interpretation Resources expandable heading.

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Embargoed Test Results Summary

Next Wednesday, July 27, embargoed assessment results will be available in Test Results Summary on the [Secure Reports page](#) of the MDE website. The Test Results Summary reports include final summary data for MCA, MTAS, ACCESS, and Alternate ACCESS. All assessment results are under embargo until Aug. 25. During the embargo, districts can use the final assessment results to prepare for questions from the media and local stakeholders. They may share the results with district teachers and staff for planning or instructional purposes, but they may not share the results publicly.

An American Indian state definition has been added to Test Results Summary for 2019, 2021, and 2022 data. The Tribal Nations Education Committee and the Minnesota Department of Education view the count of American Indian Students as defined by the state of Minnesota to be the most accurate and inclusive count of learners in grades K–12. The definition includes both students who self-identify as American Indian and students who self-identify as American Indian and a member of another racial group like Hispanic or Caucasian.

Information about the content and format of the Test Results Summary reports will be provided in the updated *Test Results Summary User Guide*, which will be available by July 27, on the [Assessment Secure Reports Data Submissions](#) page of the MDE website.

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Entering Reimbursement Requests in GRR

Districts that have received assessment results for the college entrance exam they administered (ACT or SAT) should enter requests for reimbursements in the [Graduation Requirements Records \(GRR\)](#) system for eligible students. If a district has not previously received reimbursement for a grade 11 or 12 student, the following criteria applies to reimbursement requests:

- Districts will be reimbursed for students eligible for a free/reduced-priced meal (FRP) who are entered into GRR.
- Districts may also be reimbursed on a prorated basis (if necessary) for students who are unable to pay for the exam. Districts must determine the criteria for unable to pay and enter those requests in GRR.

Districts must submit eligible reimbursement requests no later than Sept. 9.

Common Issues

Any student identity error must first be resolved in MARSS and/or the Student ID Validation system before the record can be added into GRR. Student data entered in GRR must match MARSS data. If you receive the “Student match based on matching rules, but ID is different” message, check the following:

- A nickname has been entered instead of the full name (for example, “Ben” instead of “Benjamin”).
- The student’s last name is incomplete or not entered correctly (for example, “Carlson” or “Carlson-Hernandez” instead of “Carlson Hernandez”).

Reimbursement Reports

After districts enter reimbursement requests in GRR, they must confirm that the students for which they expect reimbursement are included in the reimbursement reports; these reports are refreshed each morning. It is important to confirm student information is entered correctly to avoid incorrect reimbursements made to the district. The following reports are available:

- The *Claimed Student Detail Report* details what records will be reimbursed (or the reason records will not be reimbursed).

- The *Estimated Student Amount Report* gives an estimate of the amount to be received.

Resources

More information is in the [Graduation Requirements Records \(GRR\) User Guide](#) and in the *MDE Graduation Requirements Records (GRR) Training*, which is posted in the [Training Management System \(TMS\)](#) on the District Assessment Coordinator tab under the MDE Recorded Webinars category.

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WIDA Secure Portal Enhancements

Last week, WIDA implemented a number of enhancements to the [WIDA Secure Portal](#) in response to the WIDA Secure Portal User Survey in April and other feedback channels. WIDA hopes these changes help you more quickly and easily find courses and resources.

- Now, you can find a link to **My Certifications** on the [home page](#) (login required), in the top menu bar, and on the left hand side of Assessment Training and Professional Learning course listings. Select the **My Certifications** link to see a complete list of all your current and past certifications in the WIDA Secure Portal.
- The **Enroll Now** and **Go to Course** buttons are more prominently displayed on course details pages.
- Filters on the [Resources](#) page have been updated to better reflect how survey participants categorize resources. Now, you can quickly filter by resources for a particular test, a topic, or for a type of resource.
- For users who want to skim the full list of resources, a **Compact View** option is now available. Select the toggle in the upper right of the resource list to hide the resource descriptions and quickly scan the page.

Contact WIDA at help@wida.us or 866-276-7735 with any questions or concerns on the WIDA Secure Portal.

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Upcoming Opportunities

August Q&A Webinar for New DACs

The August Q&A Webinar for New DACs will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 9, from 2–3 p.m. It will focus on reporting and topics addressed in the *New DAC Reporting Training 2: Test Summary Reports and Public Reporting*.

Experienced DACs are also welcome to attend. [Register for the August Q&A Webinar for New DACs](#). Registrants will receive a form to collect questions prior to the event.

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Minnesota Department of Education

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