

AN UPDATE FROM ACADEMIC STANDARDS, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT—JULY 21, 2021

QUICK LINKS	IMPORTANT DATES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statewide Assessment Results Release Timeline • New DAC Reporting Training 2: Registration • Updated Academic Standards Implementation Schedule • Considerations for Using 2020–21 Assessment Results • WIDA Q&A Webinar Schedule 2021 - 2022 	<p>Aug. 6: Retrieve embargoed Test Results Summaries in Secure Reports</p> <p>Aug. 25: Embargoed access to embargoed assessment downloadable data file including state, all districts, and all school-level data in Secure Reports</p> <p>Aug. 26: Retrieve results in WIDA AMS</p> <p>Aug. 26: Retrieve Published Reports in PearsonAccess Next</p> <p>Aug. 26: Individual Student Reports (ISRs) and other reports arrive in districts (unless district requested not to receive paper copies for MCA/MTAS)</p> <p>Aug. 26: Media receives access to embargoed assessment downloadable data file including state, all districts, and all school-level data</p> <p>Aug. 27: Public release of final assessment results in Data Center</p>

Statewide Assessment Results Release Timeline

The article below was shared with Superintendents and Directors on July 19, 2021.

The following provides information regarding the public release of assessment results.

- Final assessment results will be available in PearsonAccess Next (MCA/MTAS) and WIDA AMS (ACCESS/Alternate ACCESS) on the same date paper Individual Student Reports (ISRs) are shipped to districts, Aug. 26.

- The public release of results will not include accountability results.

Ensure that staff understand that “abiding by the embargo” means that they cannot discuss or share results with others or the general public before the public release of results on Friday, Aug. 27.

DATE	DESCRIPTION OF RESOURCES OR EVENT
Friday, Aug. 6	Test Results Summary files available for download. These files provide embargoed summary results.
Wednesday, Aug. 25	Embargoed access to embargoed assessment downloadable data file including state, all districts, and all school-level data in Secure Reports
Thursday, Aug. 26	Media receives access to embargoed assessment downloadable data file including state, all districts, and all school-level data.
Thursday, Aug. 26	Individual Student Reports (ISRs) arrive in districts. Assessment results available in PearsonAccess Next (MCA/MTAS) and WIDA AMS (ACCESS/Alternate ACCESS).
Friday, Aug. 27	Public release of assessment results in Data Center.

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New DAC Reporting Training 2: Registration

The *New DAC Reporting Training 2: Test Results Summary Reports and Public Reporting* training will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 3, from 2–3 p.m. The training will also be recorded and posted in the [Training Management System \(TMS\)](#).

This is the second of two trainings geared to new DACs about reporting; a recording of the first training is available in the TMS on the District Assessment Coordinator tab under MDE Recorded Webinars. The prerequisites for the second training are Chapter 11 of the [Procedures Manual](#) and the *Appropriate and Inappropriate Uses of MCA and ACCESS Results* infographics available on the [District Resources](#) page under the Test Score Interpretation Resources expandable heading.

Register for the [New DAC Reporting Training 2](#). Details for joining the webinar will be provided once participants register.

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Updated Academic Standards Implementation Schedule

The article below was shared with Superintendents and Directors on July 19, 2021.

"REVISED ACADEMIC STANDARDS IMPLEMENTATION SUSPENSION. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.021, the commissioner of education must suspend until June 1, 2023 any implementation of revised academic standards not already implemented as of January 1, 2021 under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.021. This suspension does not prevent the commissioner from continuing with current rulemaking activities or developing future statewide assessments.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment."

This impacts arts and physical education which were scheduled for implementation next year. They are both now required for implementation in the 2023-24 school year. It does **not** impact any other standards areas. The **new** full implementation schedule is:

- Physical Education: 2023-24
- Arts: 2023-24
- Science: 2024-25
- English Language Arts: 2025-26
- Social Studies: TBD (likely 2026-27)
- Mathematics: TBD (likely 2027-28)

Districts may implement earlier if they desire and MDE will continue to support districts as requested. For any questions regarding arts standards, please reach out to Alina Campana; for physical education standards, please reach out to Mary Thissen-Milder, and general standards questions to Doug Paulson. They may be contacted at mde.academic-standards@state.mn.us.

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Considerations for Using 2020–21 Assessment Results

Statewide assessments are designed to be used at the summarized level (e.g., across student groups, grades, school buildings) for decision-making. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, special care and consideration are required when using statewide assessment results this year. MDE does not support widely comparing 2021 statewide assessment results to previous years or trend data without the appropriate context and considerations, and it is reasonable to expect statewide assessment performance to be different from previous years.

The first phase of the [2021 Statewide Assessment Reporting Guidance](#) is available on the District Resources page, under the expandable Test Score Interpretation Resources heading. The purpose of this document is to

provide guidance for interpreting the 2020–21 ACCESS/Alternate ACCESS and MCA/MTAS results. The next anticipated update is Aug. 27.

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WIDA Q&A Webinar Schedule 2021 - 2022

The *2021-2022 ACCESS and Screener Webinar Calendar - PDF* has been posted in the [WIDA Secure Portal Download Library](#) (log in required).

WIDA's Q&A webinars:

- Augment the information in the ACCESS for ELLs training courses.
- Provide an opportunity to ask questions directly to experts from DRC and WIDA.
- Include special topics like ACCESS Online Speaking, WIDA Screener, and a series specifically for technology coordinators.

Refer to the full schedule for dates, times, topics, and intended audiences. All WIDA Q&A webinars will be recorded and recordings will be available in the WIDA Secure Portal.

The [Get Familiar with the Redesigned WIDA Secure Portal Q&A Webinar](#) that will be held on Tuesday, August 10, 1–2:30 p.m., will provide an overview of the new WIDA Secure Portal including navigation, training, and professional learning.

DACs who are designated in MDE-ORG but do not have WIDA and DRC accounts must contact mde.testing@state.mn.us. MDE will provide approval to WIDA and DRC to create district-level accounts for the WIDA Secure Portal and the WIDA Assessment Management System (WIDA AMS).

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Minnesota Department of Education

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

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