

AN UPDATE FROM STATEWIDE STUDENT ASSESSMENT AND DATA ANALYTICS—JULY 8, 2020

QUICK LINKS	IMPORTANT DATES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Updated ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS District and School Student Results Files</a></li> <li><a href="#">Guidance for Using Student-Level Data Reminder</a></li> <li><a href="#">College Entrance Exam Reimbursement Requests</a></li> <li><a href="#">Feedback Needed: Alternate Assessment Redesign (repeat)</a></li> </ul>	<p><b>Aug. 20:</b> Individual Student Reports (ISRs) arrive in districts for students who participated and received a valid score</p> <p><b>Aug. 20:</b> ISRs available on vendor websites (WIDA AMS and PearsonAccess Next)</p>

## Updated ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS District and School Student Results Files

The District and School Student Results (DSR and SSR) files in [Assessment Secure Reports](#) will be updated on July 10 with results from ACCESS or Alternate ACCESS scorable paper materials (e.g., Kindergarten ACCESS or Writing response booklets) that were returned after the deadline but received by DRC by June 1. Scorable materials that DRC received after June 1 will be included in an updated DSR/SSR this fall.

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## Guidance for Using Student-Level Data

Remember that due to the impact distance learning had on the assessment windows, MDE is only providing districts with student-level results; MDE will not provide summary results for schools, districts, or the state. Districts are responsible for using these results appropriately, with an emphasis on student data privacy. The *2020 Statewide Assessment Reporting Guidance Due to COVID-19* is available to answer common questions; this guidance is located on the [COVID-19 Updates web page](#) under “Guidance for Districts and Schools.”

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## College Entrance Exam Reimbursement Requests

Requests for reimbursement for eligible students who took a college entrance exam (ACT or SAT) by June 30, 2020, should be entered in the [Graduation Requirements Records \(GRR\) system](#) no later than Sept. 11. A [Graduation Requirements Records \(GRR\) User Guide](#) and [GRR training](#) (available in the Training Management System on the District Assessment Coordinator tab under MDE Recorded Webinars) are available.

As was previously communicated, the money allocated for school year 2019–20 reimbursement of a college entrance exam will carry forward and will be available to be used for 2020–21 reimbursement. This means that requests can be entered next year for any fall or spring administrations offered by districts next year, in addition to any requests for reimbursement for students who test on a national test date after June 30 this summer. Refer to the *Graduation Requirements Records (GRR) User Guide*, as needed, for reminders about student eligibility for reimbursement.

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## Feedback Needed: Alternate Assessment Redesign (repeat)

This spring, MDE began exploring options to redesign the MTAS as we develop the next series of alternate assessments aligned to new science standards. MDE is looking at several potential changes, including test design, scoring, number of questions, types of questions, reporting needs, and administration format.

At this important step in the redesign process, MDE is seeking feedback from district staff who are involved in the many aspects of the alternate assessment (MTAS) administration. These staff may include special education teachers familiar with instruction for students with significant cognitive disabilities, DACs, administrators, or special education directors.

MDE is seeking feedback in either (or both) of the following ways:

- An [Alternate Assessment \(MTAS\) Redesign Survey](#), which takes about 10 minutes to complete and is **available through July 10**.
- Contact MDE directly at [mde.testing@state.mn.us](mailto:mde.testing@state.mn.us) to set up a time to discuss the redesign, either as an individual or as a small group of district staff.

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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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