

AN UPDATE FROM ACADEMIC STANDARDS, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT—SEPT. 14, 2022

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District Assessment Coordinator Trainings and Q&A Sessions (2022–23)

The *MDE District Assessment Coordinator Trainings and Q&A Sessions* has been posted on the [District Resources](#) page of the MDE website (under the District Assessment Coordinator Resources expandable heading) and is now available for planning purposes. This document provides dates and times for MDE trainings and Q&A sessions for DACs.

For the 2022–23 year, MDE will be offering a combination of in-person and virtual training sessions. Some trainings will only be held virtually. All DACs, new and experienced, are invited and welcome to attend all events; however, some of the events are designed to support new DACs in their role. Detailed information, links to prerequisites, and registration information will be provided prior to the event in the weekly *Assessment Update*. In addition, information about WIDA/Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) and Pearson trainings are provided in the *Assessment Update*.

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Service Available for Spring 2023 MCA and MTAS: Regularly Scheduled Extracts to SIS and Data Warehouse Vendors

For the spring 2023 test administrations, Student Information System (SIS) and data warehouse vendors will have the opportunity to receive regularly scheduled extracts of preliminary on-demand data for the MCA and MTAS during the testing window and/or final data extracts for MCA/MTAS and ACCESS/Alternate ACCESS following the release of the DSR/SSR files. These extracts will allow vendors to load the data directly into their system for access by school districts who enter into a data sharing agreement with their associated vendor and MDE. Vendors have the option of receiving preliminary data, final data, or both on behalf of their member districts. In order to participate, vendors need to make a commitment **no later than this Friday, Sept. 16.**

As of this morning, the following vendors have agreed to participate in 2022–23:

- JMC, Inc. (JMC)
- cmERDC (Viewpoint)
- Sourcewell Technology
- Peridot Solutions (LearnersEDGE)
- Illuminate Education

Pearson has contacted the following SIS vendors and data warehouse vendors to participate in the program:

- EduPoint (Synergy)
- Infinite Campus (Campus)
- PowerSchool/Hoonuit
- Skyward, Inc. (Web School)
- Tyler Technologies (Schoolmaster)
- Region 1
- Mach B
- Panorama Education

The SIS and data warehouse vendors will need to configure their system to receive the data in the file layout provided by Pearson. A preliminary file layout has been provided to the vendors listed above.

If your district is interested, consider contacting your SIS or data warehouse vendor to encourage them to participate. If your SIS or data warehouse vendor is not listed above, you can request that they contact Pearson for more information at 888-817-8659 or [submit a help desk request online](#).

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Translation Procedures

The MDE Academic Standards, Instruction and Assessment division translates resources into as many languages as resources allows. The languages are determined by the most populous based on student enrollment.

Every five years MDE confirms the most populous languages spoken by Minnesota students. As a result of this process, MDE will no longer be translating resources into Khmer (Cambodian) and Laotian based on data from 2020–21. Note that some resources are translated into the top three languages (Hmong, Somali, and Spanish) only.

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Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Field Test in 2023

As first shared in the May 11, 2022 *Assessment Update*, the Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Field Test (Alternate ACCESS Field Test) is a standalone assessment for spring 2023 that will be administered separately from the annual Alternate ACCESS.

The Alternate ACCESS Field Test is a one-time, paper-based assessment with newly developed test items. Participation in the field test of all English learners with the most significant cognitive disabilities in grades K-12 who are eligible to take the Alternate ACCESS is needed to have sufficient data. This includes kindergarten students. The Alternate ACCESS Field Test is an important part of WIDA's work to update the Alternate ACCESS, which includes expanding the test to kindergarten and creating a brand-new Alternate ACCESS screener. Your students' participation will help ensure that test items measure what they are intended to measure.

While the Alternate ACCESS testing window will be Jan. 30–March 24, 2023, the standalone field test can be taken anytime Feb. 14–April 17, 2023. Additional information on the field test will be communicated by WIDA/DRC and in the *Assessment Update*. For up-to-date information, refer to the [Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Field Test](#) page of the WIDA website.

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New Resource for Using Science Results during Academic Standards Revision

Developing a communication plan for sharing assessment results can be an important part of your district's science standards transition plan. MDE has released a new guidance document to support school districts in

communicating assessment results to school communities during standards transition. This resource can be found on the [District Resources](#) page of the MDE website (under the Test Score Interpretation Resources expandable heading).

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Odds and Ends

ACCESS for ELLs Braille Material Updates for 2022–23

WIDA has published ACCESS for ELLs braille sample items and a sample item user guide on the [ACCESS Test Practice and Sample Items](#) page of the WIDA website in four grade clusters: 1–3, 4–5, 6–8, and 9–12.

Braille sample items with graphics are available as images, while sample items without images are available in .brf (braille ready format) files and can be downloaded and embossed. Sample items and a sample items user guide will also be sent with each ACCESS for ELLs braille test kit.

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Minnesota Department of Education

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