

AN UPDATE FROM STATEWIDE TESTING – OCTOBER 24, 2018

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Individual Student Report (ISR) Distribution Reminder

Individual Student Reports (ISRs), which were delivered to districts in August, must be provided to families no later than fall conferences. If ISRs have not yet been distributed, districts will need to determine how and when they will be provided within this timeline. During Pretest Editing, which opens in December, DACs will need to confirm that ISRs were delivered.

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Training Management System (TMS) Resources

The [Training Management System \(TMS\)](#) is used by DACs and other school staff involved in testing to access required training for test administration. Use the following [TMS resources](#) for additional system information (PearsonAccess Next > Resources & Training > Training).

- *TMS FAQs* contains general information about using the TMS and includes a section specifically for District Assessment Coordinators (DACs) and Assessment Administrators (AAs).
- **New Resource:** *TMS: Tips and Tricks for School Staff* is a new, one-page document for school staff to use in order to avoid the most common mistakes and misunderstandings when using the TMS.

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Technology Readiness

Districts must ensure that they are ready to administer required online tests. District Technology Coordinators (DTCs) must make necessary technology preparations and be familiar with the requirements and processes for each test. Information for DTCs is (and will be) included in the Tech Update section of *Assessment Updates* as relevant information is available. The Tech Update below includes technology resources for review. Note: MDE includes all DTCs on the *Assessment Update* distribution list.

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Upcoming Opportunities

New DAC Q&A Webinar

The first New DAC Q&A Webinar of the 2018–19 school year is on Tuesday, Oct. 30, from 2–3 p.m. [Register for the New DAC Orientation Webinar](#).

To prepare for the webinar, review the following modules in the [Training Management System \(TMS\)](#) available on the District Assessment Coordinator tab in the New DAC Modules category (PearsonAccess Next > Resources & Training > Training).

- Minnesota Assessments Overview (optional for DACs who attended the New DAC Orientation)
- Understanding Training Requirements
- Scheduling Testing
- Testing Policies and Procedures

After reviewing the New DAC Modules, please [submit any questions for the New DAC Q&A](#). MDE uses the questions that you submit as the basis of the Q&A. As you view the modules in the TMS, take note of questions you have or clarifications you need in regards to training requirements, scheduling testing, and testing policies and procedures so that you can submit those before the Q&A webinar.

Call-in Number: 206-596-0378

Access Code: 805 110 398

MDE Educator Workshop and Focus Group

MDE will continue their full-day educator workshop (designed for teachers and DACs) around the state with Dr. Michael Rodriguez, Professor of Educational Measurement and Campbell Leadership Chair in Education and Human Development from the University of Minnesota.

The workshop includes a discussion on the formative uses of assessments, practice time with classroom assessments, and an update on the redesign of the Benchmark Reports. The day will conclude with a focus group for teachers on the Testing 1, 2, 3 website and work time for DACs with Dr. Rodriguez.

Lunch will be provided to all participants who attend the full-day workshop.

DATE & REGISTRATION	LOCATION
<p>Monday, Oct. 29 Register for the Educator Workshop and Focus Group in St. Cloud.</p>	<p>Resource Training and Solutions: St. Cloud</p>
<p>Tuesday, Oct. 30 Register for the Educator Workshop and Focus Group in Fergus Falls.</p>	<p>Lakes Country Service Cooperative: Fergus Falls</p>
<p>Wednesday, Oct. 31 Register for the Educator Workshop and Focus Group in Staples.</p>	<p>Sourcwell (previously known as National Joint Powers Alliance): Staples</p>
<p>Thursday, Nov. 1 Register for the Educator Workshop and Focus Group in Thief River Falls.</p>	<p>Northwest Service Cooperative: Thief River Falls</p>
<p>Tuesday, Nov. 6 Register for the Educator Workshop and Focus Group in Roseville.</p>	<p>Metro Educational Cooperative Service Unit (ECSU): Roseville</p>
<p>Thursday, Nov. 8 Register for the Educator Workshop and Focus Group in Hermantown.</p>	<p>Arrowhead Regional Computing Consortium (ARCC): Hermantown</p>
<p>Tuesday, Nov. 13 Register for the Educator Workshop and Focus Group in Rochester.</p>	<p>Southeast Service Cooperative: Rochester</p>

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Tech Update

As districts make technology preparations for the ACCESS for ELLs and MCA, note the following resources:

ACCESS for ELLs

- **Testing Window:** Jan 28–March 22
- **Service Provider and Website:** Data Recognition Corporation (DRC); wida-ams.us

- **Technology Requirements:** [Technology Requirements for ACCESS for ELLs](#) (wida.us > Assess > Technology)
- **Customer Support:** 855-787-9615 or WIDA@datarecognitioncorp.com
- **Key technology resources:** The *Technology User Guide*, *Technology Readiness Checklist*, and other related resources are available in WIDA AMS. In order to access technical resources, log in to [WIDA AMS](#) > All Applications > General Information > Documents; leave all filters at All to see the resources.
- **Training Opportunities:** Live and recorded webinars are included in the *WIDA Q&A Webinars 2018–2019 for Technology Coordinators* document, which is included in the list of technology resources in WIDA AMS, referenced in the previous bullet.

MCA

- **Testing Window:** Reading/Math MCA from March 4–May 3; Science MCA from March 4–May 10
- **Service Provider and Website:** Pearson; minnesota.pearsonaccessnext.com
- **System Requirements:** [TestNav system requirements for MCA administration](#) (PearsonAccess Next > TestNav 8 Online Support [under Quick Links] > TestNav System Requirements)
- **Customer Support:** 888-817-8659 or [submit a Pearson help desk request](#)
- **Key Technology Resources:** The *Infrastructure Readiness Checklist* (to be posted in early December) and other information and resources are on [Pearson’s Technology page](#) (PearsonAccess Next > Technology).
- **Training Opportunities:** Webinars for new and experienced Technology Coordinators will be provided in December; topics and dates are included in the *Upcoming Technology Trainings 2018–19* document available in the Additional Technology Resources dropdown menu of the [Technology page](#) referenced in the previous bullet. The recorded version of the trainings will later be posted in the Training Management System in PearsonAccess Next.

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STATEWIDE TESTING: MEASURING EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS IN MINNESOTA

Minnesota Department of Education

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

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