

AN UPDATE FROM STATEWIDE TESTING – OCTOBER 18, 2017

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New DAC Question and Answer Registration

The first New DAC Q&A webinar of the 2017–18 school year will be on Oct. 31. New DAC Q&A webinars are designed for DACs who have been in their position for three years or less. Experienced DACs are welcome to attend as well. The pre-requisite for this webinar is to review the *Understanding Training Requirements*, *Scheduling Testing*, and *Testing Policies and Procedures* modules in the [Training Management System](#) (PearsonAccess Next > Resources & Training > Training). An optional module is the *Minnesota Assessments Overview*.

After reviewing the modules, DACs will submit any questions they have about the prerequisites. MDE will use these questions to create the Q&A webinar. [Submit questions via this link](#). Full webinar details and a registration link are below.

- Date: Tuesday, Oct. 31
- Join webinar: 12:30–1 p.m.
- Webinar: 1–2 p.m.
- [Select this link to register for the New DAC Q&A Webinar](#).
- Phone number: 206-596-0378
- Access code: 805 971 876

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Save the Date for Longitudinal Reporting Training

Pearson will be providing a longitudinal reporting webinar on Thursday, Nov. 9, from 10–10:45 a.m. Please note that each training is limited to the first 150 participants. No registration is required.

Pearson will provide details on the following reporting components during the training:

- Longitudinal Reports: A detailed analysis of results by student, school, or district and by year, grade, subject, or student group for a specific test.
- Longitudinal Export: A downloadable CSV file that includes the historical test results for all students who have previously tested in the district.
- Historical Student Data: An individual testing history for students who have previously tested within your district, including the year, district, subject, grade, scale score, achievement level, and strand or sub-strand performance details.
- Longitudinal Dashboard: A high-level summary of results by subject, school, and/or student group at the district or school level.

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Deadline to Request Late Score Entry

The deadline for late score entry requests for spring 2017 MCA and MTAS is Oct. 23. If student responses in paper accommodated test materials or MTAS scores were not entered during the testing window, districts can contact Pearson to arrange for a late score entry. See page 207 of the [2016–2017 Procedures Manual](#) (PearsonAccess Next > Resources & Training > Policies and Procedures) for the *Request for Late Score Entry Form*.

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Upcoming Training Opportunities

New DAC Orientation: Webinar Option

On Oct. 24, MDE will host a live webinar version of the New DAC Orientation. This will cover the same information as the MDE portion of the in-person New DAC Orientations that took place last week.

- Date: Tuesday, Oct. 24
- Join webinar: 12:30–1 p.m.
- Webinar: 1–4 p.m.
- [Select this link to register for the New DAC Orientation Webinar.](#)
- Phone number: 206-596-0378
- Access code: 805 971 876

Fall DAC Webinar

MDE will host a webinar for all DACs to review some of the changes for 2017–18 that will be in place prior to spring test administration training, including changes in required trainings for all staff, the posting of resources on PearsonAccess Next, and trainings in the Training Management System (TMS).

- Date: Thursday, Oct. 26
- Join webinar: 9:45–10 a.m.
- Webinar: 10–11 a.m.
- [Select this link to register for the Fall DAC Webinar.](#)
- Phone number: 206-596-0378
- Access code: 805 971 876

SLEDS Webinar: MCCC Reports and the K–12 Data Mart

On Nov. 7, from 1–2 p.m., MDE will host a webinar introducing the Statewide Longitudinal Education Data System (SLEDS) analytics website’s latest reports, including the K-12 Data Mart, using the Minnesota Common Course Catalogue (MCCC) data. There will be time for questions and an opportunity to meet your regional SLEDS Network contact. [Select this link to register for the SLEDS Webinar.](#)

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Tech Update

New WIDA/DRC Information

The updated INSIGHT secure browser 8.0 and Testing Site Manager (TSM) 9.2 were released Sept. 6. If test sites had Auto Update turned on and have started their secure browsers since that date, the updates were already applied. If sites have Auto Update disabled and/or have not completed the updates since Sept. 6, the system must now be updated.

Take the following steps to verify that updates are complete if your district will administer the WIDA Screener this month or later in the school year.

- Launch INSIGHT prior to testing students.
- If you see a TSM Version or TSM Connection error when launching an INSIGHT browser, manually update the application, following instructions that start on page 20 of the [Technology User Guide](#) (WIDA > Assessment > ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 > Technology).
- To avoid this issue in the future, make sure the TSM is set to Auto Update.

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STATEWIDE TESTING: MEASURING EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS IN MINNESOTA

Minnesota Department of Education

education.state.mn.us > Districts, Schools and Educators > Statewide Testing

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