

Assessment Update

AN UPDATE FROM STATEWIDE TESTING—JULY 24, 2019

QUICK LINKS	IMPORTANT DATES
 Embargoed Test Results Summary Pearson Reporting Training Entering Reimbursement Requests in GRR Advisory Panelists Needed 	Aug. 7: Preliminary embargoed district accountability results available in Secure Reports

Embargoed Test Results Summary

Embargoed assessment summary results are currently available in Test Results Summary in <u>Secure Reports</u> (MDE website > Data Center > Secure Reports). The Test Results Summary reports include final summary data for MCA, MTAS, ACCESS, and Alternate ACCESS. Information about the content and format of the Test Results Summary reports is included in the updated <u>Test Results Summary User Guide</u> (MDE > Districts, Schools and Educators > Business and Finance > Data Submissions > Assessment Secure Reports).

Abiding by the Embargo

All assessment results are under embargo until Aug. 29. During the embargo, districts can use final assessment results for instructional planning and to prepare for questions from the media and local stakeholders. It is up to the district to determine whether or not to share embargoed assessment data with students, families, and staff for instructional purposes; however, embargoed results cannot be discussed in public forums, reflected in public meeting minutes (e.g., school board meetings), or shared with the general public or media until the final assessment results have been released publicly.

Only district employees or school officials who have a legitimate educational interest in the assessment results should have access to embargoed results in any form, including summary results. Individually-identifying student results should not be shared publicly at any point as required under FERPA regulations. Be sure to remind building principals and any other staff that have access to assessment data of this policy regarding sharing embargoed data.

Back to Top

Pearson Reporting Training

Pearson will provide an in-depth review of Published Reports, Longitudinal Reports, and Historical Student Data in PearsonAccess Next on Aug. 23 from 10–11 a.m. The webinar is limited to the first 150 participants. No registration is required. Join the PearsonAccess Next: Published and Longitudinal Reports on Aug. 23.

Use the link above to join the webinar. To join by phone, use the following information:

Date: Aug. 23 from 10–11 a.m.

Call-in phone number: 877-554-0877

• Conference code: 571 468 0293

The training will be recorded, and the session recording and PowerPoint presentation will be posted in the Training Management System on Friday, Aug. 30.

Note: While access to the new Benchmark Reports will be discussed in this training, detailed information about these reports will be provided in a separate training.

Back to Top

Entering Reimbursement Requests in GRR

Districts must enter requests for reimbursements in the <u>Graduation Requirements Records (GRR) system</u> for eligible students by Sept. 13 (MDE website > Districts, Schools and Educators > Business and Finance > Data Submissions > Graduation Requirements (GRR)). After entering requests, districts are to confirm that the students for which they expect reimbursement are included in the reimbursement reports, which are refreshed daily. See the following resources for more information:

- <u>Graduation Requirements Records (GRR) User Guide</u> (MDE website > Districts, Schools and Educators >
 Business and Finance > Data Submissions > Graduation Requirements (GRR))
- MDE Graduation Requirements Records (GRR) Training posted in the <u>Training Management System (TMS)</u>
 on the District Assessment Coordinator tab, under the MDE Recorded Webinars category (PearsonAccess
 Next > Resources & Training > Training)

Back to Top

Advisory Panelists Needed

MDE needs qualified teachers for the MCA advisory panels to provide feedback on MCA questions. Panel participation is beneficial both personally and professionally as you will be able to:

• See how Minnesota Academic Standards are assessed.

- Learn about developing strong test questions.
- Receive an honorarium or have MDE cover the cost of substitute coverage
- Receive reimbursement for travel expenses

Staff use the <u>Advisory Panels webpage</u> to register for the panels (MDE website > Districts, Schools and Educators > Teaching and Learning > Statewide Testing > Register for Advisory Panels). Please send this information to staff potentially interested in this opportunity.

Back to Top

STATEWIDE TESTING: MEASURING EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS IN MINNESOTA

Minnesota Department of Education

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

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