![Minnesota Department of Education logo] **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION** | **Assessment Update**

QUICK LINKS

New Authorization Required for MDE Secure Systems

As announced in last week's *Assessment Update*, the current MDE secure systems are being converted to a new Education Identification Access & Management (EDIAM) security system in a series of releases this fall. Permissions or user roles will not transfer to the new system, and all users need to create a new EDIAM account. Directions for creating a new account and for authorizing users are available on the Data Submissions page. Contact useraccess.mde@state.mn.us with any questions.

After users create a new EDIAM account, the Identified Official with Authority (IOwA) needs to authorize access for various systems (e.g., Assessment Secure Reports, Test WES, and GRR).

- Your IOwA will not know you have created your account, so you will need to provide your User ID or email address with the role you are requesting for each system to your IOwA.

- If you are not sure who the IOwA is for your district, you can find the information in MDE-ORG. If an IOwA is not identified, contact your Superintendent or Director.

Note: In order to ensure districts are ready for Pretest Editing activities this winter, MDE will begin contacting districts in October who do not have Test WES accounts set up.

Back to Top

Local Assessment and Advisory Committee Applications

Statewide Testing is advised by a variety of groups and organizations, each serving a specific role. The combined efforts of these groups contribute significantly to the program. The Local Assessment and Advisory Committee (LAAC) is looking for additional committee members.

This committee advises MDE on assessment, accountability, and technical issues. Three meetings (October, April, and July) are planned with either WebEx/conference call or in-person attendance. Members may include superintendents, principals, DACs, and district program coordinators.

Use the *Statewide Testing Advisory Committee Application*—found under Opportunities for Participation section of the Statewide Testing page—to apply. Applications are due by Oct. 12 for this year.

Additional ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS Data Available

On Monday, Sept. 23, ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs straggler data was added to the District and School Student Results (DSR & SSR). On Monday, Sept. 30, this information will be added to the Student Assessment History Report. This data typically comes from paper test materials (e.g., Kindergarten ACCESS or test booklets for the writing domain) that were returned to DRC after the deadline. Additional straggler data (from later returns and any score appeals or transcription requests) will be loaded with MCA and MTAS straggler data later this fall.

WIDA Webinar: Ordering Materials in WIDA AMS

WIDA will offer a webinar about ordering materials, monitoring order status, and confirming shipping address on Oct. 10. Join the Ordering Materials WIDA webinar on Oct. 10 at 11 a.m. Note: Districts in Minnesota will not be able to start ordering materials until late November. DACs or applicable EL staff may join the webinar or wait until the recording is posted in the WIDA Secure Portal.

ACCESS Speaking Domain Webinar

In order to help with understanding ACCESS scores for the Speaking domain and how it is scored, WIDA has recorded a webinar called *ACCESS for ELLs: Speaking Domain*. WIDA presenters provide an overview of the test structure, tier placement process, task design, and how sample speaking responses differ by score point. The webinar may help educators gain a better understanding of how student responses are scored and what the speaking scores mean. View the recording on the ACCESS for ELLs Webinar Recordings pages [log in required].

WIDA eLearning Workshops

MDE continues the partnership with WIDA to offer on-demand, self-paced eLearning content at no charge to K–12 educators and administrators in Minnesota through Aug. 31, 2020. The self-paced online courses allow any educator in Minnesota with a WIDA eLearning account to access the content for individual learning. The courses can be used as part of in-school professional learning communities focused on improving opportunities and outcomes for multilingual learners with English learner status.

Those completing courses may print a certificate of completion to present to local continuing education committees for CEUs.

If not already designated, districts and charter schools should designate one or more District Coordinators for WIDA eLearning Accounts (District Learning Coordinator). The District Learning Coordinator for WIDA eLearning Accounts will be able to manage educator accounts (specifically for the eLearning content).

DACs or other EL staff are prime candidates for being designated as the District Learning Coordinator and will manage all staff members who need access the WIDA eLearning workshops. The District Learning Coordinator will submit the list of staff e-mails to WIDA Client Services for bulk upload (help@wida.us) and/or will individually manage account approvals in the WIDA Secure Portal.

If you would like details about sessions, information on accessing the eLearning Center, completing a bulk file upload, or to send a list of staff who need access, visit English Language Development Standards. For further questions about WIDA eLearning Accounts, please contact mde.el@state.mn.us.

SIS and Data Warehouse Preliminary Data Extracts

For the spring 2020 test administration, Pearson has received commitments from the following SIS and Data Warehouse vendors to receive regularly scheduled extracts of preliminary test result data for the MCA and MTAS during the testing window. This will allow vendors to load the preliminary data directly into their system for districts who enter into a data sharing agreement with their associated vendor and MDE.

- cmERDC (Viewpoint)
- Illuminate Education (eduCLIMBER, IO Education, SchoolCity)
- JMC Inc.
- Sourcewell Technology
- Strategic Partnerships (Hoonuit)
- Panorama Education

- Peridot Solutions (LearnersEDGE)

Data Sharing Agreement

A data sharing agreement will be required between the district and the SIS or data warehouse vendor and filed with MDE. The agreement will be provided to districts by the SIS or data warehouse vendor and a scan of the signed data sharing agreement must be on file with MDE by Jan. 31, 2020.

The data sharing agreement includes the option of receiving preliminary data, final data, or both. A separate data sharing agreement will be needed if a district has different vendors for preliminary and final data.

SIS and data warehouse vendors can contact Pearson for more information at 888-817-8659 or submit a help desk request.

Upcoming Opportunities

WIDA Webinar for New DACs

WIDA will have a webinar designed for new District Test Coordinators (i.e., DACs) on Sept. 26 from 1–2 p.m. Join WIDA's ACCESS for ELLs New District Test Coordinators webinar on Sept. 26 at 1 p.m. Note that the links for all upcoming WIDA webinars have been updated; a revised version of the upcoming webinars document is available with the revised links [sign-in required to access the document].

The webinar will provide information on the following topics:

- Creating WIDA user accounts

- Monitoring test administrator training completion

- Using WIDA AMS as a District Test Coordinator

New DAC Orientation: Registration

In October, MDE and Pearson will provide a New DAC Orientation at various locations across the state. Though designed as an introduction for new DACs in their first or second year, other relatively new DACs are also welcome to attend. MDE will provide an overview of the various roles and responsibilities of a DAC, the Minnesota Assessments, relevant MDE systems, available resources, and training opportunities. Pearson will provide information on PearsonAccess Next, TestNav, and reporting resources.

Each in-person session will be from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. with on-site registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. Morning refreshments and a light lunch will be provided. A webinar option for MDE's portion is also available. Registration links and location details are in the following table:

Date/Time	Training and Registration	Location/Note
Monday, Oct. 7 9:30 a.m.–noon	Register for MDE's portion of the New DAC Orientation webinar.	Only MDE's portion of the training will take place on Oct. 7. Pearson's portion will be posted in the Training Management System as a recorded training.
Tuesday, Oct. 8 9 a.m.–3 p.m.	Register for the New DAC Orientation in Mankato.	AmericInn by Wyndham – Mankato 240 Stadium Rd. Conference Center – Gallery A Mankato, MN 56001
Wednesday, Oct. 9 9 a.m.–3 p.m.	Register for the New DAC Orientation in St. Cloud.	St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center 10 Fourth Ave. S Alexander Bell Room St. Cloud, MN 56301
Thursday, Oct. 10 9 a.m.–3 p.m.	Register for the New DAC Orientation in the Metro.	Delta Hotels Minneapolis Northeast 1330 Industrial Blvd. NE St. Paul Ballroom Minneapolis, MN 55413

Tech Update

WIDA Technology Webinars

To prepare for ACCCESS testing, the *Software Updates & Technology Readiness Checklist* will introduce and walk through the general technology preparation and requirements. Join the *Software Updates & Technology Readiness Checklist* WIDA webinar on Oct. 3 at 1 p.m.

The *Technology Installations* will describe how to install the COS INSIGHT on varying devices and share information about the system requirements. Join the *Technology Installations* WIDA webinar on Oct. 8 at 1 p.m. Note: Most WIDA webinars are one hour; however this webinar is 90 minutes.

If you have any questions or want to unsubscribe, please send an email to mde.testing@state.mn.us.