



## Update to DACs

May 4, 2020

District Assessment Coordinators,

The following are some updates from the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) Statewide Testing division. If you have questions about return of test materials, late score entry, or other questions related to Statewide Testing, please refer to the April 27 email to DACs or contact [mde.testing@state.mn.us](mailto:mde.testing@state.mn.us).

## Preparing for Posttest Editing and MARSS Updates

In preparation for Posttest Editing in Test WES (May 18–June 5), please connect with your MARSS Coordinator about submitting MARSS end of year data. Specifically for this year, MDE is recommending that districts ensure the most up-to-date MARSS information is submitted by **May 12**, if possible, so that this information can be used to load for Posttest Editing.

- As noted last week, MDE is developing a specific test code to document students who were unable to test due to COVID-19. As part of this development, MDE is planning to automatically apply this new test code to any students who had a MARSS enrollment but no assessment during the accountability window for MCA and MTAS. Having up-to-date MARSS information will mean less discrepancies for districts to resolve.
  - Note: While this code will be available to add to ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS domain(s) during Posttest Editing, the code **will not be applied** automatically by MDE due to the small number of students that were not able to complete the assessment.
- If your district is unable to submit MARSS data by May 12, it can still be submitted during Posttest Editing (through June 4) but there may be additional discrepancies to resolve.

MDE will be sharing a similar message about the recommendation for an earlier, updated MARSS submission with MARSS coordinators. More detailed information about the new test code and process will be provided in resources for Posttest Editing.

## Upcoming Trainings for DACs

Due to COVID-19, the following changes have been made to the May Q&A webinar and Posttest Editing trainings planned for DACs; these changes are summarized in [MDE District Assessment Coordinators Webinars and Trainings](#). Note that the plan for the June Q&A webinar is still to be determined and will be communicated once reporting decisions have been finalized.

## May New DAC Q&A Webinar

This date has been changed and will now be held on Tuesday, May 12, from 2–3 p.m. This Q&A will focus on questions related to entering reimbursement requests into the Graduation Requirements Records (GRR) system and the requirement to offer a college entrance exam. The prerequisite is to review the [GRR recorded training](#) (available in the Training Management System on the District Assessment Coordinator tab under MDE Recorded Webinars). [Submit your questions for the May webinar.](#)

[Register for the New DAC Q&A Webinar.](#)

At the time of the webinar, use the following information.

- Phone number: 415-655-0003
- Access code: 967 418 291
- Password for webinar: newDACsrock!

## Posttest Editing Training Webinar

This training will now be a separate live webinar, rather than a recorded training, held on Thursday, May 14, from 10 a.m.–noon; this training will also be recorded and posted in the Training Management System (TMS). This training will address what is different this year due to COVID-19 but will also provide a full training for New DACs on Posttest Editing functionality. Experienced DACs are welcome to attend this training, especially due to the changes for this year, but they can also review the changes in the forthcoming user guide.

[Register for the Posttest Editing Training Webinar.](#)

At the time of the webinar, use the following information.

- Phone number: 415-655-0003
- Access code: 964 168 934
- Password for webinar: DACtraining1