

Assessment Update

AN UPDATE FROM ACADEMIC STANDARDS, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT — May 21, 2025

QUICK LINKS	IMPORTANT DATES
Posttest Editing Reminders	May 19–June 6: Posttest Editing in Test WES
Entering Reimbursement Requests in GRR	May 19–Sept. 1: Retrieve early ACCESS and WIDA
DAC Feedback Survey (repeat)	Alternate ACCESS results in Test WES
 Translated Forms Now Available: 2025–26 Parent/Guardian Participation Guide and 	June 5: Deadline to update MARSS data for Posttest Editing
Refusal Information	
 MDE Employment Opportunity: Assessment Literacy Specialist (repeat) 	
Odds and Ends	
Tech Update	

Posttest Editing Reminders

The following resources are available for districts working on Posttest Editing:

- The *Test WES Posttest Editing User Guide,* posted on the <u>Test WES</u> page of the MDE website, provides detailed information on Posttest Editing for DACs.
- The Posttest Editing Training is posted in the <u>Learning Management System (LMS)</u>.

Creating Blank Assessments to Indicate Test Codes

Blank assessment records can be created for adding test codes. Before adding any blank assessments, verify that you have already resolved all assessment errors or other warnings, as this may remove the need to create a blank assessment. To indicate a test code, use the Add Blank Assessment function to create a blank record. For step-by-step instructions, refer to page 31 of the *Test WES Posttest Editing User Guide*.

When a blank record is added in Test WES, you can choose MTAS, Alt MCA, and WIDA Alternate ACCESS if the student would have taken an alternate assessment instead of MCA or ACCESS. Note: The last assessment added will default for future blank assessments, meaning if MTAS is selected that will be the default the next time you add a blank assessment in the Reading/Math test group. Confirm the assessment is correct before adding.

Full-time Postsecondary Enrollment Options Students

Full-time Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) students are not required to test and generally will not show up as discrepancies in Test WES if indicated correctly in student enrollment data. In special cases in which the district pays the college directly, a matching discrepancy will exist in Posttest Editing for the student. In these cases, districts submit a file to MDE via File Exchange in Test WES with the required information to indicate PSEO. Email MDE at mde.testing@state.mn.us when a file is uploaded to File Exchange to ensure the indications can be made as soon as possible. Refer to page 30 of the *Test WES Posttest Editing User Guide* for full details.

The deadline for submitting information on these PSEO students is **Wednesday**, **June 4**. This deadline allows MDE to ensure requests are entered.

Note: The district's statement must include all the bulleted items listed on page 30 of the user guide and must be uploaded in Test WES. Do not email the document.

Confirming Inactive Records are Correct for ACCESS or WIDA Alternate ACCESS

In the case where a record is missing one or more domains for ACCESS or WIDA Alternate ACCESS, the report code will be Not Complete (NC). These are not necessarily discrepancies in Posttest Editing, and districts often notice these by seeing no composite score in the early student-level results file. If the student did not participate in the missing domain, you can indicate the reason by changing the test code for the applicable domain(s).

If the student did participate in the missing domain, then the records were not merged by DRC because student information on the two records did not match. Test WES may have been able to match (but not merge) the records; in such cases, districts can confirm the scores will be merged by ensuring that the demographic information matches on both the active and inactive records. More information starts on page 38 of the *Test WES Posttest Editing User Guide*.

Late Student Response Entries Loaded to Test WES

All late student response entry requests for MCA or MTAS/Alt MCA and related materials must have been received by Pearson by noon on May 21 in order to be available in Test WES before the close of the Posttest Editing window and included in the releases of final accountability and assessment results this summer. Any late student response entry requests received after that deadline will be loaded in final results later this fall.

Back to Top

Entering Reimbursement Requests in GRR

Districts that have received assessment results for the college entrance exam they administered (ACT or SAT) should enter requests for reimbursements in the <u>Graduation Requirements Records (GRR)</u> system for

eligible students. If a district has not previously received reimbursement for a grade 11 or grade 12 student, districts will be reimbursed for students eligible for a free/reduced-priced meal (FRP) who are entered into GRR.

Districts may also be reimbursed (on a prorated basis if necessary) for students who are unable to pay for the exam. Districts must determine the criteria for unable to pay and enter those requests in GRR.

Districts must submit eligible reimbursement requests no later than Sept. 5. Note: After requesting reimbursement, the district should confirm expected records using the reimbursement reports, which are refreshed each morning.

- The *Claimed Student Detail Report* shows the records that will be reimbursed and provides the reason for any record that will not be reimbursed.
- The Estimated Student Amount Report gives an estimate of the total reimbursement amount.

More information is in the <u>Graduation Requirements Records (GRR) User Guide</u> and in the <u>Graduation Requirements Records (GRR) Training</u>, which is posted in the <u>Learning Management System</u>.

Back to Top

DAC Feedback Survey (repeat)

MDE is collecting feedback from District Assessment Coordinators (DACs) on the <u>DAC Feedback Survey</u>. This survey is focused on MDE trainings, email communication, new test features, resources, and more. Survey responses will help MDE make improvements to our program and resources in future years. Please set aside 15 minutes to provide your feedback. The survey will close on May 30.

Back to Top

Translated Forms Now Available: 2025–26 Parent/Guardian Participation Guide and Refusal Information

Translated versions of the 2025–26 Parent/Guardian Participation Guide and Refusal for Student Participation in Statewide Testing forms are now available in the 10 most populous languages in Minnesota on the <u>Translated Documents</u> page of the MDE website. The 2025–26 English version of this form must be included in your district's 2025–26 student handbook and posted on your district's or charter school's website.

Back to Top

MDE Employment Opportunity: Assessment Literacy Specialist (repeat)

The Academic Standards, Instruction and Assessment division is currently seeking an Assessment Literacy Specialist to work on the Communications and Program Management (CPM) team. This position is responsible

for providing leadership and guidance in developing resources and implementing professional development around the interpretation of statewide assessment results and appropriate uses with a balanced assessment system for educators, district and school leaders. If you or someone you know may be interested in a new and challenging opportunity, consult the position description and application instructions on the State of Minnesota Careers website. The Job ID is 86145, and the posting is open until June 2. Visit the State of Minnesota Careers website for more information and to apply.

Back to Top

Odds and Ends

MDE Closed for Memorial Day

In observance of Memorial Day, MDE offices will be closed on Monday, May 26. Responses to emails and phone calls will be delayed to Tuesday, May 27.

Back to Top

Tech Update

Updated TestNav App for Chrome OS (June 2025)

As noted in the April 2 *Assessment Update*, Google is discontinuing support for native, legacy Chrome Apps. In response, Pearson is releasing a new TestNav app for ChromeOS in late June 2025. The existing, legacy TestNav Chrome app will retire in July 2025. Starting in early July 2025 with the adoption of the new TestNav release (v8.25), schools will be required to use the new TestNav App for Chrome OS.

Prior to Spring 2026 testing, districts will need to uninstall the legacy TestNav Chrome app from testing devices and install the new TestNav web app for ChromeOS. Step-by-step instructions are outlined in the <u>TestNav – New Chromebook Support for SY 2025-26</u> technical bulletin. For questions, contact the Pearson help desk at 888-817-8659 or submit a Pearson help desk request online.

Back to Top

ACADEMIC STANDARDS, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT

Minnesota Department of Education

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

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