

AN UPDATE FROM ACADEMIC STANDARDS, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT — JUNE 12, 2024

QUICK LINKS	IMPORTANT DATES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entering Reimbursement Requests in GRR • Deadline for Public Feedback on Revised Alternate Assessment Eligibility Requirements • MDE Employment Opportunity: COMPASS Data and Assessment Literacy Specialist (repeat) • Odds and Ends • Tech Update 	<p>June 28: Access embargoed final student results in District and School Student Results (DSR/SSR) files in Secure Reports (ACCESS, MCA, and MTAS only)</p>

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 [Graduation Requirements Records \(GRR\)](#) system for eligible students no later than Sept. 6.

If a district has not previously received reimbursement for a grade 11 or 12 student, districts will be reimbursed for students eligible for free/reduced-price meals (FRP) who are entered into GRR. If funding allows, districts may also be reimbursed fully or on a prorated basis 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.

Common Issues

If uploading a file, verify that all information is entered exactly as specified in the File Format section of the *GRR User Guide* and that the format of the data entered matches the required format for the cell (matching the row of sample data). Before uploading, delete the row of sample data but do not remove any columns from the file. If copying and pasting text from another document, use “Values” as the paste format to maintain formatting of the file format template.

In addition, any student identity error must first be resolved in MARSS and/or the Student ID Validation system before the record can be added into GRR. Student data entered in GRR must match MARSS data. If you receive the “Student match based on matching rules, but ID is different” message, check the following:

- A nickname has been entered instead of the full name (for example, “Ben” instead of “Benjamin”).
- The student’s last name is incomplete or not entered correctly (for example, “Carlson” or “Carlson-Hernandez” instead of “Carlson Hernandez”).

Reimbursement Reports

After districts enter reimbursement requests in GRR, they must confirm that the students for which they expect reimbursement are included in the reimbursement reports; these reports are refreshed each morning. It is important to confirm student information is entered correctly to avoid incorrect reimbursements made to the district. Two reports are available: the Claimed Student Detail Report and the Estimated Student Amount Report. The Claimed Student Detail Report details what records will be reimbursed (or the reason records will not be reimbursed). The Estimated Student Amount Report gives an estimate of the amount to be received.

Resources

More information is in the [Graduation Requirements Records \(GRR\) User Guide](#) and in the recorded GRR training posted to the [Learning Management System \(LMS\)](#)

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Deadline for Public Feedback on Revised Alternate Assessment Eligibility Requirements

Please share with your MTAS Test Administrators: MDE is updating the eligibility requirements used to identify students who have significant cognitive disabilities and should take the alternate assessment in place of the MCA. The revised guidelines will go into effect starting in spring 2025, when the newly redesigned alternate assessment, the Alternate MCA, first becomes operational in science.

As part of the revision process, MDE is holding a public review period to collect feedback from district staff and community members on the latest draft of the eligibility requirements. This feedback will ensure that multiple perspectives from throughout the state are considered in the development of the final version of the document.

After reviewing the [Eligibility Requirements and Decision-Making Tool](#), please complete [the survey](#), which is open until June 17. If you have any questions, please contact Lauren Walker or Stacie Stensrud at alt.assessment.mde@state.mn.us.

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MDE Employment Opportunity: COMPASS Data and Assessment Literacy Specialist (repeat)

The Collaborative Minnesota Partnerships to Advance Student Success (COMPASS) division is currently seeking a data literacy specialist to support professional development and activities around data and assessment literacy for COMPASS staff, district and school leaders, and educators.

If you are interested (or know someone who may be interested) in a new and challenging opportunity, consult the position description and application instructions on the [State of Minnesota Careers](#) website and **apply by June 17**. The Job ID is 76383.

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Odds and Ends

MDE is closed on Wednesday, June 19, in observance of Juneteenth. The *Assessment Update* will be distributed on Thursday, June 20.

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Tech Update

TestNav System Requirements: Review and Prepare for the 2024–25 School Year

Pearson recommends that districts review the Pearson-established [TestNav System Requirement Policy](#) to anticipate upcoming support changes for the 2024–25 school year. This policy aligns TestNav system requirements with manufacturer-supported operating systems (OS) and devices. District personnel should bookmark and familiarize themselves with the policy to assess technology needs every school year. This best practice ensures that all district personnel and students experience efficient and reliable testing sessions.

Note: Manufacturer development cycles vary, and release details are often vague until closer to release dates. As a result, Pearson’s policy requires referencing manufacturer policies. Annually, Pearson will base support for OSs and devices on manufacturer support as of July 15.

Technology personnel should evaluate manufacturer support as of July 15 to determine technology planning for the upcoming school year. For example, based on the information available at this time, and dependent on Pearson testing, districts can estimate support for the 2024–25 school year to be the following:

Operation System (OS)	Estimated Minimum Version Support (2024-25)
Tablets, Chromebooks, Chromeboxes	

Operation System (OS)	Estimated Minimum Version Support (2024-25)
Chrome OS*	Stable Channel (S) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 124+ Long Term Support (LTS)* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 120+ *For more details, see the Chrome OS Release Schedule and Long-term Support (LTS) on ChromeOS .
iPadOS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16.x, 17.3+
Laptops, Desktops	
Linux	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fedora 39 x64, 40 x64 • Ubuntu 24.04 LTS x64
macOS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13, 14
Windows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 x64 – 21H2, 22H2 • 11 x64 – 21H2, 22H2

Note: Android OS is not supported for secure online testing.

Additional details for the upcoming school year are included in the Upcoming Support Changes section at the bottom of the [TestNav System Requirements](#) page as they become available. For questions, contact the Pearson help desk at 1-888-817-8659 or submit a [help desk request online](#).

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Minnesota Department of Education

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

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