

AN UPDATE FROM ACADEMIC STANDARDS, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT — JUNE 18, 2025

QUICK LINKS	IMPORTANT DATES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessment Update Transition to GovDelivery in July (repeat)• Embargoed Student Results in Secure Reports• DAC Reporting Trainings• Verifying Information in MDE-ORG• Odds and Ends• Tech Update	<p>May 19–Sept. 1: Retrieve early ACCESS and WIDA Alternate ACCESS results in Test WES</p> <p>June 27: Access embargoed final student results in District and School Student Results (DSR/SSR) files in Secure Reports (excluding Science MCA and Alt MCA)</p>

Assessment Update Transition to GovDelivery in July (repeat)

Beginning in July, the *Assessment Update* will be sent through GovDelivery instead of coming directly from mde.testing@state.mn.us. As part of the transition, District Assessment Coordinators (DACs) will need to ensure that contact information on [MDE-ORG](#) is up to date. DACs will also have the option to manage their preferences through GovDelivery. More details on this transition will be sent in next week's *Assessment Update*.

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Embargoed Student Results in Secure Reports

Final student-level assessment results for ACCESS, WIDA Alternate ACCESS and Reading and Mathematics MCA and MTAS will be available in the [District and School Student Results](#) (DSR and SSR) files on June 27. The DSR/SSR files contain the student-level data from each assessment, including demographic information, achievement level information, and various test scores and data as applicable.

These results will be under embargo until the public release of assessment results in August. During the embargo, districts can use final assessment results to prepare for questions from the media and local stakeholders. It is up to the district to determine whether to share embargoed assessment data with students, families, and staff for instructional purposes. Preliminary or embargoed results cannot, however, be discussed in public forums, reflected in public meeting minutes (such as school board meetings), or shared with the general public or media until the final assessment results have been released publicly.

Note: Final Science MCA and Alternate MCA student-level results will not be included at this time due to additional standard setting steps needed for new assessments. These DSR/SSR files will be available Sept. 12. For more details about science results release, refer to the *Important Dates for Results Release* on the [Policies and Procedures](#) page of PearsonAccess Next.

Data Privacy and Sharing Results

Individually-identifying student results should not be shared publicly at any point as required under Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) regulations. Student-level results should only be shared with those who have a legitimate educational interest or others permitted by the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act or FERPA to access private educational data. Remind building principals and any other staff that have access to assessment data of the policies regarding sharing embargoed data and ensure they understand what it means to abide by the embargo.

Districts and schools may share preliminary results or final embargoed assessment results with school officials who are not district or school staff, including school board members and charter school authorizers, if specific requirements are met. For more information, refer to *Sharing Students' Private Information and Results Outside the School and District* beginning on page 301 of the [Procedures Manual](#).

Late Returns and Late Student Response Entries

Any late returns (for ACCESS/WIDA Alternate ACCESS) or late student response entries (for Reading and Mathematics MCA/MTAS) that were not available in Test WES during Posttest Editing will not be included in the DSR and SSR files. These scores will be added later in the fall and will not be available for the embargoed release or the public release.

Additional Resources

The following resources will be available by the DSR/SSR release date to support districts with using and understanding the results:

- Chapter 11 of the [Procedures Manual](#) provides guidelines for using the assessment data and abiding by the embargo.
- The *2024–25 District and School Student Results (DSR and SSR) User Guide* will be posted on the [Assessment Secure Reports](#) page. It provides information on the content and file format of the DSR and SSR files, as well as how to access them in Secure Reports. Sample assessment results data will be posted in a separate Excel file on the Assessment Secure Reports page.

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DAC Reporting Trainings

MDE will post two reporting trainings to the Learning Management System (LMS) this summer to support new DACs through the reporting stages. The table below includes information about the two trainings, including topics, prerequisites, and posting dates.

The *MDE District Assessment Coordinator Trainings and Q&A Sessions* document has been updated to reflect these dates and is posted under the District Assessment Coordinator expandable header on the [District Resources page](#) of the MDE website. Note: MDE will not be hosting any Q&A sessions over the summer. Please contact mde.testing@state.mn.us with any questions related to the reporting stages.

Training Title	Prerequisites	Posting Date in the Learning Management System (LMS)
New DAC Reporting Training 1: Secure Systems, Reporting Stages, and DSR/SSR Files	Chapter 11 (Statewide Assessment Results) from the Procedures Manual	June 27, 2025
New DAC Reporting Training 2: Test Results Summary and Public Release of Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Chapter 11 (Statewide Assessment Results) from the Procedures Manual<i>Appropriate and Inappropriate Uses of MCA and ACCESS Results</i> infographics	July 25, 2025

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Verifying Information in MDE-ORG

As MDE or service providers may need to contact districts this summer regarding statewide assessments, please ensure that the DAC contact information is current in the Minnesota Department of Education-Organization Reference Glossary ([MDE-ORG](#)). If the primary DAC is not available this summer, please add an alternate DAC who will be available.

All contact information in MDE-ORG is updated and maintained by the district's Site Verification Coordinator (SVC). You can look up the SVC for your district in [MDE-ORG](#). If the SVC has any questions about the process, they can contact mde.school-verify@state.mn.us for support.

Shipping Addresses

All addresses used to ship Individual Student Reports (ISRs) and student results labels (if paper versions were selected) for the MCA and MTAS/Alt MCA will be populated from [MDE-ORG](#). Districts should verify the shipping

addresses in MDE-ORG and update as needed **by July 7**. Note: Changes to MDE-ORG **do not** automatically update the shipping addresses used for ACCESS and WIDA Alternate ACCESS. For questions about shipping from WIDA/DRC, contact WIDA@datarecognitioncorp.com.

- The Assessment Shipping address is a separate field in MDE-ORG that allows districts and schools to indicate a specific address where they would like test materials shipped at both the district and school levels.
- If there is no Assessment Shipping address present in MDE-ORG, the Location: Physical address will be used; if no Location: Physical address exists, the Mailing address will be used (but updates may be required as test materials cannot be shipped to P.O. boxes).
- If the Location: Physical address is the correct address to ship test materials, then a separate Assessment Shipping address does not need to be added for the district and/or each school.

If updates are needed in MDE-ORG, the district's Site Verification Coordinator must make changes in the [MDE District and School Site Verification system](#).

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Odds and Ends

MDE Closed for Juneteenth

In observance of Juneteenth, MDE offices will be closed on Thursday, June 19. Responses to emails and phone calls will be delayed to Friday, June 20.

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Tech Update

MDE Network Security Advisory (repeat)

Due to recent updates, some districts may experience an error message when trying to connect to secure MDE web applications. If you see an error message that reads "Responder from country blocked: Responder IP: 176.100.178.49," use either of the below methods:

1. Contact your vendor for your network security appliance. The vendor should be able to update their Geo IP location data with corrected information for this IP address.
2. Update your network security appliance to specifically whitelist this IP address: 176.100.178.49

Contact David Reeg (david.reeg@state.mn.us) at MNIT Services partnering with the Minnesota Department of Education for more information about this issue.

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Minnesota Department of Education

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

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