m1 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION Assessment Update

AN UPDATE FROM STATEWIDE STUDENT ASSESSMENT AND DATA ANALYTICS—OCTOBER 28, 2020

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New DAC Orientation: Recordings Available

The New DAC Orientation has been recorded by session and includes the following topics:

- **New DAC Orientation – Session 1**: Roles and responsibilities of a DAC, Minnesota Assessments, student resources, other assessments, and test security

- **New DAC Orientation – Session 2**: Overview of MDE systems, WIDA and DRC systems, and Pearson systems

- **New DAC Orientation – Session 3**: Training for you and your staff, resources provided by MDE, WIDA, and Pearson, and contact information for help or support

These recordings will be posted to the Training Management System (TMS) on Friday, Oct. 30. They will be posted on the District Assessment Coordinator tab, under the MDE Recorded Webinars category.

Resources for DACs

The following resources are available on the District Resources page under the District Assessment Coordinator Resources expandable heading; they may be particularly useful for newer DACs.

- **New District Assessment Coordinators: Getting Access**: This document describes the steps that must be completed in order to be listed as the DAC contact for your district in MDE-ORG and how to get login information for service provider systems and MDE secure systems.

- **Resource Overview for District Assessment Coordinators**: This document provides a description of the various resources designed for DACs. *Note: This is an updated resource with some added details specifically for training courses in the WIDA Secure Portal.*

- **Infographics**: The following infographics are meant to be used as a way to present information at a higher level and be a quick reference for various components of the DAC role or tasks. Detailed information on these topics is available in other resources available for DACs.

  - **Getting Started in Your District Assessment Coordinator Role** provides a quick reference for new DACs on getting started in the DAC role.

  - **Statewide Testing Tasks: A Year At-A-Glance** provides an overview on the tasks for statewide testing.

  - **Statewide Testing Systems Overview** provides an outline of the various systems used for testing and the related tasks or information they provide.

  - **District Testing Calendar Requirements At-A-Glance** provides an overview for DACs on district testing calendar requirements. *Note: This is a new resource.*

Upcoming Trainings

Refer to the following list of resources for more information on upcoming DAC trainings:

- **MDE District Assessment Coordinator Webinars and Trainings**: This document on the District Resources page under the District Assessment Coordinator Resources expandable heading provides dates and times for MDE trainings for DACs. Note: The DAC Test Administration Training has been moved to December, and will be a virtual event; the exact times during that week are still to be determined. This training will also include information on ACCESS test administration, which was provided in previous years in a separate WIDA training.

- **2020-21 ACCESS and Screener Webinar:** This document available on the ACCESS Webinars page provides a list of all of WIDA's planned webinars. WIDA also posts recordings of their webinars on the ACCESS Webinars page for those who are unable to attend the live webinars.

- **Upcoming Pearson Trainings:** This document available on the Training page of PearsonAccess Next provides information for all upcoming Pearson DAC trainings.

Resource for Non-Public Schools

Nonpublic schools are not required to administer statewide assessments. However, **Nonpublic School Participation in Minnesota Assessments,** available on the District Resources page under the District Assessment Coordinator Resources expandable heading, is available for nonpublic schools that plan to administer one or more statewide assessments (MCA/MTAS or ACCESS/Alternate ACCESS).

New DAC Q&A: Save the Date

The next New DAC Q&A webinar is Tuesday, Nov. 17, from 2–3 p.m. To prepare for this webinar, DACs should review Chapters 2, 3, and 5 of the *Procedures Manual*.

WIDA Webinar: Managing Students in WIDA AMS

WIDA will host the *Managing Students in WIDA AMS* webinar on Thursday, Nov. 12, from 1–2 p.m. Join the *Managing Students in WIDA AMS* webinar on Nov. 12. The webinar is designed for Test Administrators and will provide how-to information on student demographic information and accommodations.

Odds and Ends

Pearson and Pearson Customer Support will be closed on Tuesday, Nov. 3, for Election Day. MDE will be open.

Upcoming Opportunities

Teaching and Learning Led by Evidence Webinar Series

There is one remaining session in the webinar series about classroom assessments. Registration is required using the link in the table below. Participants earn one continuing education unit (CEU) for each session. All sessions will be recorded and posted for future reference. Please contact Kendra at kendra.olsen@state.mn.us with any questions. If an individual has not attended any previous sessions, they are still encouraged to attend this session if it is of interest.

The series is scheduled to resume again in January with additional webinars designed for school leaders or teachers who want to continue sharpening their assessment and data literacy skills. The remaining topics in the series will focus on topics related to statewide assessments including how to use publicly available data from MDE, interpreting and appropriately using MCA scores, and how the MCA is developed.

Note: Recordings of the previous webinars and additional information about upcoming webinars are now available on the Request Professional Development page of Testing 1, 2, 3.

SESSION #	DATE AND TIME	TOPIC AND DETAILS	LEARNING OBJECTIVES
5	Thursday, Nov. 12, 4–5 p.m.	Assessment *of* Learning – Summative Assessments for your Classroom Register for Session 5	Participants will be able to: Improve alignment of classroom assessments to standards Increase the rigor of questions to eliminate student misconceptions Ensure assessments measure the extent students have mastered the standards for an instructional unit

Technology Update

WIDA Webinar: Technology Coordinator Support for Test Administrators

WIDA will host the *Technology Coordinator Support for Test Administrators* webinar on Tuesday, Nov. 10, from 1–2 p.m. Join the *Technology Coordinator Support for Test Administrators* webinar on Nov. 10. The webinar is designed for Test Coordinators and has the following objectives:

- Provide Technology Coordinators information to communicate with Test Coordinators and Administrators.

- Facilitate how to establish a local communication plan to identify issues and troubleshoot if problems arise.

- Review when to support Test Administrators at their testing sites by training them to respond to technical issues and when/how to report them.

For a list of all of WIDA's planned webinars, the *2020-21 ACCESS and Screener Webinar Calendar* document is available on the ACCESS Webinars page, which includes registration links. WIDA also posts recordings of their webinars on the ACCESS Webinars page for those who are unable to attend the live webinars.