

Spotlight

on Student Assessment and Accountability

What's New

Week of September 16, 2021

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Benchmark Assessments Update

The new school year has started, and districts are administering benchmark assessments according to the requirements of [Public Act 48 section 104a](#). This year, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is again collaborating with the Michigan Data Hub and the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) to collect the benchmark data as required under the law.

While more information will be coming, here are some reminders and updates on where we are to help you with your planning.

- MDE plans to utilize the Michigan Data Hub again to collect benchmark data from NWEA, Renaissance, Curriculum Associates, and DRC in a manner like that used in the 2020-21 school year. These benchmark providers will provide score information directly to the Michigan Data Hub for districts that provide permission. For districts that choose to generate their own aggregated file, last year's aggregation schema is being updated and will be shared as soon as it is complete. This schema will need to be used in order for districts to qualify for the funding discussed in the next bullet.
- Districts administering NWEA MAP, Renaissance Star, and/or Curriculum Associates i-Ready products will be able to apply for \$12.50 per membership K-8 student funding. MDE is targeting a window in the November/December time frame when districts can apply for the funding.
- The Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments and/or the Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments provided by DRC are again available at no cost to districts.
- All other benchmark assessments – local assessments and progress monitoring assessments – will be reported through GEMS/MARS.
- MDE is working on a FAQ document that will provide additional and more detailed information related to the provisions and requirements outlined in PA 48 sec. 104a.

For more information, refer to the “2021-22 Benchmark Assessment System under Public Act 48 sec.104a” article in the [August 5, 2021 Spotlight](#).

Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments Reports Available

Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments Reports for the Spring 2021 and Fall 2021 administration continue to be available in the Dynamic Reporting System through the OEAA Secure Site.

To view your school or district reports, go to the [OEAA Secure Site](http://www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure) (www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure) and select Reports, then Dynamic Score Reports in the drop-down menu. For help in accessing and navigating the Dynamic Score Reporting Site, refer to the Dynamic Score Reporting User Guide, located on the [Early Literacy and Mathematics web page](http://www.michigan.gov/earlylitandmath) (www.michigan.gov/earlylitandmath) under the Reporting section.

| Report | Description | Level | Fall 2021 | Spring 2021 |
|----------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Domain Analysis Report | displays the Overall Content Scale Score and the number of Points Earned in each domain for each student | Student | Available | Available |
| Individual Student Report | separated by content area, provides detailed information on individual student achievement and scale score | Student | Available | Available |
| Student Roster Report | allows users to view student Overall Scale Score, Standard Error, Points Earned by assessment category, and domain subtotal by grade, content, domains, and categories | Student | Available | Available |
| Student Trend Report | displays up to three years of historical Early Literacy and Benchmark Assessment score data | Student | NEW Available | Available |
| Change Report | provides aggregated raw score data, displaying number of students assessed, mean percentage of points earned, and the mean points earned for all students by grade and content; available for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter to Spring • Fall to Spring | Aggregate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State • District • School | After Winter 2022 test window closes | NEW Available |
| Demographic Report | provides aggregated raw score data, displaying the average points earned and the percentage of students by percentage of points earned for selected demographic subgroups of students, by grade and content | Aggregate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State • District • School | After Fall 2021 test window closes | Available |

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2021 M-STEP and MI-Access Performance Level Scale Score Ranges Documents Available

The [2021 M-STEP Performance Level Scale Score Ranges](#) document is now available on the [M-STEP web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/mstep) under the Reporting section. This document provides the range of scale scores for each performance level – Not Proficient, Partially Proficient, Proficient, and Advanced – for all grades and content areas tested.

The [2021 MI-Access Performance Levels and Score Ranges](#) document is also available on the [MI-Access web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/mi-access) under the Reporting section. This document includes scale score ranges for Functional Independence and the points earned ranges for the Supported Independence and Participation tests. The document displays score ranges for all grades and content areas tested, arrayed across each of the three performance levels: Emerging, Attained, and Surpassed.

Are You New to WIDA?

If you are a new WIDA assessment administrator or a new WIDA/English Learner (EL) assessment coordinator, a good starting point for your work is a review of the following resources:

- [New to WIDA?](#) (https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/New_to_WIDA-2_717412_7.pdf) – directions on reaching the various online systems you will need to access
- [Michigan WIDA Screener & W-APT Policy Manual](#) (https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/WIDA_Screener_and_W-APT_Michigan_Policy_Manual_635005_7.pdf) – basic information about screening students who may be eligible for EL services.

WIDA List of Important Dates

The 2021 WIDA List of Important Dates is now available as an [Adobe PDF](#) (https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/WIDA_List_of_Important_Dates_634791_7.pdf) and [Google Calendar](#) (https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-22709_105605-552678--,00.html). These resources should be referenced and used by assessment coordinators and others who need to be aware of dates for important procedures and processes for the WIDA assessments.

Performance Assessment Cadre of Experts Development Opportunity

Join the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability as we work with the Michigan Assessment Consortium to develop performance

assessments aligned to Michigan's academic standards and model competencies in mathematics and English language arts (ELA) in grades 3-8.

Preferred candidates for the Performance Assessment Cadre of Experts:

- have experience teaching in mathematics or ELA, in at least one of these grade spans: grades 3-5, and grades 6-8
- have experience with/understanding of Michigan academic standards



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- work in either general or special education; educators with experience outside of general education or who work with students with disabilities are enthusiastically encouraged to apply.

You will have opportunities to:

- learn about the Michigan model competencies for mathematics and ELA
- develop performance assessments and rubrics
- collaborate with colleagues from other districts
- practice using a rubric and calibrating the scoring of performance assessments
- participate in a research agenda focused on measuring student competencies through performance assessments
- (pending) earn up to 50 SCECH credits; stipends will also be available based on time and completed products.

Participants are expected to attend and contribute to approximately 50 hours of job-embedded facilitated professional learning and assessment development over the 2021-22 academic year. Virtual sessions will last approximately two hours every 2-3 weeks, beginning at the end of October.

If you are interested in participating, submit your resume in an email to mde-oeaa@michigan.gov, using the subject line "Performance Assessment Cadre of Experts."

From Curriculum Associates: i-Ready Back to School News

How Did the Pandemic Affect Student Learning in 2020–2021?

The educational disruptions due to COVID-19 raised new questions about how students are learning – whether remotely, in person, or in a hybrid situation – and whether that learning environment impacted academic progress. Leveraging i-Ready Diagnostic assessment data from more than a quarter of the nation's students in Grades K–8, our Research team has analyzed results in Reading and Mathematics from the fall, winter, and spring assessments in the 2020–2021 school year. Read the latest research here: [Curriculum Associates Latest Research](https://www.curriculumassociates.com/research-and-efficacy/unfinished-learning-research) (<https://www.curriculumassociates.com/research-and-efficacy/unfinished-learning-research>).

i-Ready Is Improving to Help Your Students Achieve Ambitious Goals

Check out what's new for the 2021-2022 school year and be sure to download the i-Ready Back to School Brochure: [i-Ready What's New 2021-2022](#).

Join Us for the Curriculum Associates Great Lakes Leadership Symposium

The Curriculum Associates Great Lakes Leadership Symposium will be held September 20 - 21, 2021 at the Palmer House Hilton, Chicago. Leaders from the following Michigan districts will be featured presenters: Novi, Rochester Community and Southfield.

Register here: [Great Lakes Symposium Registration](#)

How to Use Diagnostic Assessments to Advance Student Learning

Formative

Interim

Summative

When assessment results from interims or other summative assessments indicate that a student or group of students is not making expected progress, the use of a diagnostic assessment can help pinpoint where intervention will do the most good. Diagnostic assessments are evidence-gathering procedures that measure students' specific skills, needs, and/or assets to provide teachers with immediate, actionable, and specific information to support and progress learning for individual students.

It is critical that diagnostic assessments be used judiciously and with purpose in mind. Marianne Perie and other experts suggest that educational leaders answer these questions before choosing any assessment, and in particular, a diagnostic assessment.

1. What will be learned about a student or group of students from the diagnostic assessment?

The purpose of diagnostic assessment is to provide a clear indication about the student's understanding of specific content and their acquisition of skills, including any misconceptions and gaps in knowledge.

2. Who will use the information obtained from the diagnostic assessment?

Diagnostic assessments can be used by educators to determine which learning targets a student has or has not mastered, so appropriate actions can be planned.

3. What action steps will be taken as a result of the diagnostic assessment?

Diagnostic assessments inform about which supports are appropriate for an individual student's needs, as well as what instructional adjustments should be made.

4. What professional development or support structures should be in place to ensure the appropriate action steps are taken?

Because diagnostic assessments assess the depth rather than the breadth of a target concept, the design of a high-quality diagnostic assessment requires not only content-area knowledge, but also advanced assessment literacy to administer and interpret the results. Professional training will be essential.

5. How will student learning improve as a result of using this diagnostic assessment, and will it improve more than if the assessment were not used?

It is important that educators clearly understand the purpose and utility of the diagnostic assessments before they are administered, so appropriate actions are taken and student learning progresses.

Finally, because diagnostic assessments are used to determine a student's deeper and more discrete knowledge, educators must ensure these assessments contain enough items (test questions) in each target claim, domain, or discipline to make a valid inference about the student's current learning status.

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Formative

Interim

Summative

Resources

- Learning as We Go: Principles for Effective Assessment During the COVID-19 Pandemic
https://www.crpe.org/sites/default/files/final_diagnostics_brief_2020.pdf
- General Education Leadership Network's Learning Map: Prioritizing and Assessing Standards to Accelerate Student Learning
<https://www.michiganassessmentconsortium.org/wp-content/uploads/Learning-Map-Prioritizing-and-Assessing-Standards-to-Accelerate-Student-Learning.pdf>
- What are "Diagnostic Assessments?" ALN Learning Point
https://www.michiganassessmentconsortium.org/wp-content/uploads/2017_Dec_DIAGNOSTIC-ASSESSMENTS3-1.pdf
- [Moving Toward a Comprehensive Assessment System: A Framework for Considering Interim Assessments](#)
Perie, M., Marion, S., and Gong, B. (2009). Educational Measurement: Issues and Practices. 28(3). pp. 5-13.

Put into Practice

1. Review the ENGAGE Module on Page 2 of the [General Education Leadership Network's Learning Map](#) from the Resources listed to the left. Find a colleague to join in a review of the ENGAGE module of the training (or present this module during a District-Provided Professional Development session), then complete the [Shape Reflection Handout](#) (<https://tinyurl.com/y6od8o8t>).
 - » What were the three important points from the training?
 - » What did you learn from the training that is consistent with your belief about assessment?
 - » What questions do you have about assessment that haven't been answered?
 - » This training was originally developed for the Fall 2020 start of school. Do you still find it relevant for the beginning of this school year? Why or why not?

CB College Board Corner

Information on SAT®, PSAT™ 8/9, and PSAT™ 10 provided by the College Board

Questions about Fall SAT, PSAT 8/9, or PSAT 10?

- Call the Michigan Educator Hotline: 866-870-3127 (select Option 1)
- Email: michiganadministratorsupport@collegeboard.org

REMINDERS

Fall 2021 Ordering Process & Accommodations

The College Board conducted webinars about the Fall 2021 ordering process. A recording of the [Fall 2021 Administration of SAT Suite of Assessments Webinar, Wayne RESA](#) is now available on the [MME web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/mme) and the [PSAT web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/psat).

[Fall 2021 Administration of SAT Suite of Assessments Webinar, Michigan Virtual](#) is available on the [MME web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/mme) and the [PSAT web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/psat).

Ensure that students are administered the appropriate Fall 2021 assessment. Students in Grade 9 must only take the PSAT 8/9; those in Grades 10 and 11 must take the PSAT/NMSQT; and Grade 12 students must take the SAT for the administration to be paid for by the Michigan Department of Education. Fifth-year seniors are not eligible to test in Fall 2021.

Schools will be responsible for the cost of the tests if:

- a student is given the wrong assessment (for instance, a Grade 11 student takes the SAT)
- a student is given the correct assessment but bubbles-in the wrong grade (for instance, a Grade 11 student takes the PSAT/NMSQT but bubbles their grade as something other than Grade 11 on the answer sheet)
Instruct proctors to review answer sheets for the correct grade before they return test materials to the coordinator.
- Grade 7 or 8 students are administered the PSAT 8/9

Test Book Material Delivery

- Test books for the October 13 SAT administration will be delivered October 7-11.
- Test books for the October 13 PSAT/NMSQT administration will be delivered October 4-6.
- Test books for the PSAT 8/9 will be determined based on test date chosen in the College Board test ordering site.

Helpful tracking information is available in the test ordering site (see image next page). The information includes estimated delivery dates and a summary of materials that will be shipped.

Note: Tracking information will not be available in the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability Secure Site for Fall 2021 testing.

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| Shipment | |
|--|--|
| Estimated Delivery Date: Preadministration Materials Sep. 22, 2021 0 Boxes Shipped | Estimated Delivery Date: Test Materials Oct. 6, 2021 0 Boxes Shipped |
| Materials | Shipped/Ordered |
| Answer sheets | 0/826 |
| Accommodated tests and materials | 0/13 |
| Student guides for accommodated testing | 0/13 |
| Coordinator manuals for accommodated t... | 0/4 |
| Student guides | 0/717 |
| Coordinator manuals | 0/29 |
| Standard tests | 0/717 |
| Materials have not yet shipped | |

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Important Dates

September 2021

Early Literacy and Mathematics

Now – October 29, 2021

- Pre-Identification of students in the OEAA
Secure Site by 5:00 pm for **Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments (K-2)**

Early Literacy and Mathematics

Now – October 29, 2021

- **Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments (K-2)** Fall 2020 testing window

October 2021

WIDA

October 18 - November 23, 2021

- **Online Waiver Window** - request waiver to administer pencil/paper by 5:00 pm for **WIDA ACCESS - PP**

Contacts

For assistance with assessment or accountability issues:

Assessment and Accountability Call Center

877-560-8378 (select appropriate option)

| Options | Topics |
|---------|--|
| 1 | to report cheating and unethical behavior by a district/school in regards to state assessments |
| 2 | for support of Central Office Services (COS), DRC INSIGHT Portal, and INSIGHT for the online M-STEP, MI-Access, and Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments (K-2) |
| 3 | for support of the OEAA Secure Site for <u>all</u> state assessments, administration and policy questions related to M-STEP, MI-Access, Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments (K-2), and accountability reporting |
| 4 | for questions about the College Entrance and Workskills assessments <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eligibility, MDE policies, and OEAA Secure Site Support 2. SAT, PSAT 8/9, and PSAT 10 – College Board 3. WorkKeys – ACT |
| 5 | for questions about the WIDA ACCESS for ELLs, WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs, and support for WIDAAMS, INSIGHT, and Central Office Services (COS) |
| 8 | for all other questions |

Email

For assessment questions:

mde-oeaa@michigan.gov

For accountability questions:

mde-accountability@michigan.gov

For assistance with WIDA Screener, W-APT, and the WIDA Secure Portal questions:
(for questions not covered in options 3 and 5 in the table above)

WIDA Client Services

866-276-7735

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