

Spotlight

on Student Assessment and Accountability

August 22, 2019

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English Learner (EL) Exit Deadline Approaching

Any English Learner (EL) students meeting EL exit criteria and not reported as EL exited in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) End-of-Year (EOY) collection must be reported using the MSDS July–Mid-September Student Record Maintenance (SRM) collection, which closes **September 11, 2019 at 11:59 PM**. Student's whose EL exits are not properly reported in MSDS will not be EL-exited for 2019-20 accountability and will be expected to take WIDAACCESS for ELLs again in Spring 2020.

Directions for exiting eligible EL students are provided in the [EL Exit Reporting Guidelines](#) document, which can be found on the [WIDA web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/wida).

M-STEP and MME Printed Parent Reports and Student Record Labels

M-STEP and MME Parent Reports and Student Record Labels are being processed and shipped to schools in the following order:

- schools receiving reports for students in grades in the 3-8 only
- schools receiving reports for students in grades in 11-12 only
- all remaining schools

Report shipments will begin arriving in schools starting **Friday, August 23, 2019**. Shipments will continue to arrive on a rolling basis through the end of August. MI-Access reports will be shipped after the M-STEP and MME shipments are completed.

Printed Parent Reports should be distributed to parents when they arrive in schools. Student Record Labels can be used to place summary proficiency information in student records.

Please inventory your reports when they arrive. If you have any questions, contact the Call Center.

Key:  Reminder (previously run article)

Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments – Online Only

Did you know that the Michigan Department of Education's (MDE's) Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments can be used to comply with the Read by Grade 3 (RBG3) law as one of the initial assessments? In grades K through 3, an initial assessment must be given within the first 30 days of school and three times a year. While other assessments may be used, the MDE offers this assessment to districts at no cost.

Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments is offered three times a year (fall, winter, and spring). In Fall 2019, the assessment will be available from **September 9 – October 4, 2019** for students in Kindergarten, Grade 1, and Grade 2. To prepare your students for the online assessments, teachers should provide the opportunity for students to view the student tutorial and practice the Online Tools Training (OTT).

Online Resources

The Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability (OEAA) has developed online resources for students taking state assessments at all grade levels. The resources support the idea that children can learn about online technology when teachers and other educators demonstrate the use of technology (classroom viewing of the student video tutorial, classroom viewing of the OTTs), followed by interacting with children while each student practices with technology (OTTs). Tutorials can be accessed in three different ways:

- **Student Tutorials** are Student-narrated videos that introduce teachers and students to the online tests and tools contained in the Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments. The Student Tutorials are designed to be administered in a group setting, such as the classroom using a projector or other similar resource.



Did You Know?

Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments

- can be used to comply with the Read by Grade 3 law
- are offered online three times a year (fall, winter, and spring)
- are offered at no cost

The tutorials can be accessed in three different ways:

- ♦ **DRC INSIGHT Portal (formerly known as eDIRECT)** (<https://www.drctedirect.com/all/eca-portal-v2-ui/#/login/MI>) – select the Documents and Training Materials link on the Welcome page, and then the Test Tutorials tab.
 - ♦ **INSIGHT** – Open INSIGHT and select the yellow **DRC INSIGHT Online Assessments Tutorials** link at the bottom of the page.
 - ♦ **Chrome** (<https://wbte.drctedirect.com/MI/portals/mi/>) – You must use the Chrome browser to access the tutorials. Select the yellow **DRC INSIGHT Online Assessments Tutorials** link at the bottom of the page.

An important component of the Student Tutorials is that they provide explicit training on the pause/exit/end test functionality of the online testing engine.

In addition, the tutorials explain how to access and use specific tools.

- **Online Sample Item Sets and OTTs** are an important resource teachers can access for students in grades K–2. The Sample Item Sets are a select group of test items in ELA and mathematics that encompass various kinds of technology-enhanced items (matching, drag and drop, hot spots, etc.) and are embedded within the OTTs. The sets provide teachers and students practice in solving grade-level and content-specific test items aligned to Michigan's content standards and provide practice navigating the online test delivery system. It is essential for students to practice how to do the item types, especially the matching items and drag and drop.

The OTTs can be accessed in two ways:

- ♦ **Chrome browser** (<https://wbte.drctedirect.com/MI/portals/mi/>) – select the **Online Tools Training** link located under Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments

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Call Center: 877-560-8378 (select appropriate option) for assistance with assessment or accountability issues

- ◆ **INSIGHT** – select the **Online Tools Training** link located under Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments

Feedback collected from previous administrations indicates that students and teachers who utilized the OTTs Sample Item Sets felt more prepared for online testing, students reported feeling confident about taking assessments online, and school administrators and teachers stated they experienced fewer issues related to online testing than students and teachers who did not take advantage of this resource.

Recommended Sequence

The OEAA recommends that classroom teachers introduce online testing to their students by playing the Student Tutorial Video in class to show students how the online testing system and tools work. Once the Student Tutorial video is shown and discussed in the classroom, teachers then show the Online Tools Training (OTTs) to the entire class (doesn't have to be on the same day). After students have watched the Student Tutorial Video projected by the teacher, followed by watching the teacher navigate through the OTTs via a projector or other classroom viewing resource, each student should be provided hands-on practice with the online Sample Item Sets contained within the OTTs, ideally using the device they will use during testing.

Where are my students now in relation to grade-level standards?

Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark score reports are available within 48 hours of test submission on the Dynamic Score Reporting Site (DSRS) through the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability (OEAA) Secure Site. These reports will tell you what the student knows and can do in relation to the current grade-level standards. If your school administered the Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments last spring, you can access the Spring 2019 reports to see how well your students mastered the prior grade-level standards.

Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark reports are available online through the [OEAA Secure Site](http://www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure) (www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure). Authorized users can log into the Secure Site and select **Reports** and then select **Dynamic Score Reports**. 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](#) (www.michigan.gov/earlylitandmath) under the **Reporting** section.

The OEAA welcomes your feedback on the online resources and reports.

The Data Recongnition Corporation (DRC) provided **Early Literacy and Mathematics District and Building Coordinator Training webinar** was today, August 22, 2019. The recorded version will be posted to the [DRC INSIGHT Portal](#) (<https://mi.drccedirect.com>) by the end of the day **Friday, August 23, 2013**.

New Resources for Parents

In early- to mid-September, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) will be implementing a Starting Smarter web page for Michigan's families. Families will find information in parent-friendly language that will help them:

- understand their child's M-STEP score report
- locate resources to support learning at home and school
- prepare for an effective Parent Teacher Conference
- see and practice with online M-STEP practice questions and tools
- learn about the Read by Grade 3 law
- understand what academic standards students are expected to master
- learn about the accessibility tools and supports available to students during testing

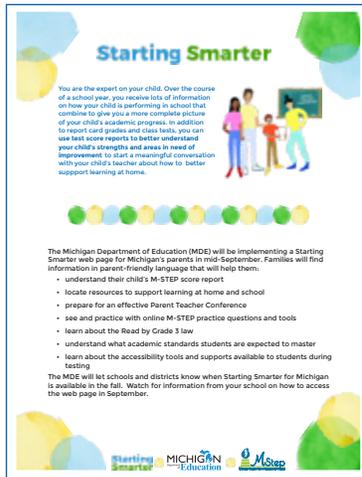
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Spotlight on Student Assessment and Accountability

The MDE will let schools and districts know when Starting Smarter for Michigan is available through the Spotlight newsletter.

In the meantime, the MDE has prepared this [Starting Smarter Informational Flyer](#) for parents. Please consider sharing with your parents during your back to school activities.



Also, online Parent Reports for M-STEP, MI-Access, MME, and WIDA will be available directly to parents via MiLearn after the public release of Spring 2019 later this summer.



MiLearn is a free service provided to local school districts that allows educators, parents, and students access through the local Student Information System (SIS).

If your district is on the Michigan Data Hub and uses one of the following SISs, then MiLearn is available to you:

- PowerSchool
- Skyward
- MISTAR
- Synergy
- Coming soon – Infinite Campus

The [MiLearn Informational Flyer](#) is available to parents on the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability (OEAA) assessment web pages.

Updated Communication Toolkit for State Assessment Reporting

In preparation for the Fall 2019 state assessment data release (M-STEP, PSAT™, MME, MI-Access), the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability (OEAA) has updated its Communications Toolkit for State Assessment Results Reporting. This toolkit offers an information-rich starting point for school and district leaders to share assessment data and information with staff, board members, PTAs/PTOs, parents, and the community.

Toolkit Highlights

Customizable templates that can be adapted for multiple audiences (such as teachers, parents, board members, media) to assist in your stakeholder engagement activities related to the upcoming Michigan Department of Education (MDE) release of Spring 2019 M-STEP, MME, and MI-Access data results. The templates include:

- suggested communication options
- talking points
- elevator speeches

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Spotlight on Student Assessment and Accountability

- FAQ for teachers
- draft newsletter articles
- sample letters to parents
- sample press releases

Print materials and handouts for school staff and the public:

- Michigan's Assessment System: What it is, What it means – and What it offers
- How to Read Your Child's Score Report (for various grades and subjects)
- Computer Adaptive Testing (CAT) Information
- Student Testing: What Parents Can Do to Help Students Prepare
- 2020 State Assessment Planning Calendar

PowerPoint presentations on Michigan's state assessment system and data results

Assessment videos that visually walk viewers through assessments and reporting:

- How to Read 2019 Parent Reports for M-STEP, PSAT 8/9, and MME

- M-STEP Video, featuring Computer Adaptive Testing
- M-STEP: What Can Students Expect When Taking the Test?
- Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments
- plus...numerous videos specifically for educators on test administration and reporting

Districts and schools can now access the updated Communication Toolkit for State Assessment Reporting on the following web pages under the **Reporting** section:

- [OEAA web page](http://www.michigan.gov/oeaa) (www.michigan.gov/oeaa)
- [M-STEP](http://www.michigan.gov/mstep) (www.michigan.gov/mstep)
- [MME](http://www.michigan.gov/mme) (www.michigan.gov/mme)
- [PSAT](http://www.michigan.gov/psat) (www.michigan.gov/psat)
- [MI-Access](http://www.michigan.gov/mi-access) (www.michigan.gov/mi-access)

State assessment data is expected to be released to the public before Labor Day and will be available on [MI School Data](http://www.MiSchoolData.org) (www.MiSchoolData.org) and on the [Parent Dashboard](http://www.MiSchoolData.org/ParentDashboard) (www.MiSchoolData.org/ParentDashboard).

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College Board Corner

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

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

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

Getting Ready for 2020 – Save the Date for Fall Implementation Workshops

Implementation workshops are free and provide information about the Michigan-provided SAT with Essay, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9 for grades 8 and 9 in the spring of 2020. The workshop is important for building administrators and building test coordinators. Learn about the latest enhancements and changes for the spring administration, preparing for and administering the College Board exams, spring implementation timelines, and about our professional development offerings to prepare you for Spring 2020.

Schools that will administer the PSAT 8/9 for grade 8 are HIGHLY encouraged to attend.

The College Board is partnering with MCAN (Michigan College Access Network) to provide SCECHs to registered participants.

[Workshop Registration](http://www.collegeboard.org/michiganworkshops) (www.collegeboard.org/michiganworkshops)

Date	Location	City
10/1/2019	Genesee ISD	Flint
10/1/2019	Macomb ISD	Clinton Township
10/2/2019	Wayne County Community College	Wayne
10/7/2019	Oakland ISD	Waterford
10/8/2019	Menominee ISD	Menominee
10/10/2019	Kalamazoo RESA	Portage
10/11/2019	Ingham ISD	Lansing
10/11/2019	Jackson ISD	Jackson
10/11/2019	St. Joseph ISD	Centreville
10/24/2019	Clare-Gladwin RESD	Clare
10/24/2019	Delta Schoolcraft ISD	Escanaba
10/25/2019	Copper Country ISD	Hancock
10/28/2019	Kent ISD	Grand Rapids
10/29/2019	Marquette-Alger ISD	Marquette
10/30/2019	Eastern UP ISD	Sault Ste. Marie
10/30/2019	Traverse Bay Area ISD	Traverse City
11/1/2019	Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona ESD	Alpena

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Spring 2019 Score Reports Delivery and Returned Shipments

School-level and student-level paper reports were scheduled for delivery **August 5–9, 2019** to the mailing address of the WorkKeys Test Coordinator listed in the [Educational Entity Master \(EEM\)](http://www.michigan.gov/eem) (www.michigan.gov/eem) as of July 3, 2019.

Refer to the [June 20, 2019 Spotlight Newsletter](#) (www.michigan.gov/mde-spotlight) for more information about:

- what is included in the reports shipment
- National Career Readiness Certificates (NCRCs)
- student access to myworkkeys.com
- score embargo

If you have not received your reports yet, please ensure the mailing information in the EEM system is current. If it is out of date, contact your district's authorized EEM user to update the EEM system as soon as possible. If you are not sure who the authorized EEM user is, use the **District and School Contact** page on the [OEAA Secure Site](http://www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure) (www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure) to retrieve the name and contact information for your district.

Instructions for using the District and School Contacts page are available on the [Secure Site Training web page](http://www.michigan.gov/secaresitetraining) (www.michigan.gov/secaresitetraining) under the

Miscellaneous section. Nonpublic schools should call 517-241-5384 or email nonpublicschools@michigan.gov with updates to the EEM.

ACT will begin reshipping returned package(s) the week of **August 19, 2019**. If your school:

- was closed for the summer, the package(s) will be shipped to the WorkKeys Test Coordinator at the mailing address listed in EEM
- is permanently closed, the package(s) will be shipped to the District Assessment Coordinator at the mailing address listed in EEM

If the district is also closed, reports will be shipped to the Michigan Department of Education.

Contacting ACT

If you have questions, you may:

1. contact ACT via the [Contact Us web page](http://www.act.org/aap/state/contact.html) (www.act.org/aap/state/contact.html)
2. call ACT at 800-553-6244, 9:30 AM – 6:00 PM ET
 - standard time: ext. 2800
 - accommodations: ext. 1788

Important Dates

August 2019

Now – September 11, 2019

- **Graduation Rate Appeals** window

Now – September 11, 2019 at 11:59 PM:

- **MSDS Student Record Maintenance (SRM) Collection** – English Learner (EL) Exits must be reported and certified in the SRM using an [As of Date] between 7/1/2019 and 8/31/2019 AND an [EL/LEP Exit Date] on or before June 30, 2019

Early Literacy and Mathematics

Now – October 4, 2019

- Pre-identification of students on the OEAA Secure Site for the fall **Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments (K-2)**

September 2019

Early Literacy and Mathematics

September 9 – October 4, 2019

- **Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments (K-2)** Fall Testing Window

WIDA

September 11, 2019, 10:00 to 11:00 AM

- **Screener Online Overview Webinar** – introductory overview of the WIDA Screener Online which will benefit new WIDA test coordinators

[Registration link](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wida-screener-overview-webinar-registration-68023725795) (https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wida-screener-overview-webinar-registration-68023725795)

October 2019

WIDA

Tuesday and Wednesday, October 1 and 2, 2019, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM:

- **Workshop 2: Leading Schools for Multilingual Learner Achievement**
Location: Wayne Community College – Downriver Campus, 21000 Northline Rd., Taylor MI 48180 EPAC 5 & 6
[Registration link](https://wida-leading-schools-el-achievement.eventbrite.com) (https://wida-leading-schools-el-achievement.eventbrite.com)

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 WIDA AMS, 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

Call Center: 877-560-8378 (select appropriate option) for assistance with assessment or accountability issues