



DIVISION OF ASSESSMENT, SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT, AND SYSTEMS SUPPORT

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ASSESSMENT NEWS

Public Release of 2026 Statewide Assessment Results on September 4

The public release of statewide assessment results is scheduled for **10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 4, 2026**. The embargo period for all reports and data currently available in the Dynamic Score Reporting Site and OEAA [Secure Site](https://www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure) (www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure) remains in effect until that time.

Embargo Reminder: Spring 2026 test results are embargoed until the public release of Spring 2026 assessment results at 10:00 a.m. on September 4. While individual student results may be shared with parents as they become available, it is not permissible to share any school-, district-, or state-level results with parents, the community, or other external parties until the embargo is lifted by the Michigan Department of Education.

For information about accessing and navigating the Dynamic Score Reporting Site, view the [Dynamic Score Reporting Site User Guide](https://go.mi.gov/mhaey2307) (<https://go.mi.gov/mhaey2307>).

For information about accessing the OEAA Secure Site or data files available in the OEAA [Secure Site](https://www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure), view the [OEAA Secure Site Training page](https://www.michigan.gov/securesitetraining) (www.michigan.gov/securesitetraining).



ASSESSMENT NEWS

2027-2029 Summative Testing Schedule Now Available

The [three-year summative testing schedule](https://go.mi.gov/ksss92050) (<https://go.mi.gov/ksss92050>) for state summative assessments has been updated to include dates for Spring 2027, 2028, and 2029 administrations.

Two new changes will impact the Michigan Merit Exam (MME) administration beginning in 2027:

- The SAT assessment will no longer include the essay portion of the exam.
- The work skills assessment—WIN Work Readiness—includes a **student-level waiver option**. This will allow students and their parents or guardians to waive the individual student's participation in the work skills assessment. However, **schools and districts cannot waive** administration of the WIN assessment.

More information regarding both changes will be provided in upcoming issues of the Spotlight.



ASSESSMENT NEWS

Parent Reports and Student Record Labels Arriving in Buildings Soon

Parent Reports for the Spring 2026 MME, Grade 8, M-STEP, and MI-Access assessments will begin arriving in schools tomorrow and continue arriving through next week. Schools are expected to distribute Parent Reports to parents and guardians. These shipments will also include Student Record Labels.

- **MME Parent Reports** provide detailed assessment results for grades 11 and 12 students who completed at least one portion of the assessment.
- **Grade 8 Parent Reports** provide detailed assessment results for students in grade 8.
- **M-STEP Parent Reports** provide detailed assessment results for students in grades 3-7 who participated in the M-STEP summative assessment.
- **MI-Access Parent Reports** provide detailed assessment results for students in grades 3–8 and 11 who participated in the MI-Access alternate summative assessment.
 - Reports are produced for all three MI-Access levels: Functional Independence, Supported Independence, and Participation.

Student Record Labels are provided for MME, Grade 8, M-STEP, and MI-Access and are self-adhesive and designed for placement in student files. They offer a quick reference to each student's overall score and performance level.

Accessing Digital Reports: Printable versions of Parent Reports are also available, including translations in Arabic and Spanish, through the Dynamic Score Reporting Site. To access reports:

1. Log into Dynamic Score Reporting Site through the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability [OEAA Secure Site](https://www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure) (www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure).
2. Select the **Reports** tab.
3. Choose **Dynamic Score Reports**.

More information about how to access and navigate the Dynamic Score Reporting Site is available in the [Dynamic Score Reporting Site User Guide](https://go.mi.gov/mhaey2307) (<https://go.mi.gov/mhaey2307>).



ASSESSMENT NEWS

M-STEP Parent Guides Now Available

The M-STEP Parent Guides are now available on the [M-STEP web page](http://www.michigan.gov/mstep) (www.michigan.gov/mstep). Select the **Guides to Parent Reports** link under the Parent/Student Information section. Separate documents for each grade are provided in English, Spanish, and Arabic.

These documents provide parents and guardians with important guidance in understanding their student's Parent Report, what their student learned in the assessed grade, and what their student will learn in their current grade.

Note: The English version of the Grade 5 Parent Guide has been updated to reflect revisions to social studies subscore scoring. Spanish and Arabic translations are currently in production and will be posted when available. Watch Spotlight for more information.

Questions or Comments? Contact MDE OEAA: 877-560-8378

Assessment: MDE-OEAA@Michigan.gov | **Accountability:** MDE-Accountability@Michigan.gov



ASSESSMENT NEWS

Use This Resource to Explain What M-STEP Scores Mean

The online one-page resource [M-STEP: What Do the Scores Mean?](https://go.mi.gov/s3o9s2600) (<https://go.mi.gov/s3o9s2600>) is available to help parents, educators, and the public better understand M-STEP results.

M-STEP reports and data are an important part of a balanced assessment system that provides Michigan schools and districts with important information as they consider curriculum alignment, instructional program evaluation, and/or differences in achievement among reported student demographic subgroups.

M-STEP reports do not provide grade-level equivalency data. Criterion-referenced tests such as M-STEP provide only data regarding student achievement based on the measured standards. These reports do not make any claim regarding “grade level” performance. This distinction is critical when interpreting results and should guide how M-STEP data is shared and discussed.

The reports also provide the public with a snapshot of Michigan students’ overall performance based on the Michigan Academic Standards. This is helpful in understanding scores in a Michigan school or district, or in comparing student performance across Michigan schools/districts.

The “[M-STEP: What Do the Scores Mean?](https://go.mi.gov/s3o9s2600)” document can be used as a resource for communication with families and community members when discussing how each stakeholder group should understand and use M-STEP results.



ASSESSMENT NEWS

MI-Access Interpretive Guide to Reports Now Available

The Spring 2026 [MI-Access Interpretive Guide to Reports](https://go.mi.gov/j04cy3216) (<https://go.mi.gov/j04cy3216>) is now available. The guide can also be found under the **What's New** and **Reporting** sections of the [MI-Access web page](http://www.michigan.gov/mi-access) (www.michigan.gov/mi-access).

This guide helps educators and stakeholders understand and use student assessment results effectively. It provides clear guidance on accessing and interpreting data available through the Dynamic Score Reporting Site, which is located in the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability [Secure Site](http://www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure) (www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure).

It details:

- how student scores are reported
- what each performance level represents
- how to use the data appropriately
- how to locate and access reports
- descriptions of each report and how to read them

Questions or Comments? Contact MDE OEAA: 877-560-8378

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ASSESSMENT NEWS

Federal Requirements for Schools to Identify Potential English Learners

The federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires schools to identify new students who may be eligible to receive English language services within 30 days of enrollment. The process and requirements to identify such students can be found in the [Michigan Entrance and Exit Protocol](https://go.mi.gov/66j7g2295) (<https://go.mi.gov/66j7g2295>), available on the [English Learners \(ELs\) website](http://www.michigan.gov/mde-el) (www.michigan.gov/mde-el).

Questions or Comments? Contact MDE OEAA: 877-560-8378

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ASSESSMENT NEWS

Spring 2026 WIDA ACCESS Student Growth and Adequate Growth Percentiles Available

For educators interested in tracking the growth of their English learner (EL) students can now access a valuable resource: student growth scores (Student Growth Percentiles [SGPs]) and student growth targets (Adequate Growth Percentiles [AGPs]) for WIDA ACCESS. These files are found on the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability (OEAA) Secure Site (<https://milogintp.michigan.gov/eai/tplogin/authenticate>).

While the SGP and AGP results have previously not been available on the Spring 2026 WIDA ACCESS Student Score Data Files, these files have been updated on the Secure Site to include the growth scores and growth targets. Using the Student Score Data Files, schools can analyze student-level data to:

- identify students who may need additional support
- monitor the effectiveness of EL instructional programs and interventions
- inform conversations with parents about their child's language development

More information on student growth measures in Michigan can be found here

(<https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/school-performance-supports/accountability/student-growth-in-school-accountability>).

Questions or Comments? Contact MDE OEAA: 877-560-8378

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ASSESSMENT NEWS

Required WIDA Assessment Courses Available in WIDA Secure Portal

Educators planning to administer and/or score the WIDA Screener for Kindergarten or the WIDA Screener must complete the appropriate Assessment Training Courses in their [WIDA Secure Portal](https://wida.wisc.edu/login) (<https://wida.wisc.edu/login>) account. Educators who have completed the courses in previous years are required to complete the courses again if they will be scoring these assessments. Please also note that the Speaking rubrics used for the WIDA Screener have been updated. The following courses are available in the WIDA Secure Portal:

- WIDA Screener for Kindergarten: Administration and Scoring
- WIDA Screener Online: Administration
- Speaking for Grades 1-5: Scoring WIDA Screener and WIDA ACCESS Braille
- Speaking for Grades 6-12: Scoring WIDA Screener and WIDA ACCESS Braille
- Writing for Grades 1-5: Scoring WIDA Screener
- Writing for Grades 6-12: Scoring WIDA Screener
- WIDA Screener Paper: Administration
- WIDA Alternate Screener: Administration and Scoring

Questions or Comments? Contact MDE OEAA: 877-560-8378

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ASSESSMENT NEWS

K-12 Automatic English Learner Exits

Automatic English Learner (EL) exits have been processed for all kindergarten through grade 12 ELs who met the overall proficiency level targets.

The exits occurred when the students' scores were loaded in the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability [Secure Site \(www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure\)](https://www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure) and after the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) End-of-Year General Collection was closed out.

The [English Learner \(EL\) Exit Reporting Guidelines](https://go.mi.gov/66hrf3219) document (<https://go.mi.gov/66hrf3219>), available on the [English Learner Resources web page](http://www.michigan.gov/mde-el) (www.michigan.gov/mde-el), has been updated with directions on how to:

- see automatic EL exits in MSDS
- make sure automatic EL exits are entered into local student information systems (local SIS)
- submit a manual EL exit in MSDS, in rare cases when that would be appropriate

Questions or Comments? Contact MDE OEAA: 877-560-8378

Assessment: MDE-OEAA@Michigan.gov | **Accountability:** MDE-Accountability@Michigan.gov



ASSESSMENT NEWS

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://go.mi.gov/71ipa3220) (<https://go.mi.gov/71ipa3220>) – directions on how to get access to the variety of systems you will need to administer this assessment
- [Michigan Guide to the WIDA Screener](https://go.mi.gov/jb5mx2296) (<https://go.mi.gov/jb5mx2296>) – basic information about screening students who may be eligible for EL services

Questions or Comments? Contact MDE OEAA: 877-560-8378

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ASSESSMENT NEWS

Alternate Content Expectations for Social Studies Approved

In 2019, the Michigan Board of Education (MDE) approved revisions to the Michigan K-12 social studies standards. Since that time, local districts have worked to align their instruction to those new standards, and the MDE has worked to align the M-STEP to those new standards as well.

In recent years, committees of educators have met to revise the alternate content expectations for social studies as “extensions” of these standards. These alternate content expectations are reduced in depth, breadth, and complexity from the state standards and are designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. The MI-Access Functional Independence Social Studies assessment items are aligned to these alternate content expectations.

After several drafts, MDE leadership has approved a final version of these alternate content expectations. The [Alternate Content Expectations for Social Studies and Science](https://go.mi.gov/4p8fm3221) (<https://go.mi.gov/4p8fm3221>) have been posted on the MDE web page for alternate social studies and science content expectations.

These alternate content expectations should serve as the foundation for social studies instruction only for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

For reference, the previous version of the alternate social studies content expectations can be viewed at the bottom of the web page; these will be removed toward the end of 2027.



COLLEGE BOARD NEWS

Spring 2026 Scores and Reporting Webinar Resources

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Spring 2026 Scores and Reporting Webinar on Wednesday, August 19!

The [webinar's slide deck presentation](https://go.mi.gov/2g89g3212) (<https://go.mi.gov/2g89g3212>) is available on the [MME web page](https://go.mi.gov/98ypp3213) (<https://go.mi.gov/98ypp3213>). A [recording](https://tinyurl.com/yey76s94) of the session is also now available for you to watch at your convenience (<https://tinyurl.com/yey76s94>).

If you are interested in bringing an in-person Scores and Reporting Workshop to your school or district, or if you would like more information about reports in the K-12 Reporting Portal, we are here to help. Reach out to Cassy Tefft de Munoz at cteftdemunoz@collegeboard.org or Tracy Morgan at tlynn@collegeboard.org.

School Establishment and the Educational Entity Master (EEM)

School establishment is the process through which Michigan schools are identified for participation in the College Board Suite of assessments and are set up—or “established”—for spring testing in College Board systems.

Please see the [Spotlight - August 6 issue](https://go.mi.gov/g9aqs3106) (<https://go.mi.gov/g9aqs3106>) for more details.

College Board Contact Information

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

Questions or Comments? Contact MDE OEAA: 877-560-8378

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PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Register Now for Fall 2026 School Accountability Workshops



Are you new to [school accountability](#) or need a refresher? Would you like to learn more about navigating, interpreting, and using school accountability reports and data? The School Accountability team from the Michigan Department of Education is holding FREE, in-person learning workshops this fall.

Space is limited for the in-person events, so [register today](https://go.mi.gov/vu3jr3132) (<https://go.mi.gov/vu3jr3132>) to guarantee your spot!

- **Tuesday, September 22, 2026**
- **8:30 a.m. -12:15 p.m.**
- **Kent ISD Education Services Center**
2930 Knapp St. NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525
- **Thursday, October 1, 2026**
- **8:30 a.m. -12:15 p.m.**
- **Saginaw ISD Millet Learning Center**
3660 Southfield Drive, Saginaw, MI 48601

For those interested in a remote option or unable to attend in-person, we are also hosting a single virtual session without the interactive activities of the in-person workshops. The virtual session does not require pre-registration.

- **Wednesday, October 14, 2026**
- **8:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
- **Microsoft Teams**
 - Virtual Meeting Link – Click to Join Meeting:
<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/235990817368962?p=mE4wUE47Jig4dc0A4q>
 - [Download Event to Calendar \(.ics file\)](#)

SCECHs will be available for in-person and virtual event options. An additional in-person event at Wayne RESA is currently in the planning phase and will be available for registration at a later date.

More information about upcoming school accountability workshops can be found at: [2026 School Accountability Workshops](https://go.mi.gov/vu3jr3132) (<https://go.mi.gov/vu3jr3132>).



PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Fall 2026 Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessment Training Resources



District and Building Assessment Coordinators are encouraged to review the available online test administration training resources before the Fall 2026 Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessment administration.

- **District and Building Coordinator Training Session (Meeting Recording)**
 - https://drive.google.com/file/d/1C_9M3lgQ-d9r8mqBw-gGFupHAO4_x9Fq/view
- **PowerPoint Slides**
 - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RQPcGdzyTRR1nC5DNU-5Mpt0nOgM3-kk/view>
- **Test Administration Manual**
 - <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/student-assessment/early-literacy-and-mathematics-benchmark-assessments>
- **Online Test Directions**
 - <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/student-assessment/early-literacy-and-mathematics-benchmark-assessments>
- **Benchmark Assessment Tutorial**
 - <https://wbte.drcedirect.com/MI/portals/mi>
- **Online Training Tools (OTTs)**
 - <https://wbte.drcedirect.com/MI/portals/mi>

DRC Technology Training for M-STEP, MI-Access, and Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments Online Testing

Share the available 2026-27 technology training with your Technology Coordinators.



Technology Coordinators

- **Technology Coordinator Training (Recorded)**
 - DRC INSIGHT Portal: <https://mi.drcedirect.com>

Questions or Comments? Contact MDE OEAA: 877-560-8378

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IMPORTANT DATES

The [Assessment Calendars web page](https://go.mi.gov/10v9o2012) (go.mi.gov/10v9o2012) provides easy access to important state assessment dates. The Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability offers calendars in Excel, PDF, and Google Calendar formats, making it convenient to view and use them in the format that works best for your needs.

Important dates for the 2026–27 academic year are currently available only for the Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessment. As additional dates are finalized for other Michigan-administered assessment programs—M-STEP, SAT, PSAT, WIN Work Readiness, MI-Access, and WIDA—they will be shared in upcoming issues of Spotlight.

August 2026

Date	Assessment/Task	End Date
Ongoing	WIDA Screener Cycle I Opens	Ongoing
Ongoing	Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments Fall 2026 test administration window Concurrent ongoing tasks open: • Pre-identification of students in the OEAA Secure Site (www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure) • Create/Manage Online Test Registrations (formerly called test sessions) in DRC INSIGHT Portal (https://mi.drctdirect.com)	Friday, October 23, 2026



REMINDERS

MiPAC Website



Have you checked out the [Michigan Performance Assessment Cadre \(MiPAC\)](https://mipac.net) website (<https://mipac.net>), which was co-developed by the Michigan Department of Education and the Michigan Assessment Consortium?

More than 70 new assessments have been added this summer to the interactive site, bringing the total to more than 240 student-centered assessments for voluntary use in any Michigan classroom. These teacher-developed assessments are especially useful in flexible learning environments.

The MiPAC website offers an easy-to-search library of performance assessments aligned to [Michigan's Model Competencies in English language arts \(ELA\)](#) for grades 3-12 (https://mipac.net/assets/Docs-for-Pages/ModelComp_K-12ELA.pdf), and to [Michigan's Model Competencies in Mathematics](#) for grades 3-8 (https://mipac.net/assets/Docs-for-Pages/ModelComp_K-8Math.pdf). Users can browse by subject area, grade level, keyword, Big Idea, or Competency.

Questions or Comments? Contact MDE OEAA: 877-560-8378

Assessment: MDE-OEAA@Michigan.gov | **Accountability:** MDE-Accountability@Michigan.gov



CONTACT INFO

OEAA Phone Tree Options

For assistance with assessment or accountability issues, **call 877-560-8378** (select the appropriate option):

- **Option 1:** For inquiries related to state assessment policy; the [OEAA Secure Site](#); administration of the M-STEP, MI-Access, Early Literacy and Mathematics; and Accountability Reporting
- **Option 2:** For inquiries related to the SAT, PSAT, or WIN Work Readiness testing:
 - **Option 1:** eligibility to test and the [OEAA Secure Site](#)
 - **Option 2:** administration of the College Board assessments (PSAT 8/9, PSAT 10, SAT)
 - **Option 3:** administration of the WIN Work Readiness skills test
- **Option 3:** For inquiries related to WIDA, the English Language Learner assessment; Call 866-276-7735 for assistance with the WIDA Screener and the WIDA Secure Portal
- **Option 4:** For all other calls
- **Option 5:** To report known unethical testing practices by a school on any state assessment
- **Option 6:** To repeat these options

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[Subscribe](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIMDE/subscriber/new) (https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIMDE/subscriber/new) to the *Spotlight on Assessment and Accountability*, *MDE Official Communications*, and *MICIP Continuous Communication* newsletters.

- Archive for [Spotlight on Assessment and Accountability](http://www.michigan.gov/mde-spotlight) (www.michigan.gov/mde-spotlight)
- Archive for [MDE Memos](https://www.michigan.gov/mde/news-and-information/memos) (https://www.michigan.gov/mde/news-and-information/memos)
- Archive for [MICIP Continuous Communication](https://www.michigan.gov/mde/Services/school-performance-supports/micip/micip-continuous-communication) (https://www.michigan.gov/mde/Services/school-performance-supports/micip/micip-continuous-communication)

Michigan Department of Education

608 W. Allegan St., PO Box 30008, Lansing, Michigan 48915-0008

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