

# Spotlight

## on Student Assessment and Accountability

### What's New

August 13, 2021

- Spring 2021 Student Data Files and Select M-STEP and MI-Access Student-level Reports Available
- Spring 2021 MI-Access Scoring Guides Posted
- Focus on Literacy Assessment: How Can Assessment Be Used to Accelerate Student Learning?

### Reminders

- MiPAC Cohort 2 Participation Opportunity

### Spring 2021 Student Data Files and Select M-STEP and MI-Access Student-level Reports Available

**Note:** The COVID-19 pandemic created significant challenges to instruction during the 2020-21 school year. As a result, the data from the Spring 2021 M-STEP assessments should be used with caution and in combination with other local assessment data (including benchmark assessment data) to confirm and interpret the results of individual students.

**Reminder:** Spring 2021 test results are **embargoed** until the public release of Spring 2021 assessment results later this summer. Districts and schools will be notified through the Spotlight when the embargo has been lifted.

**Important:** While **individual** student results may be shared with parents at this time, 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. School board meetings are considered open meetings; therefore, the sharing of embargoed assessment results at these meetings is not permissible until the embargo is lifted.

### Currently Available Data Files

The following data files from the Spring 2021 test administrations are available through the [OEAA Secure Site](http://www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure) ([www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure](http://www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure)):

- M-STEP Student Data Files—including science
- MI-Access Student Data Files
- PSAT for grades 8, 9, 10 Student Data Files

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- SAT with Essay Student Data Files
- WorkKeys Student Data Files
- WIDA Student Data Files
- WIDA Aggregate Data Files
- Early Literacy & Mathematics Student Data Files
- Early Literacy & Mathematics Aggregate Data Files

To download your school's student data files, go to the Report menu and select **Student Test Scores**. The student data files contain only student-level data.

## Currently Available Student-level Reports

Select student-level reports for M-STEP and MI-Access for the Spring 2021 administrations are now available in the Dynamic Score Reporting Site, which is accessed through the OEAA Secure Site. Additional reports, including those for grade 8 PSAT 8/9 and SAT with Essay as well as aggregate reports, will be released as they become available over the next several weeks.

## M-STEP and MI-Access Student-level Reports

M-STEP (without science data) and MI-Access reports currently available include:

- Individual Student Reports
- Student Roster Reports
- Student Overview (MI-Access only)

To access your school's student-level reports, log into the OEAA Secure Site and select the **Reports** tab, then select **Dynamic Score Reports** in the drop-down menu. Next, select the Test Cycle, ISD, District, and

School for your search criteria. Then, by selecting **Search** you will be directed to the Dynamic Score Reporting Site where you can view your reports.

Upcoming reports not yet released:

- M-STEP science reports are not yet available
- Parent Reports and M-STEP Student Overview Reports will be available later this month
- PSAT 8/9 and SAT with Essay Individual Student Reports and Student Roster Reports will be available later this month
- Printed Parent Reports and Student Record Labels will arrive in schools in early September
- Aggregate reports will be available later this summer

## New in 2021

- **Read by Grade 3 Indicator:** Michigan's Read by Grade 3 Law (MCL.2801.280.f) requires grade 3 M-STEP English language arts results to be used to flag students who are eligible for retention. Student tests are flagged as follows:
  - » **Meets Requirements:** Scale score 1272 or above; student meets the requirements of the Read by Grade 3 law for promotion to grade 4
  - » **Needs Supports:** Scale score between 1253 and 1271; student needs additional reading supports
  - » **Eligible for Retention:** Scale score 1252 or below; student is eligible for retention in grade 3

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# Spotlight on Student Assessment and Accountability

- **Performance Indicator Labels:** English language arts and mathematics performance indicator labels have changed for the Spring 2021 results. This is only a change in the labels; calculations of subscore performance have not changed from prior administrations.
  - » **Above Standard** indicates the student's performance on the standards that make up the claim is above the overall content standard or proficiency cut.
  - » **At/Near Standard** indicates the student's performance on the standards that make up the claim is at or near the overall content standard or proficiency cut.
  - » **Below Standard** indicates the student's performance on the standards that make up the claim is below the overall content standard or proficiency cut

## Spring 2021 MI-Access Scoring Guides Posted

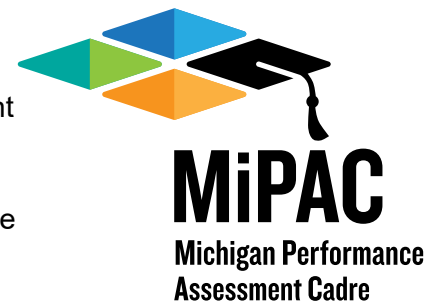
The Spring 2021 MI-Access Scoring Guides have been posted to the [MI-Access web page](http://www.michigan.gov/mi-access) ([www.michigan.gov/mi-access](http://www.michigan.gov/mi-access)) in the Functional Independence section. These guides are released after every testing cycle to provide educators with detailed information on the Expressing Ideas (writing/drawing) part of the English language arts assessment.

The MI-Access Scoring Guides provide examples of released items accompanied by samples of student

responses. The guides are grade-specific and provide technical information on how each of these items are scored. The items provide a complete range of scoring possibilities with a scoring rationale behind the final score determination.

## MiPAC Cohort 2 Participation Opportunity

Are you interested in learning how to develop and implement performance assessments in your district/school? Join the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability (OEAA) as we work with the Michigan Assessment Consortium to develop performance assessments that are aligned to Michigan's academic standards and model essential skills in mathematics and English language arts (ELA) in grades 3-8.



Preferred candidates for the Michigan Performance Assessment Cadre (MiPAC):

- have experience teaching mathematics or English language arts (ELA) in **grades 3-5** and/or grades 6-8
- have experience with/understanding of Michigan academic standards
- are employed 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.

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# Spotlight on Student Assessment and Accountability

You will:

- learn about the Michigan model essential skills for mathematics and ELA
- engage in a process to develop performance assessments and rubrics
- collaborate with peers from other districts
- practice using a rubric and calibrating the scoring of performance assessments
- take part in a research agenda focused on measuring student competencies through performance assessments
- (pending) earn up to 50 SCECH credits or alternative graduate credits

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.

We anticipate virtual sessions will be scheduled in blocks of two-hour weekly engagements to meet designated project milestones. These sessions include:

- collaboration with grade-span teachers in developing a performance assessment and corresponding rubric aligned to the state model competencies, with guidance and resources provided
- administration and collection of student responses for one performance assessment, revising items and rubrics as necessary for them to become part of a library of models
- collaboration with grade-span teachers in scoring student work that results from implementation of the performance assessment
- participation in project evaluation activities, such as observation, focus groups, and surveys

If you are interested in participating, submit your resume in an email to [mde-oeaa@michigan.gov](mailto:mde-oeaa@michigan.gov) using the subject line "MiPAC Resume".

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

## How Can Assessment Be Used to Accelerate Student Learning?

As this school year begins, it might be tempting to remediate any learning your students missed last year during the pandemic. However, this may not be the most beneficial approach for your students. The Michigan Assessment Consortium and the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) offer these suggestions for assessment practices as you begin planning your instruction this year.

- Prioritize current grade-level standards, rather than attempt to re-teach the previous year's content, to keep students moving forward in their learning.
- Assess student understanding of key concepts by using diagnostic and instructionally embedded assessments (IEAs) and fill in gaps in learning as needed.
- Use the formative assessment process during daily instruction as the primary method of assessment to support and advance student learning.
- Monitor students' social, physical, and emotional well-being to make sure they are prepared for learning in the new school year.

Focusing on a smaller set of prioritized standards in the beginning of the year can help students rapidly learn new foundational grade-level content. It is important to remember that focusing on a list of prioritized standards does not remove a teacher's responsibility to teach the other current grade-level standards, nor does it remove other standards; instead focusing on prioritized standards assigns the other standards to a supporting role. Also, by law spring summative assessments assess the depth and breadth of Michigan's state standards, so it is imperative that all current grade-level standards are taught over the course of the school year.

Teachers will have to assess student readiness using the formative assessment process to move students on to more challenging curriculum as the school year gets under way. In their paper [Pre-Assessment: Promises and Cautions \(PRE-ASSESSMENT: Promises and Cautions \(uky.edu\)\)](#), Guskey and McTighe (2016) offer three important guidelines to be considered when implementing these assessments.

1. Clarify your purpose for using the assessment(s) and share the purpose with your students, so they become invested in their learning.
2. Determine how the information gleaned from the assessment will be used. Knowing how the data will be used and what actions will be taken as a result are critical considerations for moving student learning forward.
3. Use assessment judiciously and efficiently. Assess only when it is necessary to know what students have mastered and what gaps still remain. Instruction should still be at the forefront of daily classroom activities.

Careful planning and implementation of a variety of assessments to advance student learning, and determining where additional supports are needed, will help to get your students back on track and learning forward toward success.

Formative

Interim

Summative

## Resources

[Accelerated Learning: Assessment Practices for Accelerated Learning](#)

The Michigan Department of Education and the Michigan Assessment Consortium offer a brief overview on formative and instructionally embedded assessment practices that will set the stage for advancing student learning in the 2021-2022 school year.

[What Are Power Standards? How Do I Use Them?](#)

Angela Peery, Ed.D. explains the purpose of prioritizing some grade-specific standards at the beginning of the school year. However, it is important to remember that, by law, all grade-specific content standards are assessed in totality by end-of-year

## Put Into Practice

Consider registering a team from your school or district to attend Jay McTighe's presentation at the first Assessment Learning Network's event of the 2021-2022 school year (October 7, 2021) as he discusses Assessment to Promote Deeper Learning: How strong foundations engage students and propel their learning. [Register as a participant.](#)

Focus on Assessment Literacy

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## College Board Corner

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

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

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

### REMINDERS

#### Fall 2021 Testing

Recent legislation signed by Governor Whitmer contains language that requires districts to make available the PSAT 8/9 for Grade 9, PSAT/NMSQT for Grades 10 and 11, and SAT for Grade 12 in Fall 2021.

- Students who were unable to take the assessment in Spring 2021 are eligible to take the applicable fall assessment.
- Students who took a College Board assessment in Spring 2021 and request to take the test again are eligible to take the applicable fall assessment.
- Students may participate but are not required to take Fall 2021 assessments.
- Results from Fall 2021 assessments will not be included in accountability reporting.
- The SAT Essay is not available in Fall 2021.
- Schools must order assessments in the College Board test ordering site for Fall 2021 testing.

Grade in Spring 2021	Grade in Fall 2021	Applicable Fall Assessment
8	9	PSAT 8/9
9	10	PSAT/NMSQT
10	11	PSAT/NMSQT
11	12	SAT

Spring 2022 testing for state accountability will be required whether students test in Fall 2021 or not.

College Board and the Michigan Department of Education are working on details for the ordering and payment processes for Fall 2021. More information will be available in a future Spotlight.

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





## Reminders

### ACT WorkKeys Score Reports

School- and student-level paper reports have been mailed to test coordinators and are due to arrive **August 9-13, 2021**. Refer to the August 5, 2021 [Spotlight Newsletter](http://www.michigan.gov/mde-spotlight) ([www.michigan.gov/mde-spotlight](http://www.michigan.gov/mde-spotlight)) for more information about:

- which reports are included in the shipment
- National Career Readiness Certificates (NCRCs)
- student access to [myworkkeys.com](http://myworkkeys.com) ([www.myworkkeys.com](http://www.myworkkeys.com)).

If you have not yet received your reports, ensure your mailing information in the Educational Entity Master (EEM) system is current. If your information 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](http://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 at the [Secure Site Training web page](http://www.michigan.gov/securesitetraining) ([www.michigan.gov/securesitetraining](http://www.michigan.gov/securesitetraining)) under the Miscellaneous section. Nonpublic schools that want to update their EEM information can call 517-241-5385 or email [nonpublicschools@michigan.gov](mailto:nonpublicschools@michigan.gov) with their updates.

ACT will begin reshipping returned package(s) the week of **August 16, 2021**.

If your school:

- was closed at the time of delivery, 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.

**REMINDER:** The Spring 2021 ACT WorkKeys reports and data are **embargoed** until the public release of the assessment results. Districts and schools will be notified through the Spotlight on Student Assessment and Accountability Newsletter when the embargo has been lifted.

**IMPORTANT:** While individual student results may be shared with parents when 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. School board meetings are considered open meetings; therefore, the sharing of embargoed assessment results at these meetings is not permissible until the embargo is lifted.

Refer to the August 5, 2021 [Spotlight Newsletter](http://www.michigan.gov/mde-spotlight) ([www.michigan.gov/mde-spotlight](http://www.michigan.gov/mde-spotlight)) for more information about the embargo.

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## 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](http://www.act.org/aap/state/contact.html))
2. call ACT at 800-553-6244 between 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. ET
  - » standard time: ext. 2800
  - » accommodations: ext. 1788
3. email accommodations questions to [ACTStateAccoms@act.org](mailto:ACTStateAccoms@act.org)

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

## Important Dates

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13

### August 2021

#### WIDA

August 18, 2021 from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

- **WIDA Screener Overview Webinar**  
[Join WIDA Screener Overview Webinar](https://wida-screener-overview-webinar.eventbrite.com) (https://wida-screener-overview-webinar.eventbrite.com)

#### Early Literacy and Mathematics

Now – October 28, 2021

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

#### Early Literacy and Mathematics

August 23 – October 29, 2021

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

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

## 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"><li>1. Eligibility, MDE policies, and OEAA Secure Site Support</li><li>2. SAT, PSAT 8/9, and PSAT 10 – College Board</li><li>3. WorkKeys – ACT</li></ol>
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](mailto:mde-oeaa@michigan.gov)

For accountability questions:

[mde-accountability@michigan.gov](mailto: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