

Spotlight

on Student Assessment and Accountability

What's New

Week of August 26, 2021

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Reminder about Embargoed Data

Aggregated data from the Spring 2021 M-STEP, SAT, PSAT, and MI-Access assessments were made available to authorized users on Tuesday, August 24, 2021. The data are found in MI School Data, the OEAA Secure Site, and the OEAA Dynamic Score Reporting Site.

Reminder: Spring 2021 test results are embargoed until the public release of these results on August 31, 2021.

While individual student results may be shared with parents now, 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.

For detailed information on the data and reports available in the Secure Site and the Dynamic Score Reporting Site, refer to these articles from previous Spotlight newsletters:

- [August 19: Embargoed Aggregated Assessment Data Coming Soon](#)
- [August 19: Additional Spring 2021 Student Level Reports Available This Week](#)
- [August 19: No Embargo for WIDA ACCESS for ELLs & WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Scores](#)
- [August 13: Spring 2021 Student Data Files and Select M-STEP and MI-Access Student-level Reports Available](#)
- [August 5: Embargoed Spring 2021 Student Data Files Now Available](#)
- [August 5: College Board and ACT WorkKeys Test Results Embargo Reminder.](#)

Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments

The DRC-administered Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments are high-quality assessments aligned to Michigan Standards. Assessment options within the Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments vary in length of time and focus to adapt to each educator's needs.

Educators can choose from the following assessments:

- **Interim Comprehensive Assessments (ICAs)** - measures similar content as the M-STEP
- **Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs)** - can be used throughout the year to assess smaller bundles of content
- **Focused Interim Assessment Blocks (Focused IABs)** - can be used throughout the year to assess up to three assessment targets to gain a detailed understanding of student learning.

Key features of the Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments:

1. Interim Comprehensive Assessments (ICAs) no longer require Educator Scoring
2. Interim Comprehensive Assessments (ICAs) have reduced testing time based on educator/administrator feedback
3. All test questions are in the same format and style as Michigan's summative assessments
4. Predictive of student performance on the M-STEP summative assessments
5. Easy-to-use technology platform that Michigan educators already use and know as it is the same online learning platform used for M-STEP, MI-Access, and WIDA assessments
6. Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments are fully integrated with the Michigan Data Hub

Reports are intuitive and user friendly, with fast results and the ability to track student progress over time. Assessment results are also linked to the Tools for Teachers digital platform, a rich resource created by teachers with materials, activities, and lessons that can be used to improve student learning.

For more information on using the Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments, contact Christi Linton at clinton@datarecognitioncorp.com or Ryan Nelson at rnelson@datarecognitioncorp.com.

Federal Requirement 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](#).

Are you new to WIDA?

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

- [New to WIDA?](#) - directions on how to get access to the variety of systems you will need to access
- [Michigan WIDA Screener & W-APT Policy Manual](#) - basic information about screening students who may be eligible for EL services.

Important: Changes Coming to the WIDA Secure Portal

The WIDA Secure Portal is getting a makeover! Go to WIDA's new web page, [Redesigned WIDA Secure Portal: Coming September 2021](#), to learn about what's changing and what you can do to get ready for the change, as well as upcoming opportunities to get more information. Be sure to read the section entitled "What do I need to do to get ready?".

The redesigned portal will look and feel like the public WIDA website, with relevant assessment training, professional learning, and resources that are easier to find.

2020-2021 Graduation Rate Appeals Window

The Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) has opened the 2020-2021 Graduation Rate Appeals Window in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS). Appealable Graduation Rates were published in the Graduation and Dropout (GAD) application on August 2, 2021.

CEPI sent communication to all schools and districts; however, we are following up on that communication to stress the importance of ensuring graduation rate data are carefully reviewed and that any necessary corrections are made now.

Graduation rates are an important part of accountability calculations. If you have not already done so, take advantage of the opportunity to review and potentially appeal your graduation rate data for the 2020-2021 school year. During the appeals window, you can report end-of-summer graduates, submit cohort year changes, update exit status, and request unique identification code (UIC) linking.

Graduation rates can only be appealed during the graduate rate appeals window in the MSDS through September 15, 2021.

It is imperative that you review your graduation rate data during the appeals window; these data will impact 2021-2022 accountability results. While we are fully committed to ensuring accurate data in graduation rate reporting, we must also meet certain reporting deadlines that do not allow us to change data after the graduation rate appeals window has closed. Take time to review these data now to ensure your school and district graduation rates are accurate.

For the most up-to-date information on the appeals window, visit the [CEPI MSDS Graduation and Dropout Information web page](#). This webpage includes numerous user support materials, including a user guide, frequently asked questions, and a summary of district action needed.

If you have any questions, send an email message to CEPI customer support at CEPI@michigan.gov. Include your name, telephone number (including area code and extension), and school/district name along with your message.

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

WHAT'S NEW

Fall 2021 Administration of the SAT Suite of Assessments College Board Webinar

Recent legislation in Michigan requires schools to make the following SAT Suite of assessments available to students in Fall 2021: SAT, PSAT/NMSQT, and PSAT 8/9 for Grade 9.

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

The College Board Michigan Field Team will conduct a webinar during the week of August 30, 2021, to address how to plan for and order assessments in the College Board Test Ordering System (TOS) for the Fall 2021 administration. Watch for additional information coming soon from your ISD/RESA.

If you missed the Fall 2021 SAT, PSAT/NMSQT Accommodations Deadline

The accommodations deadline for Fall 2021 SAT and PSAT/NMSQT was August 24. Submission by the deadline was to guarantee a review by the October test dates if documentation was required to be submitted. As a reminder, the SSD Online site remains open. If you missed the deadline, you can submit your request as soon as possible. Your request may go through the school verification processes and be approved within a few days, depending on the request being made.

Note: The test ordering site will not indicate that the Michigan Department of Education will be paying for the assessments this fall. More information will be available about the invoicing process soon.

Schools must have a Level 2 AI Code to order assessments in the College Board test ordering site. If you receive an error indicating you cannot order assessments, it is because your school only has a Level 1 AI Code.

The quickest way to convert your Level 1 AI Code to a Level 2 AI Code is to fill out this [online form](https://aiform.cds-prod.collegeboard.org) (<https://aiform.cds-prod.collegeboard.org>). The process usually takes about 5 days.

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

REMINDERS

Fall 2021 Dates and Deadlines

- All Fall 2021 assessments must be ordered in the [College Board Test Ordering Site](http://ordering.collegeboard.org) (<http://ordering.collegeboard.org>). **Do not order assessments for Spring 2022 in the Test Ordering Site.**
- PSAT 8/9 can be administered digitally or in the paper/pencil mode. PSAT/NMSQT and SAT are paper-based only assessments.
- Cohorts of students can be flexibly scheduled for testing on any of the available test dates for PSAT 8/9 and SAT School Day.
- Schools can choose two of the three designated testing dates to administer PSAT/NMSQT. If schools want to offer the Saturday option, they must also offer one of the other weekday options.
- Students in grades 10 and 11 can take the PSAT/NMSQT in the same testing room, if necessary.
- Schools can start testing earlier and/or later in the day than usual and split their students into different testing groups on a single day. All testing must start before the first group to test completes testing. In other words, no group of students can begin testing after another group has completed the test.
- All SAT test books must be returned to the College Board.
- PSAT/NMSQT test books administered on Saturday, October 16 must be returned to College Board.
- All other test books can be securely stored and returned to students when scores are released.
- College Board does not approve accommodations for PSAT 8/9 in the fall. Desired accommodations can be ordered and administered, as needed, by the school. Approvals are required in SSD Online for testing in Spring 2022.
- For more information on each assessment:
 - » [SAT School Day](https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/k12-educators/sat-school-day/timeline) (<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/k12-educators/sat-school-day/timeline>)
 - » [PSAT/NMSQT](https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/k12-educators) (<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/k12-educators>)
 - » [PSAT 8/9](https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-8-9/k12-educators/dates) (<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-8-9/k12-educators/dates>)

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Assessment	Test Dates/Windows	Important Dates
PSAT 8/9 for Grade 9	Window opens September 20. Testing must be concluded by October 29	Order test books: No later than four weeks prior to your chosen test date
PSAT/NMSQT for Grades 10 and 11	Wednesday, October 13 Saturday, October 16* Tuesday, October 26	Request accommodations: August 24 Deadline to Order Test Books: September 15
SAT for Grade 12	Wednesday, October 13 Thursday, October 28	Request accommodations: August 24 Deadline to Order Test Books: September 15
* Schools that provide Saturday testing must also provide a weekday testing option.		

Fall 2021 Testing

Recent legislation signed by Governor Whitmer contains language that requires districts to make the PSAT 8/9 for Grade 9, PSAT/NMSQT for Grades 10 and 11, and SAT for Grade 12 available 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 they 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 or not students test in Fall 2021.

College Board and the Michigan Department of Education are working on the details of 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

Important Dates

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

August 2021

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

Now – 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"> 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

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