

Spotlight

on Student Assessment and Accountability

What's New

Week of June 10, 2021

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Thank You for Your Hard Work and Dedication

The Spring 2021 M-STEP and MI-Access testing windows are now closed. The Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability says “Thank you!” to all the schools and districts that administered state summative assessments during this challenging year.

We all had hoped for a federal waiver of state assessments, but that did not materialize. Schools and districts across Michigan really stepped up to assess as many of their students as possible. We thank you for administering not only the M-STEP and MI-Access, but also for the time and planning you put into the administration of the WIDA, SAT, PSAT, ACT WorkKeys, and other legislatively mandated assessments.

Thank you for all you do to support Michigan students.

Spring 2021 Answer Documents Received and Students Not Tested

The Answer Documents Received and Students Not Tested review period will be split into two different windows for Spring 2021. Answer Documents Received will be held from **June 22 – June 28, 2021** and Students Not Tested from **June 29 – July 2, 2021**.

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Answer Documents Received

There are a few notable changes to the Answer Documents Received and Not Tested Students for Spring 2021.

- Answer Documents Received for all Spring 2021 assessments will be available at the same time. This means SAT, PSAT for grades 8, 9, 10, WorkKeys, MI-Access, M-STEP, and WIDA ACCESS and WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs will be available for concurrent review.
- Issues related to the answer documents for all assessments listed above can be reported for resolution through the OEAA Secure Site **June 22 – June 28, 2021, 5 p.m.**

During the Answer Documents Received window, schools be able to review answer documents received for all assessments and submit issues as needed. All answer document issues must be submitted through the OEAA Secure Site by **5 p.m. June 28, 2021**.

This is the only opportunity schools will have to review the Answer Documents Received and Not Tested Students page to do the following:

- ensure all tests taken have been received, both paper/pencil and online, and report any missing tests that were taken
- verify other answer document information, such as tests marked for prohibited behavior, nonstandard accommodations
- if applicable, review the Invalid tab and fix those that can be fixed by **5 p.m. June 28, 2021**, to ensure valid scores

You are strongly urged to read the [Answer Documents Received and Not Tested Students](#) instructions on the [Secure Site Training web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/securesitetraining). This document walks you through

the process, gives pointers on what to look for, shows how to report issues, and how to fix an error when possible, along with how to identify possible issues.

Students enrolled in the school based on the information in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) will be listed on the Answer Documents Received and Not Tested Students page and indicated as tested or untested.

- Students who are included as accountable (meaning enrolled on the last day of testing) but tested elsewhere, will be displayed and indicated as tested, and the building where they were tested will be shown.
- If a student is included as accountable (meaning enrolled on the last day of testing) but was not enrolled, the student's withdrawal from the school should be reported and certified in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) by **5 p.m. June 28, 2021**, using an "as of date" on or before:
 - » **April 9, 2021** for the WIDA ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs (English Learners)
 - » **June 4, 2021 for students in grades 3-11** for SAT, PSAT (for grades 8, 9, 10), WorkKeys, MI-Access, and M-STEP. These students are on the Answer Documents Received list to help the school identify possible missing tests and assist with accurate enrollment.

Students Not Tested

- The Students Not Tested window will be open **June 29 – July 2, 2021, 5 p.m.**
 - » Not Tested reasons are only needed for the SAT, PSAT 8, M-STEP, MI-Access, and WIDA ACCESS and WIDA Alternate ACCESS for

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ELLs. Answer documents not received for these assessments will automatically be identified by OEAA with a Not Tested reason of “COVID Related”.

- » Schools are not required or expected to change the default Not Tested reason. The Not Tested reason may be changed, however it is not expected.
- » Not Tested reasons are not collected for the PSAT (grades 9 and 10) and WorkKeys.

For information and resources to help with process changes for the Spring 2021 Students Not Tested, check out the article in the **Reminder** section:

[Michigan School Accountability: New Students Not Tested Resource](#)

The Students Not Tested portion of the Answer Documents Received and Students Not Tested will be populated with the generic “COVID Related” reason, as detailed above. Schools can verify and review the Students Not Tested information, but they are not required or expected to change it.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Submission of student data in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) for assessment and some accountability reporting must be submitted and certified in MSDS by **5 p.m. June 28, 2021**, with an “as of date” on or before:

- **April 9, 2021** for the WIDA ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs (English Learners),
- **June 4, 2021 for students in grades 3-11** for SAT, PSAT (for grades 8, 9, 10), WorkKeys, MI-Access, and M-STEP.



Reminders

Michigan School Accountability: New Students Not Tested Resource

A new resource from the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability (OEAA) – [Updates for Spring 2021 Students Not Tested](#) – is a brief overview of the updated process for reporting and reviewing Students Not Tested on Spring 2021 summative assessments.

- Students Not Tested issues will be reviewed and reported in the OEAA Secure Site during the Accountable Students and Test Verification windows following the administration of spring assessments.
- A new Not Tested reason of “COVID Related” will be populated for all students who were expected to be tested but for whom no test(s) were received.
- Schools will be able (but not required) to change the pre-loaded “COVID Related” reason to other Not Tested reasons.
- Documentation for any Not Tested reason may be submitted, but is not required, for Spring 2021 assessments.

These changes to the current year’s Students Not Tested process were necessary in light of the federal school accountability waiver that the Michigan

Department of Education (MDE) recently received. The changes are designed to make the updated Students Not Tested process as minimally burdensome on schools and districts as possible, accommodating increases in the number of Students Not Tested among schools this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additional information and resources on school accountability can be found on the MDE [School Accountability web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/mde-accountability).

WIDA ACCESS for ELLs Online Speaking Test Survey

WIDA wants to know what you think of the WIDA ACCESS for ELLs Online Speaking test, and what speaking activities you use in your classroom.

To help WIDA improve the WIDA ACCESS for ELLs Online Speaking test, please respond to this [survey](#) (www.surveymonkey.com/r/SpeakingTest). It should take no more than 15 minutes to complete the survey, which will close on **June 28, 2021**.

Assessment Literacy Summer Reading List

Are you planning your summer reading list? Summer 2021 may be the perfect time to learn more about what it means to be “assessment literate.” Check out these six titles by some leading experts in the field of assessment and assessment literacy, endorsed by the Michigan Assessment Consortium (MAC).

- [Assessing Student Learners by Design: Principles and Practices for Teachers and School Leaders](#) (2021) by Jay McTighe and Steve Ferrara

Classroom assessments not only can be used to gather appropriate evidence of whether students are meeting learning goals but can also promote their learning as well. This book offers a novel Assessment Planning Framework that suggests a wide range of classroom assessment activities, including performance-based assessments.

Bonus value: Check out the [Book Chat](#) with Jay McTighe and the Michigan Assessment Consortium on Vimeo.

- [Formative Assessment in the Disciplines: Framing a Continuum of Professional Learning](#) (2020) by Margaret Heritage and E. Caroline Wylie

The authors explore how teaching, formative assessment, and disciplinary knowledge interconnect. They offer a framework that will help teachers develop and extend discipline-based formative assessment practices across the continuum of pre-service and professional learning.

Bonus value: Check out the [Book Chat](#) with Margaret Heritage and the Michigan Assessment Consortium on Vimeo.

- [Ten Assessment Literacy Goals for School Leaders](#) (2021) by Steve Chappuis, Susan M. Brookhart, and Jan Chappuis.

This book will shepherd you and your leadership team through 10 assessment literacy goals using practical content, “how-to”s, success indicators, and activities designed to process and broaden learning. The key takeaways are understanding the attributes of comprehensive and balanced assessment systems, the necessity for clear academic achievement targets, and why assessment quality is essential.

- [How to Give Effective Feedback to Your Students, Second Edition](#) (2017) by Susan M. Brookhart.

In this updated and expanded second edition of her best-selling book, the author offers three questions for determining the effectiveness of feedback: Does it conform to the research? Does it offer an episode of learning for the student and teacher? Does the student use the feedback to extend learning?

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- [Giving Students a Say: Smarter Assessment Practices to Empower and Engage](#) (2021) by Myon Dueck.

In this engrossing and well-researched book, the author offers several examples of educators who are using assessment in transformative ways to engage and empower students. He also reveals surprising insight into the interaction of memory and learning that calls for rethinking how we measure what students know and can do.

- [The Assessment Playbook for Distance and Blended Learning: Measuring Student Learning in Any Setting](#) (2020) by Douglas Fisher, Nancy Frey, Vince Bustamante, and John Hattie.

Often, the assessments used in face-to-face classrooms are not always practical or effective in remote learning environments. If you are teaching from a distance, how will you assess what your students have learned? This book answers that question with a wide range of examples, strategies, and assessments that can be implemented with rigor and fidelity, regardless of learning environment.

Happy reading! The Focus on Assessment Literacy series in Spotlight will resume in September, 2021.

Put into Practice

For 2021-2022, MAC Reads is featuring the Margaret Heritage/E. Caroline Wylie book listed above, *Formative Assessment in the Disciplines*, with several discipline-specific book study options that can be joined by a group or an individual.

For a list of study groups and how to join each one, visit the [MAC Reads 2021 web page](#).



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

WHAT'S NEW

College Board Test Ordering Site Now Open for Fall 2021

The College Board Test Ordering Site is now open for schools/districts to order Fall 2021 SAT School Day, PSAT/NMSQT, and PSAT 8/9 assessments. Administration of these assessments in the fall is optional. **Your school or district will be responsible for paying for the Fall 2021 College Board assessments you choose to provide to your students.**

As a reminder, the Michigan-provided Spring 2022 SAT School Day, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9 are not ordered in the Test Ordering Site.

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



Verification of Answer Documents Received

The Michigan Department of Education's answer document verification process on the OEAA Secure Site lets schools verify that all their students' answer documents have been received and processed by ACT. The window to review and report missing WorkKeys answer documents is June 22-28, 2021. For more information, see the *Spring 2021 Answer Documents Received and Students Not Tested* article on [page 1](#) of this newsletter.

ACT WorkKeys Score Reports

School- and student-level paper reports will be mailed to test coordinators and are due to arrive in the week of **August 30, 2021**. The shipment will include the following reports:

- **Individual Summary Score Report** — a student-level report containing Level and Scale scores with explanations of what the scores mean. The test coordinators will receive one paper report per student, to be given to the student.
- **Summary Score Report** — a student-level report containing the student's Level and Scale scores but without the explanations of what the scores mean. The test coordinator will receive one paper report per student, to be retained by the school.

- **Roster Score Report** — a roster of students showing test scores and when students took the assessment. The test coordinator will receive one paper report, to be retained by the school.

Resources to help you and your students understand and use their scores are available on the [ACT-hosted website](#) (www.act.org/stateanddistrict/michigan), on the **WorkKeys on Paper** page in the **Interpretation** stage.

ACT WorkKeys National Career Readiness Certificate® (ACT WorkKeys NCRC)

Students who achieve a minimum score of 3 or higher on each of the three ACT WorkKeys subject tests will earn an ACT WorkKeys National Career Readiness Certificate (or an ACT WorkKeys NCRC en Español if they took the tests in Spanish). The scores on these assessments determine the certification level.

- A minimum score of 3 out of 7 on all three assessments: **Bronze**
- A minimum score of 4 out of 7 on all three assessments: **Silver**
- A minimum score of 5 out of 7 on all three assessments: **Gold**
- A minimum score of 6 out of 7 on all three assessments: **Platinum**

The NCRC documents that the student possesses skills essential to workplace success. This documentation may improve career outcomes for

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ACT WorkKeys

students just entering the workforce, and enhance employers' hiring, training, and promotion decisions.

For more information about NCRCs, go to [ACT WorkKeys National Career Readiness Certificate](#).

Printed certificates will not be mailed to the test coordinator. Instead, students can print their own certificate at myworkkeys.com at no charge.

Student Access to MyWorkKeys.com

Students can view their scores online and print their own National Career Readiness Certificate starting July 30, 2021 by creating their free account at myworkkeys.com.

Students will provide the following five matching criteria when creating an account:

- First name
- Last name
- Month of birth
- Day of birth
- State Assigned Student ID Number (SASID)

Note: The SASID is the same number as the Unique Identification Code (UIC) that is assigned through the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) for each student.

Scores and certificates will be available online indefinitely.

A *Quick Start Guide* is available on the myworkkeys.com login page. The guide contains instructions on creating an account, sharing NCRC information with prospective employers, and other valuable features.

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 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

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

Important Dates

June 2021

June 22-28, 2021

- Window to verify Answer Documents Received for **WIDA ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs, SAT, PSAT 8/9, PSAT 10, ACT WorkKeys, M-STEP, and MI-Access**

June 29 – July 2, 2021

- Students Not Tested window for **WIDA ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs, SAT, PSAT 8/9, PSAT 10, ACT WorkKeys, M-STEP, and MI-Access**

Early Literacy and Mathematics

Now – June 29, 2021

- **Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments (K-2)** Pre-identification of students in OEAA Secure Site window

Now – June 30, 2021

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

July 2021

Wednesday, July 28, 2021, 10-11 a.m.

- **DRC Webinar: Technology Coordinator Training** – applies to the Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments, WIDA Screener, WIDA ACCESS for ELLs, and Spring 2022 testing
[Join webinar](https://datarecognitioncorp.zoom.us/j/94405940716) (https://datarecognitioncorp.zoom.us/j/94405940716)



Upcoming Events

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

Building a Better Assessment Future

Virtual Conference

June 28-30, 2021

9:00 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Did you know that about 80 percent of the assessments given to students are the result of decisions made by local educators? Those decisions will be the focus of the [Building a Better Assessment Future](#) virtual conference. This “not-to-be-missed” event offers support for district teams as they reimagine their districts’ assessment systems and improve learning for all students.

The BBAF conference will take place **June 28-30, 2021** and is hosted by [Michigan Assessment Consortium \(MAC\)](#) in partnership with Michigan Department of Education’s [FAME](#) (Formative Assessment for Michigan Educators) program and [Oakland Schools](#). Event participants will hear from and engage with respected national and international assessment experts, such as Susan Brookhart, Jan Chappuis, Margaret Heritage, Jim Pellegrino, Ken O’Connor, and Rick Stiggins.

Participants will also have ample time to work with Michigan assessment leaders, reflect on their current assessment practices, and collaborate to find new opportunities to improve student learning through assessment.

Come as a team or attend on your own!

Educators and policy makers at all levels are invited to attend with schools/districts encouraged to register and work in teams of three or more. The event will feature group work time and office hours with selected experts, allowing participants to address their schools’ unique opportunities. Plus, the FAME program and the MAC will support each team’s work after the conference through private consultation and group engagements designed to keep the collaboration going.

Learn more

Download and share the [BBAF conference flyer](#).

Find more details and register on the [Conference event page](#) (bit.ly/MAC-BBAF).

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