

ACCOUNTABILITY UPDATE

Office of Educational Accountability

Preliminary Report Cards: *Now Available*

The secure and preliminary 2016-17 Accountability Report Cards are available in SAFE, as of Tuesday, October, 17. As a **secure and preliminary report, the report cards are embargoed** until the public release in November (date to be determined). The secure release is an opportunity for schools and districts to review their preliminary report card and build understanding within your district prior to the public release. Consider using the [secure release checklist](#) as you review your preliminary report card.

Report Card Inquiry Period: *October 17 - 24*

The secure release of the preliminary report cards marks the start of a one-week inquiry period. The inquiry period is an opportunity for schools and districts to contact OEA if they suspect incorrect data was submitted to DPI and subsequently used in the accountability calculations. Schools and districts **should review their preliminary report card as soon as possible and complete the short submission form by October 24, 2017**. This is not a deadline for the completion of a data exchange that may come with a corrections inquiry; simply a deadline for the submission of the form. [Click here to start a report card inquiry](#).

Score Fluctuations

While conducting internal reviews and quality assurance checks prior to the secure release of the preliminary Accountability Report Cards, OEA staff noted **large score changes for many – but not all – schools and districts**. Compared to last year's report card scores, these fluctuations appear in both Overall Scores and particularly in the Growth priority area scores. Value-Added calculations are driving the bulk of the score fluctuations, likely due to the statewide assessment change (from Badger in 2014-15 to Forward in 2015-16 and 2016-17) upon which growth calculations rest. We expect volatility in value-added scores will decrease with another year of Forward testing. However, variable weighting exacerbates growth score fluctuations, and as such, some score fluctuations are likely to continue, especially for smaller schools and districts which are more impacted by statistical variance given small numbers. Further, because variable weighting is contingent on rates of economically disadvantaged (ECD) students, these fluctuations have more impact on schools and districts with high ECD rates.

Both value-added and variable weighting are specifically required in state law. Stabilizing accountability scoring and investing in the integrity of the accountability system is a top priority, but any modifications to these metrics requires legislative action. To that end, the department is engaging state policymakers, growth experts and stakeholders about how best to address these issues.

Report Card Resources

OEA has created a number of [accountability resources](#) to help you better understand and explain the Accountability Report Cards. We strive for a valid, reliable, and fair accountability system and have been working to produce the most accurate report cards possible. We also strive for transparency and stakeholder engagement to increase understanding of the state accountability system. We will share

resources in the interest of both of those goals. Please use these resources as you work to build understanding of the Accountability Report Cards and let us know if you need any additional support. Questions specific to the report cards and the data used for accountability can be sent to: reportcardhelp@dpi.wi.gov.

~OEA

WISCONSIN STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM UPDATE

Office of Student Assessment

ESSA Waiver Hearing

Under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the number of students who may take the alternate assessment is limited to no more than 1 percent of the total of all students in the state who are assessed in a given subject. States are required to seek a waiver of this cap if anticipated that the state will exceed the 1 percent cap. The department anticipates the cap will be exceeded for the 2017-18 school year and is requesting a waiver from the secretary of the U.S. Department of Education. The department is seeking public input as part of this process. Please see the [DPI website](#) for more information.

OSA Office Hours Webinar

Thank you for joining the September OSA Office Hours webinar. The OSA team appreciates the opportunity to connect with you on assessment-related topics. Please visit the [DAC Resources & Trainings webpage](#) for the PowerPoint slides and the archived webinar. The PowerPoint slides and webinar are now posted. The next office hours is scheduled for November 16 from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Forward Exam

Reminder:

2018 Forward Exam District Technology Coordinator Training

This training is a webinar on Wednesday October 25 from 1:00 - 3 p.m., and is intended for district technology coordinators (DTCs) and any other technology staff that will be assisting in the setup, configuration, and monitoring of technology for the Spring 2018 administration of the Forward Exam. We'll include:

- An overview of software and configurations
- What's new and different for the Spring 2018 administration
- Overview of Central Office and TSM
- Where to download the testing software
- How to configure the testing software on all device types

You'll also have the opportunity to ask questions related to the Forward Exam software and technology. This event will be delivered online via a Skype meeting. [Click Here to Register for the DTC Training](#)

TTS/Read Aloud Accommodation Change

New this year is a change to the Text-to-Speech (TTS)/read aloud accommodation for the Forward Exam. The TTS/read aloud **accommodation** allows the student to listen to ELA test information displayed on the screen, including test directions, questions, answer choices, and **ELA reading passages**. This accommodation may only be provided to a student with visual impairments who is not proficient in contracted Braille, whose need is documented in an IEP or 504 plan and has met all five criteria on the *Guidelines for Administration of the TTS/Read Aloud Accommodation for the Forward Exam* form. Students who do not meet this criteria, but require TTS or read aloud, should use the Designated Support, including those with IEP or 504 plans. TTS/read aloud designated support allows the student to listen to test information displayed on the screen, including test directions, questions, and answer choices for all content areas (just not the ELA session 4 reading passages). The *Guidelines for Administration of the TTS/Read Aloud Accommodation for the Forward Exam* form and more information will be available in the 2017-18 Accessibility Guide.

Updated Important note: DACs should *remove permissions from and make inactive* any individuals in eDIRECT who are no longer employed by the district and adjust user roles to sync with recent staffing changes.

Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)

Reminder:

Required Test Administration Training- All District Assessment Coordinators have now been added to [Moodle](#) as facilitated trainers. Please see the [Guide to the DLM Required Test Administration Training](#) for login information.

All test administrators (anyone with a ‘teacher’ role in Educator Portal) must complete the required training prior to administering the DLM assessment and the optional instructional assessments (Instructional Tools Interface or ITI). Returning test administrators will be required to complete a refresher module and quiz as well as a science module and quiz (approximately one hour and 25 minutes). New test administrators within the DLM system will be expected to complete four required modules and quizzes (approximately three hours). The training modules are now available. We encourage test administrators to complete their training as early as possible and to not wait until the test window to complete the modules.

KITE® Client is the secure browser used by students taking Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) assessments. Please ensure that the most recent version of KITE Client is installed on devices. For new devices that have never had KITE Client installed, please see the instructions for downloading KITE 5.0 on the DLM website under the [KITE Suite](#) heading. For devices that have a previous version of KITE Client (version 3.0 was used during the 2016-17 school year), the KITE Client interface will be automatically updated to KITE Client 5.0 for the 2017-18 school year.

- Auto-update will be prompted when the device is powered on, connected to the internet, and KITE Client is launched.
- Auto-update went out August 31, 2017.
- After the update is downloaded, the user will be prompted to restart the KITE Client.

The auto-update takes about 10 minutes. Be sure to allow enough time for the auto-update.

School Assessment Type - Alternate (SATA)

In an effort to more accurately identify students anticipated to take the DLM alternate assessment under the new ESSA participation cap, we are asking districts to utilize the Student Characteristic SATA in WISEdata. The department will be including additional validations around this indicator beginning on October 12, 2017. All students taking the alternate assessment (DLM) must qualify as a student with the most significant cognitive disabilities as outlined below.

In Wisconsin, a student with the most significant cognitive disability:

- typically is characterized as functioning at least two and a half to three standard deviations below the mean in both adaptive behavior and cognitive functioning; **and**
- performs substantially below grade level expectations on the academic content standards for the grade in which they are enrolled, even with the use of adaptations and accommodations; **and**
- requires extensive, direct individualized instruction and substantial supports to achieve measurable gains, across all content areas and settings.

Only a student who meets these criteria and participates in the alternate academic achievement standards may take the alternate assessment.

ACT HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS

ACT with writing and WorkKeys

Coming soon

Within the next two weeks, ACT plans to send a welcome email and instructions to log into the test administration and accommodations portals. The emails will go to test coordinators on file in PearsonAccessNext and district assessment coordinators (DACs). Also, stay tuned for the Schedule of Events for ACT / WorkKeys.

How to update test coordinator contact information

DACs must update test coordinator contact information in the vendor portals. Stay tuned for an email from ACT in the next two weeks with instructions on how to log into PearsonAccessNext and manage test coordinator contact information for ACT and WorkKeys.

Save the date for the accommodations Q&A Training Session webinar - November 8, 10:00 a.m.

ACT test coordinators should plan attend the accommodations Q&A session via webinar on Wednesday, November 8 at 10:00 a.m. Registration link coming soon.

Prepare for submitting accommodations requests - deadline January 12

Detailed instructions are coming soon from ACT. The information below is an overview to help prepare for accommodations testing.

ACT

- In order for students to use accommodations on the ACT, test coordinators must submit accommodations requests with documentation. Requests must be submitted using the Test Accessibility and Accommodations (TAA) system.

- If students have previously approved ACT accommodations, test coordinators will still need to take action in TAA to apply the accommodations to the statewide test date.
- Around November 1, DACs and last year’s test coordinators will receive an email from ACT with instructions on how to access TAA.
- The window to submit accommodations requests opens November 6.
- Accommodations requests must be submitted by January 12.
- Resources:
 - [List of Allowable Accessibility Supports](#)
 - [DPI ACT Accommodations Webpage](#)

WorkKeys

- Test coordinators must place an order for the appropriate accommodations materials in PearsonAccessNext.
- In the next two weeks, DACs and last year’s test coordinators will receive an email from ACT with instructions on how to access PearsonAccessNext.
- The window to order WorkKeys accommodated materials opens January 10.
- The deadline to order WorkKeys accommodated materials is January 17.
- Resources:
 - [WorkKeys Accessibility Guide](#)
 - [DPI ACT Accommodations Webpage](#)

Reminder

Test date options

- Schools and districts may choose to offer the WorkKeys on the initial test day (February 28) or the makeup day (March 21).
- **Schools will need to make a manual selection in PearsonAccess^{Next} in order to have materials shipped for the correct test date.**
- Further instructions for selecting test dates in PearsonAccess^{Next} will be sent via the DAC Digest and bi-weekly ACT emails.

Aspire

How to download Aspire reports

- Go to www.actaspire.org (if needed, click on “forgot password” and go through the steps).
- Log in and then go to “Summative Tests” in the black header bar.
- Click on “View Summative Reports” from the drop down menu.
- Click on the blue “School” or “District” button.
- For individual student reports, find “one page ISR” on the list of reports. (You can use the “Report Name” menu to filter by report type.)
- Click on the blue icon in the “action” column to download the selected reports.

For a list of Aspire reports available to educators, schools, and districts, please see the [Spring 2017 Summative Reports Guide](#).

More information, including a sample parent/guardian cover letter and links to the *Understanding Your ACT Aspire Results Guide* and *Interpretive Guide for ACT Aspire Summative Reports*, can be found at the [DPI ACT Aspire Data and Results webpage](#).

Reading Readiness

- For the 2017-18 school year, districts are once again required to administer a reading readiness screener to all 4-year-old kindergarten through 2nd grade students. [Wis. Stats. 118.016](#) indicates that each district is responsible for choosing the screener or screeners to administer with the requirement being that any screener administered must evaluate whether a pupil possesses phonemic awareness and letter sound knowledge.

In addition to the requirement to administer a literacy screener, the following conditions apply:

- The department shall pay to the district the per pupil cost of the selected assessment. If the appropriation in any fiscal year is insufficient to pay the full amount of aid, the state superintendent shall prorate state aid payments among the districts entitled to the aid.
 - The district shall report the results of a pupil's assessment to the pupil's parent or guardian.
 - The district in which the pupil is enrolled shall provide a pupil whose assessment indicates that he or she is at risk of reading difficulty with interventions or remedial reading services, as described under [Wis. Stats. 121.02\(1\)\(c\)](#).
- More information on the reading readiness requirements can be found at: [Reading Readiness Overview](#). In addition, an FAQ section with reimbursement information can be found at: [Reading Readiness FAQ](#).

ACCESS for ELLs

Reminders

- **Ordering ACCESS Materials**
 - Orders will be calculated automatically based on Pre-ID files on November 1
 - Districts may upload Private School Pre-ID Files in October
 - **DPI will upload the Public School Pre-ID on November 1**
 - Roster pull will occur week of 10/23 - have Student Information System (SIS) up to date
 - Districts will receive orders based on these files on November 30
 - DRC will ship extra materials this year to cut down on additional orders
 - Please share between schools in your district before ordering more
 - Return any unused materials at the end of the test window
 - Additional materials can be ordered November 30 - February /2 with 2 day shipping
- Technology
 - The 2017-18 Technology User Guide is now available on the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 [technology page](#).

- The Device Toolkit has been revamped and updated. A tutorial and demo are available [here](#).
- WIDA AMS resources, including the new user guide and short how-to videos, are now available through the “[WIDA AMS](#)” selection on the Assessment drop-down menu on the [main WIDA webpage](#).
- Training
 - The 2017-18 Test Administrator’s Manual and District and School Test Coordinator’s Manual can be found on the “[Preparation and Training](#)” tab on the [ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 webpage](#).
 - There is a new tab on the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 page, “[Preparing Students](#),” with resources educators can use to get their students ready for testing.
 - Staff need an account on the wida.us website to access training.
- Calendar for year posted [here](#).

NAEP and International Assessments

(selected schools only)

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

Reminders

- High schools that have 12th graders selected for NAEP 2018 should have received Best Practices Strategies for Supporting 12th grade NAEP Participation materials in the mail last week.

International Assessments

- Schools selected for TIMSS and ICILS: If you haven’t already, please send angela.dugas@dpi.wi.gov an email indicating who will be the designated school coordinator for the assessment.

Local Assessment Data in WISEdash for Districts

Reminder

As of fall 2017, districts using Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) will have had over three years to opt-in to including results in their WISEdash for Districts dashboards. Overall, there has been very good response. As a result, we have decided to designate the fall term as last-call for new districts to have historical data included when they opt-in. After November 1, new districts will have data included only for the upcoming testing term and later. For more information about the MAP dashboards, see the MAP “[About the Data](#)” WISEdash for Districts page.

DAC DIGEST DIGESTIBLES

Important Dates to Remember

October	2-Nov 1: Upload private school pre-ID files.	ACCESS
	15: NAEP school coordinators complete <i>Provide School Information</i> form on MyNAEP	NAEP
	25: Forward Technology Training webinar	Forward
	25: Forward Technology User Guide and additional resources available	Forward
November	6: Window for submitting ACT accommodations request opens.	ACT
	8: Test coordinators attend Accommodations Q&A Training Session webinar, 10 a.m.	ACT/WorkKeys
	22: Accessibility Training available	Forward
	30: Test Materials Arrive	ACCESS
	30: Additional materials order window opens	ACCESS
December	20: Braille materials order window opens	FORWARD

Important Tasks to Remember

<input type="checkbox"/> Submit annual DAC and DTC update forms before September 30.	Forward
<input type="checkbox"/> Register for DTC training webinar .	Forward
<input type="checkbox"/> Upload private school pre-file to WIDA-AMS.	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/> Check Webinar Calendar and schedule time to view.	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/> Look for score report information in Educator Portal . Mail home to parents as soon as possible. <i>Please share with teachers as appropriate.</i>	DLM
<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure relevant team members are aware of the information regarding reading readiness assessment at Reading Readiness Overview and Reading Readiness FAQ .	Reading Readiness
<input type="checkbox"/> Note the 2018 and 2019 Aspire, ACT, and WorkKeys dates and communicate them to relevant team members.	Aspire/ACT/WK
<input type="checkbox"/> Clean up users in the Aspire portal. Remove users no longer employed by the district. <input type="checkbox"/> Download Aspire reports. Distribute ISRs to students and families.	Aspire
<input type="checkbox"/> Distribute WorkKeys NCRCs and usernames/passwords to students.	WorkKeys

Online Resource Highlights

As new resources are posted to our website, we will include them here for your convenience. This is NOT an exhaustive list, but meant to highlight resources with significant relevance to our upcoming test windows.

Resource	Description	Assessment
Forward Data and Results	DPI webpage with links to sample ISR cover letters and resources for understanding Forward Reports	Forward
DLM Data and Results	DPI webpage with links to sample ISR cover letters and resources for understanding DLM Reports	DLM

ACT Accommodations	Accommodations and accessibility supports for the ACT high school assessments	Aspire/ACT/WK
ACT EL Supports	English Learner Supports information for the ACT high school assessments	
Extended Time Policy Change	Details and FAQs on the Extended Time Policy Change	ACT
ACCESS for ELLs Calendar	Provides an overview of relevant 2017-18 dates	ACCESS
Standard Setting Impacts	Information on the score changes starting 2016-17	
Report Card Resources	Various resources to assist in understanding, explaining, and using the 2015-16 school and district report card data	OEA

ACCOUNTABILITY UPDATE

Office of Educational Accountability

WISEdata Attendance Snapshot: *October 31*

On Tuesday, October 31, 2017, attendance and discipline data from the 2016-17 school year, reported by your local Student Information System (SIS) to WISEdata, will be locked down in the WISEdata Attendance and Discipline Snapshot. After October 31, 2017, these locked data will be used for federal and state reporting, including Accountability Report Cards, and in the WISEdash Public Portal (certified view).

Last year's attendance data plays an important role in future accountability reporting. As a lagging indicator, the 2016-17 data in next week's Attendance Snapshot will be used in the 2017-18 Accountability Report Cards, which are released each fall. These data will also be used in the new federal (ESSA) accountability system, for which we begin reporting next year. As such, districts are encouraged to **verify attendance and absenteeism data by subgroup at both school and district levels.**

- In the federal accountability system, chronic absenteeism is defined as a student missing more than 10% of possible days, and the goal is that no more than 10% of a school's student population is deemed chronically absent.
- In the state accountability system, absenteeism is defined as a student missing more than 16% of possible days, and the goal is that no more than 13% of a student population as chronically absent. It is one of two possible deductions in the Accountability Report Cards. Additionally, school attendance data is used in the On-Track priority area.
- Multiple years of attendance data are used throughout the federal ESSA and state accountability systems.

Given the long-term impact on accountability scores, we recommend districts review their attendance data in WISEdata prior to Monday. Please include principals in this work in order to build understanding of the importance and use of accurate attendance data (i.e. state and federal accountability calculations) at the school level.

Should you have any questions or need assistance with this review, please contact the [WISEdata Customer Services](#) team by Monday so the data are corrected before Tuesday's snapshot. Also, please note that the WISEsupport team has created a [Snapshot Reference Guide](#) to assist districts in understanding and preparing for WISEdata snapshots.

~OEA

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- Returning test administrators will be required to complete a refresher module and quiz as well as a science module and quiz (approximately 1 hour and 25 minutes).
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ACT HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS

ACT with writing and WorkKeys

Registration Open for the Accommodations Q&A Training Session Webinar - November 8

- ACT test coordinators should plan to attend the accommodations Q&A session via webinar on Wednesday, November 8 at 10:00 a.m.
- Register at this link: <https://act.ilinc.com/register/htcwkph>

Reminders

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 - [ACT Policy for Accommodations Documentation](#)
 - [ACT Policy for EL Documentation](#)
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WorkKeys Accommodations Materials Ordering

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Reading Readiness

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 - WIDA AMS resources, including the new user guide and short how-to videos, are now available through the “[WIDA AMS](#)” selection on the Assessment drop-down menu on the [main WIDA webpage](#).
 - TSM and INSIGHT are available in the [WIDA-AMS](#) under General Information > Technology Downloads.
 - INSIGHT is the same for Forward, ACCESS, and the WIDA Screener. Existing installs should auto-update when launched.
 - There are separate TSMs for Forward and ACCESS/WIDA Screener. Ensure that the ACCESS TSM 9.2 is installed and connected through the COS - Device Toolkit.
- Training
 - The 2017-18 Test Administrator’s Manual and District and School Test Coordinator’s Manual can be found on the “[Preparation and Training](#)” tab on the [ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 webpage](#).
 - There is a new tab on the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 page, “[Preparing Students](#),” with resources educators can use to get their students ready for testing.
 - Staff need an account on the wida.us website to access training.
- Calendar for year posted [here](#).

NAEP and International Assessments

(selected schools only)

Reminder

- Schools selected for TIMSS and ICILS: If you haven't already, please send angela.dugas@dpi.wi.gov an email indicating who will be the designated school coordinator for the assessment.

Local Assessment Data in WISEdash for Districts

Reminder

As of fall 2017, districts using Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) will have had over three years to opt-in to including results in their WISEdash for Districts dashboards. Overall, there has been a very good response. As a result, we have decided to designate the fall term as last-call for new districts to have historical data included when they opt-in. After November 1, new districts will have data included only for the upcoming testing term and later. For more information about the MAP dashboards, see the MAP ["About the Data"](#) WISEdash for Districts page.

DAC DIGEST DIGESTIBLES

Important Dates to Remember		
October	2-Nov 1: Upload private school pre-ID files.	ACCESS
	15: NAEP school coordinators complete <i>Provide School Information</i> form on MyNAEP	NAEP
	25: Forward Technology Training webinar	Forward
	30: Forward Accessibility Guide Available	Forward
November	1: Forward Technology Training webinar	Forward
	1: Forward Technology User Guide and additional resources available	Forward
	1-30: Complete TA Training	ACCESS
	1-30: Install ACCESS TSM 9.2, Update INSIGHT. Test Installations.	ACCESS
	1-30: Schedule time for students to take practice tests, esp. Speaking.	ACCESS
	6: Window for submitting ACT accommodations request opens.	ACT
	8: Test coordinators attend Accommodations Q&A Training Session webinar, 10 a.m.	ACT/WorkKeys
	22: Accessibility Training available	Forward
	27: Test Session, Accommodations Setup Opens	ACCESS
	30: Test Materials Arrive & Additional materials window opens	ACCESS
30: Ensure Software up-to-date, run final System Readiness Checks	ACCESS	
December	4: Test Window Opens	ACCESS
	20: Braille materials order window opens	FORWARD

Important Tasks to Remember	
<input type="checkbox"/> Submit annual DAC and DTC update forms before September 30.	Forward
<input type="checkbox"/> Register for DTC training webinar .	Forward
<input type="checkbox"/> Upload private school Pre-ID files to WIDA-AMS if necessary.	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/> Check Webinar Calendar and schedule time to view.	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/> Install Software.	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure Staff train, pass Quizzes.	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/> Plan for student test practice.	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/> Look for score report information in Educator Portal . Mail home to parents as soon as possible. <i>Please share with teachers as appropriate.</i>	DLM
<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure relevant team members are aware of the information regarding reading readiness assessment at Reading Readiness Overview and Reading Readiness FAQ .	Reading Readiness
<input type="checkbox"/> Bookmark the DPI ACT webpage and ACT Wisconsin webpage . <input type="checkbox"/> Review the ACT accommodations resources: List of Allowable Accessibility Supports , ACT Policy for Accommodations Documentation , ACT Policy for EL Documentation <input type="checkbox"/> Encourage school test coordinators to register for the Accommodations Q&A training webinar: https://act.ilinc.com/register/htcwkph	ACT/WK
<input type="checkbox"/> Clean up users in the Aspire portal. Remove users no longer employed by the district. <input type="checkbox"/> Download Aspire reports. Distribute ISRs to students and families.	Aspire
<input type="checkbox"/> Distribute WorkKeys certificates and myworkkeys.com usernames/passwords to students.	WorkKeys

Online Resource Highlights		
<p><i>As new resources are posted to our website, we will include them here for your convenience. This is NOT an exhaustive list, but meant to highlight resources with significant relevance to our upcoming test windows.</i></p>		
Resource	Description	Assessment
Forward Data and Results	DPI webpage with links to sample ISR cover letters and resources for understanding Forward Reports	Forward
DLM Data and Results	DPI webpage with links to sample ISR cover letters and resources for understanding DLM Reports	DLM
ACT Accommodations	Accommodations and accessibility supports for the ACT high school assessments	Aspire/ACT/WK
ACT EL Supports	English Learner Supports information for the ACT high school assessments	
Extended Time Policy Change	Details and FAQs on the Extended Time Policy Change	ACT
ACCESS for ELLs Calendar	Provides an overview of relevant 2017-18 dates	ACCESS
Standard Setting Impacts	Information on the score changes starting 2016-17	
Report Card Resources	Various resources to assist in understanding, explaining, and using the 2015-16 school and district report card data	OEA

WISCONSIN STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM UPDATE

Office of Student Assessment

ESSA Waiver Hearing

Under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the number of students who may take the alternate assessment is limited to no more than 1 percent of the total of all students in the state who are assessed in a given subject. States are required to seek a waiver of this cap if anticipated that the state will exceed the 1 percent cap. The department anticipates the cap will be exceeded for the 2017-18 school year and is requesting a waiver from the secretary of the United States Department of Education (ED). The department is seeking public input as part of this process. Please see the [DPI website](#) for more information.

OSA Office Hours Webinar

Thank you for joining the September OSA Office Hours webinar. The OSA team appreciates the opportunity to connect with you on assessment-related topics. Please visit the [DAC Resources & Trainings webpage](#) for the PowerPoint slides and the archived webinar. The PowerPoint slides and webinar are now posted. The next office hours is scheduled for **November 16** from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Forward Exam

Opportunity to Provide Feedback on Performance Level Descriptors

Performance Level Descriptors (PLDs) provide an overview of the knowledge, skills, and abilities of students at specific performance levels — Below Basic, Basic, Proficient, and Advanced — on the Forward Exam. PLDs have been drafted for grades 3-8 in English language arts and mathematics and are now posted for public review and comment. You can find the draft PLDs and a survey to provide feedback at the following link: <https://dpi.wi.gov/assessment/forward/data#PLDs>.

Reminder:

2018 Forward Exam District Technology Coordinator (DTC) Training

The first DTC training webinar was held on Wednesday, October 25, and over 200 DTCs attended the training. A second webinar on Wednesday November 1st (that was a repeat of the 1st) had approximately 120 DTCs in attendance. The webinar was recorded and will be available on the [Forward Exam Technology Requirements webpage](#) on November 3 for anyone who was not able to attend the live webinars. Technology readiness resources are now available on the [Forward Exam Technology Requirements webpage](#).

DTCs please mark your calendars for the following:

- January 17, 2018 - Refresher technology training/Q&A
- February 14, 2018 - Technology Q&A
- March 14, 2018 - Technology Q&A

TTS/Read Aloud Accommodation Change

New this year is a change to the Text-to-Speech (TTS)/read aloud accommodation for the Forward Exam. The TTS/read aloud **accommodation** allows the student to listen to ELA test information displayed on the screen, including test directions, questions, answer choices, and **ELA reading passages**. This accommodation may only be provided to a student with visual impairments who is not proficient in contracted Braille, whose need is documented in an IEP or 504 plan and has met all five criteria on the *Guidelines for Administration of the TTS/Read Aloud Accommodation for the Forward Exam* form. Students who do not meet this criteria, but require TTS or read aloud, should use the designated support, including those with IEP or 504 plans. TTS/read aloud designated support allows the student to listen to test information displayed on the screen, including test directions, questions, and answer choices for all content areas (just not the ELA session 4 reading passages). The *Guidelines for Administration of the TTS/Read Aloud Accommodation for the Forward Exam* form and more information **is now available** in the 2017-18 Accessibility Guide.

Updated Important note: DACs should *remove permissions from and make inactive* any individuals in eDIRECT who are no longer employed by the district and adjust user roles to sync with recent staffing changes.

Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)

Reminder:

Required Test Administration Training- All District Assessment Coordinators have now been added to [Moodle](#) as facilitated trainers. Please see the [Guide to the DLM Required Test Administration Training](#) for login information. **Teachers who have moved districts or changed their emails should contact the [DLM Helpdesk](#) to merge their Moodle accounts. They will need to provide their old email address as well as their new email address.**

All test administrators (anyone with a 'teacher' role in Educator Portal) must complete the required training prior to administering the DLM assessment and the optional instructional assessments (Instructional Tools Interface or ITI).

- Returning test administrators will be required to complete a refresher module and quiz as well as a science module and quiz (approximately 1 hour and 25 minutes).
- New test administrators within the DLM system will be expected to complete four required modules and quizzes (approximately 3 hours). The training modules are now available. We encourage test administrators to complete their training as early as possible and to not wait until the test window to complete the modules.

KITE® Client is the secure browser used by students taking Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) assessments. Please ensure that the most recent version of KITE Client is installed on devices. For new devices that have never had KITE Client installed, please see the instructions for downloading KITE 5.0 on the DLM website under the [KITE Suite](#) heading. For devices that have a previous version of KITE Client (version 3.0 was used during the 2016-17 school year), the KITE Client interface will be automatically updated to KITE Client 5.0 for the 2017-18 school year.

- Auto-update will be prompted when the device is powered on, connected to the internet, and KITE Client is launched.
- Auto-update went out August 31, 2017.
- After the update is downloaded, the user will be prompted to restart the KITE Client.

The auto-update takes about 10 minutes. Be sure to allow enough time for the auto-update.

School Assessment Type - Alternate (SATA)

In an effort to more accurately identify students anticipated to take the DLM alternate assessment under the new ESSA participation cap, we are asking districts to utilize the Student Characteristic SATA in WISEdata. The department began including additional validations around this indicator on October 12, 2017. All students taking the alternate assessment (DLM) must qualify as a student with the most significant cognitive disabilities as outlined below.

In Wisconsin, a student with the most significant cognitive disability:

- typically is characterized as functioning at least two and a half to three standard deviations below the mean in both adaptive behavior and cognitive functioning; **and**
- performs substantially below grade level expectations on the academic content standards for the grade in which they are enrolled, even with the use of adaptations and accommodations; **and**
- requires extensive, direct individualized instruction and substantial supports to achieve measurable gains, across all content areas and settings.

Only a student who meets these criteria and participates in the alternate academic achievement standards may take the alternate assessment.

ACT HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS

ACT with writing and WorkKeys

Schedule of Events

- The [Schedule of Events](#) for ACT and WorkKeys is now available.
- It is linked on the [DPI ACT Calendar page](#) and the [ACT WI page](#).
- [What's New with State Testing](#) and [State Testing Terms](#) documents are also posted.

Communications to DACs from ACT

- On October 23, ACT (StateTesting@act.org) sent a "Welcome to State Testing" email to 2017 test coordinators and current DACs.
- If you did not receive this email, please contact jennifer.bell@dpi.wi.gov
- Upcoming emails from StateTesting@act.org coming the week of November 6 will include: *Manage Contacts and Participation in PearsonAccess^{Next} and Request Accommodations and Supports in TAA System.*

Managing School Test Coordinator Contact Information

- StateTesting@act.org will send an email to DACs and test coordinators the week of November 6 with a link and instructions on how to access PearsonAccess^{Next}.
- **DACs will then be able to log into the 2018 PearsonAccess^{Next} (PA^{Next}) portal to manage test coordinator contact information and add additional PA^{Next} users if needed.**
- Instructions for managing test coordinator contacts for ACT and WorkKeys will be available in the PearsonAccess^{Next} User Guide for the ACT. ACT has not posted the Guide yet, but once posted, it will be linked two places:
 - On the [ACT WI page](#) under “2. Configuration”
 - On the [DPI ACT Resources page](#) under “PearsonAccess^{Next} Guides”

Save the Dates for ACT and WorkKeys Test Administration Q&A Webinars - November 30 and January 18

- There will be two webinar Q&A sessions on ACT and WorkKeys test administration.
- The topics will be different at each session, so **test coordinators should view both webinars.**
- Webinars will be recorded and posted to the [DPI ACT Trainings page](#) and [ACT WI page](#).
- Please share these dates with test coordinators in your district. Registration links coming soon.
 - November 30, 2:00 p.m.: ACT Test Orientation, Configuration, Verification, and Preparation
 - January 18, 2:00 p.m.: ACT Test Administration, Transportation, and Interpretation

Reminder

Registration Open for the Accommodations Q&A Training Session Webinar - November 8

- ACT test coordinators and test accommodations coordinators should plan to attend the Accommodations Q&A Training Session via webinar on Wednesday, November 8 at 10:00 a.m.
- Register at this link: <https://act.ilinc.com/register/htcwkph>

Reading Readiness

Reading Readiness Results

- DPI will load 2017-18 PALS, MAP and STAR reading readiness results to WISEdash for Districts. Districts who had student data loaded for these screeners in 2016-17 will continue to have their data loaded in 2017-18. Districts that did not previously sign a data release will need to do so in order to have their data uploaded into WISEdash. Information on data sharing agreements can be found at:
 - PALS - <https://dpi.wi.gov/assessment/reading-readiness/FAQ#data>
 - MAP - <https://dpi.wi.gov/wisedash/districts/about-data/map>
 - Star - <https://dpi.wi.gov/wisedash/districts/about-data/star>

ACCESS for ELLs

New

- ACCESS Test Setup
 - You will be able to view students and download rosters within the next week.
 - You will be able to upload new students, modify test sessions, and add accommodations starting November 27.

- You may export your students and begin modifying the upload file as soon as students are visible in your district. However, you will not be able to upload this file until November 27.

Reminders

- ACCESS Materials
 - Orders were calculated automatically on November 1.
 - Districts will receive these orders on November 30.
 - DRC will ship extra materials this year to cut down on additional orders.
 - Please share materials between schools in your district before ordering more.
 - Return any unused materials at the end of the test window.
 - Additional materials can be ordered November 30 - February 2 with 2-day shipping.
- Technology
 - The 2017-18 Technology User Guide can be found on the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 [technology page](#).
 - The Device Toolkit has been revamped and updated. A tutorial and demo are available [here](#).
 - WIDA AMS resources, including the new user guide and short how-to videos, are now available through the “[WIDA AMS](#)” selection on the Assessment drop-down menu on the [main WIDA webpage](#).
 - TSM and INSIGHT are available in the [WIDA-AMS](#) under General Information > Technology Downloads.
 - INSIGHT is the same for Forward, ACCESS, and the WIDA Screener. Existing installs should auto-update when launched.
 - There are separate TSMs for Forward and ACCESS/WIDA Screener. Ensure that the ACCESS TSM 9.2 is installed and connected through the COS - Device Toolkit.
- Training
 - The 2017-18 Test Administrator’s Manual and District and School Test Coordinator’s Manual can be found on the “[Preparation and Training](#)” tab on the [ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 webpage](#).
 - There is a new tab on the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 page, “[Preparing Students](#),” with resources educators can use to get their students ready for testing.
 - Staff need an account on the [wida.us](#) website to access training.
- Calendar for year posted [here](#).

NAEP and International Assessments

(selected schools only)

Reminder

- Schools selected for TIMSS and ICILS: If you haven't already, please send angela.dugas@dpi.wi.gov an email indicating who will be the designated school coordinator for the assessment. Later this week, Angela will start contacting principals she hasn't heard from.

Civics Graduation Requirement Examination Change

- As part of 2017 Wisconsin Act 59, the minimum passing score on the civics test for high school graduation set forth by [Wis. Stat. 118.33\(1m\)\(a\)1](#), was increased from 60 to 65 out of 100. The way the law currently reads, current students who have not obtained a score of at least 65 are ineligible to receive a high school diploma. This means that students who previously scored between 60 and 64, but have not yet received a diploma will be required to retake the civics test to obtain this new statutory minimum. The DPI does not believe the legislature intended to nullify scores previously considered passing prior to Act 59. Therefore, the DPI will work with the legislature to amend the current language under Wis. Stat. s. 118.33(1m)(a)1 to apply the higher-score requirement under Act 59 to only those students who had not already obtained a passing score prior to September 23, 2017, the effective date of Act 59.

Please consider waiting for further details on this potential legislative amendment before requiring students to retake the civics graduation requirement exam.

DAC DIGEST DIGESTIBLES

Important Dates to Remember		
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	25: Forward Technology training webinar	Forward
	30: Forward Accessibility Guide available	Forward
November	1: Forward Technology training webinar	Forward
	1: Forward Technology User Guide and additional resources available	Forward
	1-30: Complete Test Administrator (TA) training	ACCESS
	1-30: Install ACCESS TSM 9.2, update INSIGHT. Test Installations.	ACCESS
	1-30: Schedule time for students to take practice tests, especially the speaking test.	ACCESS
	3: DTC training recorded webinar available	Forward
	6: Window for submitting ACT accommodations requests in TAA opens. Window for managing test coordinator contacts, managing school participation, and selecting materials shipping dates opens in PearsonAccessNext.	ACT
	8: Test coordinators attend Accommodations Q&A Training Session webinar, 10 a.m.	ACT/WorkKeys
22: Accessibility Training available	Forward	

	27: Test Session, Accommodations Setup Opens	ACCESS
	30: Test Materials Arrive & Additional materials window opens	ACCESS
	30: Ensure software up-to-date, run final system readiness checks	ACCESS
	30: Test coordinators attend Test Administration Q&A Webinar "Orientation, Configuration, Verification, & Preparation", 2:00 p.m.	ACT/WorkKeys
December	1: Deadline to manage school participation and choose ship dates for test materials	ACT/WorkKeys
	4: Test window opens	ACCESS
	4: Window to order WorkKeys accommodated materials opens	WorkKeys
	20: Braille materials order window opens	FORWARD

Important Tasks to Remember	
<input type="checkbox"/> Upload private school Pre-ID files to WIDA-AMS if necessary.	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/> Check Webinar Calendar and schedule time to view.	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/> Install software.	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure staff train, pass quizzes.	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/> Plan for student test practice.	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/> Look for score report information in Educator Portal . Mail home to parents as soon as possible. <i>Please share with teachers as appropriate.</i>	DLM
<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure relevant team members are aware of the information regarding reading readiness assessment at Reading Readiness Overview and Reading Readiness FAQ .	Reading Readiness
<input type="checkbox"/> Bookmark the DPI ACT webpage and ACT Wisconsin webpage .	ACT/WorkKeys
<input type="checkbox"/> Review the ACT accommodations resources: List of Allowable Accessibility Supports , ACT Policy for Accommodations Documentation , ACT Policy for EL Documentation	ACT
<input type="checkbox"/> Encourage school test coordinators to register for the Accommodations Q&A training webinar: https://act.ilinc.com/register/htcwkph	ACT/WorkKeys
<input type="checkbox"/> Encourage school test coordinators to save the dates for the two test administration webinar Q&A sessions.	ACT/WorkKeys

Online Resource Highlights		
<i>As new resources are posted to our website, we will include them here for your convenience. This is NOT an exhaustive list, but meant to highlight resources with significant relevance to our upcoming test windows.</i>		
Resource	Description	Assessment
Accessibility Guide	The guide contains information for classroom teachers, English development educators, special education teachers, and related services personnel as they select and administer universal tools, designated supports, and accommodations for those students who need them for the Forward Exam.	Forward
Managing Users in eDIRECT Guide	Guide to help DACs/SACs manage users in eDIRECT portal.	
Technology Resources	Forward Exam Technology Resources including the Technology User Guide, DTC Checklist, System Requirements, etc.	
Forward Calendar Webpage	DPI webpage listing key dates for the Forward Exam	

DLM Data and Results	DPI webpage with links to sample ISR cover letters and resources for understanding DLM Reports	DLM
Schedule of Events	Schedule of test administration dates for ACT and WorkKeys	ACT/WorkKeys
What's New with State Testing	Summary document highlighting what is new in 2018 with WI state ACT testing.	
State Testing Terms	Glossary of state testing terminology helpful for new DACs and test coordinators.	
Extended Time Policy Change	Details and FAQs on the Extended Time Policy Change	ACT
ACCESS for ELLs Calendar	Provides an overview of relevant 2017-18 dates	ACCESS
Standard Setting Impacts	Information on the score changes starting 2016-17	
Report Card Resources	Various resources to assist in understanding, explaining, and using the 2015-16 school and district report card data	OEA