



The DAC Digest

Assessment & Accountability Updates

December 2, 2020

Accountability

Preliminary Joint Federal Notifications

As announced in a [November 9 email from Mike Thompson](#), preliminary joint federal notifications will be provided to schools and districts in SAFE on December 10. Please see below for more information.

ESSA Accountability

There will be no new federal ESSA identifications issued in 2020-21 because of the assessment and accountability waiver DPI received from the U.S. Department of Education, which required a “freeze” in ESSA accountability identifications. ESSA Accountability Reports will be converted to informational reports that include only new data: 2018-19 graduation rate and absenteeism, and 2019-20 ACCESS for ELLs results. Schools with existing identifications will receive a Progress to Exit Report with available data, though only CSI-Low Grad schools have the potential to exit this year.

IDEA Accountability

The U.S. Department of Education did not waive identifications under IDEA. This means that IDEA determinations will be issued during the 2020-21 school year and schools and districts will be provided with preliminary LEA Determination Reports as part of the December 10 release. Racial Equity in Special Education (disproportionality) reports will be released in the spring of 2021.

The preliminary joint federal notifications release will also include District Summary Reports containing existing “frozen” ESSA Identifications and 2020-21 IDEA LEA Determinations for all schools in the district. Please contact oeamail@dpi.wi.gov with questions about ESSA accountability and the [DPI Special Education team](#) with questions about IDEA accountability.

WISEdata Student Snapshot

We are one week out from the December 8 WISEdata snapshot. We are here to support you in the final days leading up to the snapshot. Review the [Snapshot Preparation Guidance](#) and [submit a help ticket](#) for assistance. To better accommodate your needs, DPI will offer additional customer support this coming weekend on both Saturday and Sunday, December 5 and 6, from 8am to 4pm. In addition, starting on December 1 the WISEdash loads will be running nightly to ensure your data is flowing in for your review.

On snapshot day (December 8), remember to lock IEPs, if applicable, and submit all data from your SIS to WISEdata by 9am. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to data quality.



Strategic Assessment System

Assessment in Action Module is Now Available

Throughout Wisconsin, districts and schools are pioneering promising practices in student assessment, moving from the theory stage of a strategic assessment system to the implementation stage. This module reflects a glimpse of what Strategic Assessment Systems look like in schools and districts across Wisconsin. Learn more about these promising practices in the [Assessment in Action Introduction Unit](#).

Visit WISELearn and join the [Assessment in Action Group](#) that houses these examples of promising assessment practices.

ACCESS for ELLs

Reminder:

See the [ACCESS for ELLs Calendar webpage](#) for calendar dates, information, and resources.

ACT with writing

Reminder:

Webinars and Resources:

- [Register for Online Testing Site Readiness Webinar and Q&A](#) that will be Thursday, December 10, 10:30am-11:30am. Technical Coordinators should attend this training.
 - See the [ACT webpage](#) for calendar dates, information, and resources
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Aspire

Reminder:

See the [Aspire webpage](#) for calendar dates, information, and resources.

DLM

New:

Supporting the Learning of Children with Significant Cognitive Disabilities at Home

The National Center on Educational Outcomes (NCEO) and the National Technical Assistance Center on Inclusive Practices and Policies (TIES Center) have jointly developed a series of videos for parents on various aspects of supporting the learning of children with significant cognitive disabilities at home.

Districts may find these videos useful as they work with parents and families. Each video focuses on three key questions:

- Why is it important to focus on this with my child at home?
- How can I do this at home?
- What support can I ask for from my child's school?

The videos help families learn ways to support the learning of their children with significant cognitive disabilities at home and have conversations with teachers to link home-schools supports. The videos are available on both the [NCEO](#) and [TIES Center](#) websites.

Reminder:

Instruction and Assessment Planner

The Instruction and Assessment Planner is open and available for use in schools.

Forward Exam

Reminder:

See the [Forward Exam webpage](#) for calendar dates, information, and resources.

NAEP

New:

NAEP 2021 is Postponed

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Commissioner, with support of the National Assessment Governing Board, has decided to **postpone the NAEP 2021 assessments**. The postponement will move the grades 4 and 8 mathematics and reading assessments to the 2021–2022 school year. There may still be NAEP questionnaires for schools to complete. Angela Dugas will be in contact with schools later this winter if these go forward.

Emails with this update were sent December 1 to schools and districts selected to participate in NAEP this year. Principals, designated NAEP School Coordinators, DACs, and District Administrators should have received this email.

For more information about how this decision was made, visit the [NCES COVID19 Updates page](#). Please contact [Angela Dugas](#) with any questions.

Reading Readiness

Reminder:

See the [Reading Readiness webpage](#) for calendar dates, information, and resources.

Assessment and Accountability COVID-19 Related Updates

OEA has created two webpages to keep you updated and informed. Please bookmark these pages and the [main DPI COVID-19 page](#), which contains COVID-19 information for schools beyond assessment and accountability.

- [COVID-19 – Accountability Updates and Resources](#) webpage with summary information on the impact of COVID-19 on school accountability in Wisconsin.
- [COVID-19 – Assessment Updates and Resources](#) webpage that contains assessment related COVID-19 resources, 2019-20 COVID updates, and any 2020-21 updates that may arise.

Important Dates to Remember

Be sure to refer to each specific assessment calendar for a complete list of key dates.

Month	Date and Event	Assessment
December	8: WISEdata Student Snapshot	General
	10: Online Testing Site Readiness Q&A Webinar	ACT
	21: Instruction and Assessment Planner closed for maintenance	DLM
January	1: Instruction and assessment planner reopens for the year	NAEP
	4: Braille materials order window opens	Forward
	12: 2021 Test Administration and training resources become available	Forward
	13: First DAC, SAC, DTC, and Q&A Webinar	Forward
	20: DPI pulls roster data from WISEdata to Upload to DRC Portal	Forward
	25: PearsonAccessNext (PANext) portal opens for ACT	Aspire
February	10: Second DAC, SAC, DTC, and Q&A Webinar	Forward
	15-26: Optional add accessibility features window in DRC INSIGHT Portal	Forward
	19: DAC Confidentiality Agreement forms due	General
	22: ACCESS for ELLs assessment window opens	ACCESS
	24: Instruction and Assessment Planner closes for the year	DLM
	26: Deadline to complete enrollment/user/roster uploads in Educator Portal	DLM

New Online Resource Highlights

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

Resource	Description	Assessment
2021 ACT Administration Manual -Standard Paper	Administration manual for standard paper ACT testing.	ACT
2021 ACT Accommodations Administration Manual - Paper	Administration manual for accommodation paper ACT testing.	ACT
2021 ACT Administration Manual -Online	Administration manual for online ACT testing.	ACT
2021 Aspire Schedule of Events	Contains important Aspire assessment tasks and deadlines.	Aspire
Technology User Guide	A multi-volume set that describes how to configure, install, manage, and troubleshoot the DRC INSIGHT Online Learning System.	Forward
Technology Training Videos	Two technology-training videos for DACs and Technology Coordinators - one for new DTC's and technology staff, and a second, shorter presentation with updates and reminders for DTCs experienced with Forward Exam set-up and administration.	Forward
Test Accessibility and Accountability Guide (TAA)	Provides information on how to submit requests for student accommodations for the ACT assessment.	ACT
2021 ACT Schedule of Events	Contains important ACT assessment tasks and deadlines.	ACT
2020-21 DLM Test Administration Manual	Supports Test Administrators in preparing themselves and students for the DLM assessment.	DLM
DLM Educator Portal User Guide	Provides guidance and support for users navigating Educator Portal.	DLM



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<https://dpi.wi.gov/assessment/correspondence>

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