



# The DAC Digest

Assessment & Accountability Updates

August 30, 2023

## Accountability

### Reminder:

#### Alternate Accountability - Forms due Friday, September 8

Thank you to all who have already submitted the Alternate Accountability form. If you have been notified that your school has qualified for alternate accountability this year and have not yet submitted your form, please do so by **September 8**. More information about [Alternate Accountability](#) is available on our website. Please contact [Jon Wong](#) with any questions.

#### Report Card - Optional Narrative Statement

DACs received an email on Wednesday August 16 from DPI titled "Response Requested - Report Card Narrative Statements 2023" with instructions and a link to submit optional narrative statements that will appear at the top of the state report cards. If your district/school wishes to submit statements, please work with your District Administrator, principals, and other leadership to compose and submit these statements by **September 8**. For more information on the narrative statement, please see the [DAC Digest from August 15](#). If you did not receive a link, please email [ReportCardHelp@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:ReportCardHelp@dpi.wi.gov) to request a link for your district, independent charter school, or choice school's narrative submission survey.

#### 2023-24 JFN Release Timeline

Beginning in the 2023-24 school year, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) reports will be available in February and April as part of the Joint Federal Notification (JFN) packet. Please see [email to District Administrators](#) from Deputy State Superintendent John Johnson for more information on this new timeline.

If you have questions about ESSA accountability, please contact [oeamail@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:oeamail@dpi.wi.gov). For questions regarding IDEA accountability, please contact the [Special Education team](#).

## Assessment

### Reminder:

#### Annual DAC and DTC Contact Information Update Forms

The 2023-24 annual [District Assessment Coordinator \(DAC\)](#) and [District Technology Coordinator \(DTC\)](#) [Update forms](#) must be submitted by **October 6** to ensure the information is correct for the DPI upload to



the vendor portals. These forms are required for both new and returning DACs and DTCs, even if the information has not changed, and must be signed by the District Administrator.

The information provided is used to:

- Ensure DACs and DTCs are on the email lists which will provide them with regular assessment updates throughout the year.
- Upload DAC information into vendor portals to ensure DACs have 2023-24 permissions.

Important notes:

- DACs should remove permissions from and/or make inactive any individuals in vendor portals who are no longer employed by the district and adjust user roles to sync with recent staffing changes.

If DAC contact changes occur after form submission, a new form should be submitted to name a new or interim DAC.

## ACCESS for ELLs

### Reminder:

#### User Accounts

User accounts can be added to the DRC Insight and WIDA Secure portals for fall ELP Screening at this time. New DAC accounts will be added to the DRC Insight portal in mid-September. If you are a new DAC and need earlier access to facilitate ELP Screening, please contact [Jesse Roberts](#) once we have received your DAC Update form.

## ACT

### New:

#### 2024 Accessibility Supports Guide

The 2024 ACT Accessibility Supports Guide has now been posted to the [Wisconsin ACT State website](#). Testing staff should review this document thoroughly each year, as changes are made annually. Schools can begin to enter 2024 accommodation and support requests into the ACT Test Accessibility and Accommodations (TAA) portal beginning **September 11**. New users to [Success.ACT](#) (ACT's reporting and TAA portal) should review the [Online Reporting and TAA](#) guide for instructions on how to request access. Additional resources and training opportunities will be available fall 2023.

#### Retirement of English Braille American Edition (EBAE)

ACT will no longer offer testing materials in English Braille American Edition (EBAE). Please reference the [2024 ACT Accessibility Support Guide](#) for all available visual impairment accommodations.



## PreACT Secure

### Reminder:

Please visit the [PreACT Secure webpage](#) for information, resources, and dates.

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## DLM

### New:

#### Fall District Training

DLM provides a [Fall District Training](#) to help answer questions districts may have in regard to the DLM. New this year is a self-guided training which is designed to help answer questions related to the various roles in Educator Portal. You can access the training as often or as little as you need, and it will help users gain a better understanding of their roles.

### Reminder:

#### Rosters and User

District Test Administrators are encouraged to begin adding users and creating rosters. Completing these tasks early allows teachers access to student reports and to begin working on First Contact Surveys.

#### First Contact Surveys

First Contact Surveys have a refreshed look and may take longer to complete this year. Filling out the First Contact Survey accurately ensures the student is placed into the correct linkage level in Educator Portal.

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## Forward Exam

### New:

#### Updated Accessibility Guide

The 2023-24 Accessibility Guide is now available on the [Forward Exam Accommodations and Supports webpage](#). There have been some significant updates to the Accessibility Guide for 2023-24 which include the following:

- **Text-to-Speech (TTS)** is now a Universal Tool for all content areas (with the exception of the reading passages in the ELA Reading Session). Students will be able to decide for themselves if they would like to utilize TTS as they test.
- **Stacked Translation (Spanish)** will now have two options for TTS available to assign for students. One version will provide students with TTS for the English content on the form, while the other option will provide students with TTS in Spanish for the Spanish content on the form. Educators must determine which will be most useful to the student prior to assigning Stacked Translation in the Portal.



- **Closed Caption and Listening Script** accommodations have been removed as the ELA test design has changed (see [the August 15, DAC Digest](#)) and the Listening session has been removed.
- **Magnifier Tool** has been increased from 200% to 400%.

There have also been some minor updates throughout the guide. Please ensure ALL staff are made aware of and review the updated Accessibility Guide for the 2024 test administration. Questions may be directed to [Alison O'Hara](#) or [Jennifer Teasdale](#).

## Reminders:

### Alignment with new ELA and Mathematics Standards

The spring 2024 Forward Exam for English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics at grades 3-8 will be aligned to the new Wisconsin Standards for ELA (adopted in 2020) and Mathematics (adopted in 2021). Updated Forward Exam Practice Tests will be available in December on the [Forward Exam Practice Tests webpage](#) to help students prepare. Please refer to the [August 15 DAC Digest](#), for information on changes to the Forward ELA Exam Design. More information about the newly aligned assessments will be communicated over the next several months.

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## NAEP and International Assessments

### Reminder:

See the [NAEP webpage](#) for grade levels and content areas assessed, dates, additional information, and resources; and contact [Angela Dugas](#) with any questions.

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## Reading Readiness

### Reminder:

#### 2023-24 School Year

For the 2023-24 school year, the Reading Readiness requirement will remain the same as previous years. Districts will be required to assess for Reading Readiness all four-year-old kindergarten through second grade students at least once during the school year. Each school board and the operator of each charter school shall select the appropriate, valid, and reliable assessment of literacy fundamentals to be used. The school board or operator shall ensure that the assessment evaluates whether a pupil possesses phonemic awareness and letter sound knowledge. For detailed information about requirements for screening go to [Assessment of Reading Readiness overview](#).

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## New Resources

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
<a href="#">Accessibility Guide</a>	Complete list of the Forward Exam Universal Tools, Designated Supports, and Accommodations.	Forward
<a href="#">Accessibility Supports Guide</a>	Guide to allowable accommodations and EL supports for the ACT.	ACT

## Important Dates to Remember

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

Date	Event	Program
August 29	Accessibility Guide available	Forward
September 8	Alternate Accountability Forms due from schools that have qualified for Alternate Accountability	Report Card
September 8	Narrative Statement Form due from any district or school that would like a narrative statement on the 2022-23 report card	Report Card
September 11	Test Accessibility and Accommodations System (TAA) opens	ACT



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