

2024-25 Technology Updates for State Testing

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What's New - ESE in DRC INSIGHT

► DRC is implementing a new “Enhanced Student Experience” in the testing engine:

- **Accessibility Enhancements**
 - Improved Color Contrast and Visual Focus
 - Improved keyboard interactions and navigation
 - Improved interactions with third-party accessibility tools such as screen readers and speech recognition
 - Improved WCAG 2.1 AA and 508 compliance
- **Retains full support for existing content**

What's New - ESE in DRC INSIGHT

- ▶ It is important that both educators and students review and become familiar with updates before testing.
 - Online Tools Training
 - Go to www.Michigan.gov/mstep
 - Under Content Specific Information, select Online Practice for M-STEP/Mi-Access ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies
 - M-STEP/Mi-Access Tutorials
 - Access from the Online Tools Training landing page
 - OTTs and Tutorials can also be accessed from the DRC INSIGHT application

What's New - Headphone Clarifications

- ▶ Headphones are required for all students. Headphones allowed for use during testing are:
 1. Wired or wireless headphones **are allowed**.
 2. Bluetooth headphones (including AirPods) **are allowed if:**
 1. They are only connected to the student's testing device
 2. All non-testing student devices (including cell phones, smartwatches, tablets, etc) must be powered off for any student using a Bluetooth headphone during testing
 3. Headphones with advanced technology, including voice command, texting, app connection, and connection to the internet **are not allowed**.

Online Waiver Request - Oct. 7 - Nov. 15

- ▶ All students are expected to test online (M-STEP, MI-Access FI, WIDA, SAT, and PSAT).
 - ▶ Paper/pencil testing is accommodated for any student who has an IEP that requires a paper testing mode.
- ▶ Schools may request a waiver in the Secure Site through 5 pm on 11/15.
- ▶ Acceptable reasons include:
 - ▶ Juvenile Justice Facilities that do not all students access to the internet
 - ▶ Center-based Programs where all students have an IEP requiring paper/pencil
 - ▶ Ongoing technology concerns – College Board will not accept this as a reason
 - ▶ Other – reason must be specified and will be considered on an individual basis

Miscellaneous

- ▶ **Benchmark assessment testing** required under MCL 388.1704h should be well underway. Please ensure the benchmark score and MOI data is reported to the Michigan Data Hub on time.
 - ▶ [Benchmark Assessments Fact Sheet and FAQ](#)
 - ▶ [Benchmark Assessment Webinar](#) (recorded on 9/11/24)
- ▶ [2024-25 DRC INSIGHT Technology Installation and Setup webinar](#) recorded and available in early August.
- ▶ Upcoming technology-related webinars
 - ▶ 12/04/24 – DRC Technology Readiness
 - ▶ 01/23/25 – College Board Technology Readiness
- ▶ Make sure a Testing Coordinator is identified for each district (as well as for each school administering the SAT or PSAT) in EEM - vendors are starting pulls of this information this week.



Questions?

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(select appropriate option)