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Welcome to *JUMP*, the OPI online assessment newsletter. *JUMP* is published several times during the year to announce important assessment and data events. It provides up-to-date information necessary for the administration of statewide assessments and the accompanying data collections.



2015—2016 Important Dates

Test Window Dates	Assessment/Event	Grades
December 2, 2015 – January 27, 2016	English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessment	K-12
January 11-12, 2016	Assessment Conference, Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula	All
January 21-22, 2016	Assessment Conference, Crowne Plaza, Billings	All
February 17, 2016 - March 24, 2016	Science CRT—Alt	4, 8, 10
March 3, 2016 - March 24, 2016	Science CRT	4, 8, 10
TBA: March - May 2016	Smarter ELA and Math	3—8, 11
Tentative: March 30 - May 16, 2016	NCSC—Alternative ELA and Math	3—8, 11
April. 19, 2016	ACT Plus Writing: Initial Test Date	11*
April 19 - May 3, 2016	ACT Plus Writing: Accommodations Window	11*
May 3, 2016	ACT Plus Writing: Makeup Test	11*

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Save the Dates: 2015—2016 MontCAS Webinars Series

Wednesday, October 28

Wednesday, November 4

Wednesday, November 11

Wednesday, November 18

Times: 3:30—4:30 pm

Details and connect information TBA.

How to Include Students with Disabilities in MontCAS Assessments

The following are options for participation in the MontCAS assessments:

- Student takes the general CRT, Smarter, or ELP (English Language Proficiency) tests with no accommodations.
- Student takes the general CRT, Smarter, or ELP (English Language Proficiency) tests with the use of accommodations.
- Student takes alternate assessments.

The decisions as to whether a student with disabilities will participate in the general or the alternate assessment and what accommodations, if any, are to be provided to the student must be documented in the student's IEP prior to administering assessments. Eligibility requirements for the three alternate assessments provided by MontCAS (Access for ELLs: English Language Proficiency Alternate, CRT-Alt: Science CRT Alternate, and NCSC: ELA and Math Alternate) are online:

<http://gov/pdf/Assessment/SMART/15FallEligibilityGuideAltAssess.pdf> / www.opi.mt.



2015—2016 ELP Tuesday English Language Proficiency (ELP) Webinars

Date/Time	Topics and Audience	Links will open at 2:00 pm
	<i>District and School Administrators Title III Directors System Test Coordinators ESL/Bilingual Teachers</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click on the appropriate link. • Complete the survey/submit (You will be automatically routed to the webinar.) • For technical assistance: call Angie Koehler at 406-444-3511.
November 3, 2015 2:30-3:30 PM	Scheduling, Test Materials Receipt, Technology Preparation and Resources	http://app.keysurvey.com/f/977935/3408/
December 1, 2015 2:30-3:30 PM	Scoring the Kindergarten Speaking Test	http://app.keysurvey.com/f/977940/10f4/
January 18, 2016 2:30-3:30 PM	End of Test Window Tasks, Packing and Returning Materials	http://app.keysurvey.com/f/977942/5106/
April 4, 2016 2:30-4:30 PM	ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Results Reports, Annual Results Review Processes	http://app.keysurvey.com/f/977942/5106/

2015—2016 ELP Professional Development

Date/Time/Location	Event	Contacts
October 15-16, 2015 8:30-3:30 PM Billings	MEA/MFT: WIDA's Standards Based Lesson Planning for ELLs <i>Register with MEA/MFT</i>	Yvonne Field, 406-444-0748 or yfield@mt.gov or Natalee Hawks, 406-444-3482 or nrowe@mt.gov
<i>Participants will focus on creating contexts for meaningful language use within settings that integrate content and academic language learning.</i>		
April 12, 2016 Helena	WIDA's Differentiation for ELLs (before Title I Conference) Register with Joan Franke, jfranke@mt.gov	Yvonne Field, 406-444-0748 or yfield@mt.gov or Natalee Hawks, 406-444-3482 or nrowe@mt.gov
<i>Participants will collaborate to customize instruction and approach the idea of differentiation of language.</i>		



ACCESS for ELLs Test Administration

ELP/WIDA Assessment Management System (WIDA AMS)

Hosted by Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) at www.wida-ams.us, this site provides the tools and information needed for ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 administration. Listed below is a summary of the testing roles and how they interact with WIDA AMS.

- **Test Coordinators** set up Test Administrator and Technology Coordinator accounts and designate permissions, register for online testing, order paper test materials (including Kindergarten & Alternate ACCESS for ELLs), set up test sessions, select needed accommodations, and view reports.
- **Test Administrators** use the system to view and print on-line test tickets and test session rosters.
- **Technology Coordinators** use the system to view all technology preparation materials (user guides and technology web-based modules) and to download testing software from the system.



September 2015	<p>Student reports for Science CRT and CRT-Alt were mailed to all systems in early September.</p> <p>The Interpretive Guide and Released Items are online.</p>	<p>http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/Assessment/CRT/15CRT_CRTAlt_%20InterpGuide.pdf</p> <p>http://opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/Index.html?gpm=1_5#p7AP3c2_6 (click on Practice)</p>
October 5, 2015 - January, 2016	<p>Science CRT-Alt Registration windows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 5- December 1, 2015: For students currently enrolled • January 3 – January 14, 2016: For students who enroll in your school after December 1, 2015 • After January 15, 2016: For students who enroll in your school after December 1, 2015; please contact Angie Koehler at 406-444-3511 or akoehler2@mt.gov 	<p>Because materials need to be prepared for the CRT-Alternate, in addition to designating students for the alternate in AIM, please register the students online:</p> <p>http://iservices.measuredprogress.org/</p> <p>Choose Montana then CRT Alternate Registration</p>
November 2, 2015 <i>Deadline</i>	<p>Braille Counts for the Spring 2016 Science CRT</p> <p>(No Names Please)</p>	<p>Contact Angie Koehler by phone or email: 406-444-3511, akoehler2@mt.gov and provide the following information: Grade, school, number, and format (contracted or non-contracted)</p>
November 2, 2015 – January 25, 2016	<p>Window for Large Print Orders for the Spring 2016 Science CRT</p>	<p>http://iservices.measuredprogress.org/</p> <p>Choose Montana, then Large Print Order</p>

New Measured Progress Program Manager

Please welcome **Mellicent Friddell**, the new Measured Progress Program Manager for Montana. Her contact information is below:

- **Email:** Friddell.Mellicent@measuredprogress.org
- **Phone:** 603-749-9102



Smarter Balanced Update
Superintendent Juneau,
September 3, 2015

http://www.metnet.mt.gov/Official_mail/I03686349

Smarter Balanced Digital Library:

The Smarter Balanced Digital Library (SBDL) is provided by OPI to Montana educators at no charge as part of its contract with Smarter Balanced and Measured Progress. Access is available to all licensed educators in Montana accredited schools. Over 50 Montana K-12 and higher education educators have participated in the development of the SBDL, and over 9000 Montana educators have passwords. Of those, over 3000 are accessing the Digital Library.

- For those who have passwords but have not accessed the Library, here is the link:
<https://sso.smarterbalanced.org/auth/UI/Login>
- For more information on access, including checking on whether you have a password, please contact Pam Birkeland, pbirkeland@mt.gov, 406-560-2060

The SBDL is an online collection of high quality instructional and professional learning resources contributed by educators for educators. These resources are aligned with the intent of the Common Core State Standards and help educators implement the formative assessment process to improve teaching and learning. The SBDL incorporates collaboration features providing educators opportunities to review resources using a rating system and share their expertise with colleagues across the country in online discussion forums and series.

Spotlight Webinar and Forum Series are hosted by Smarter Balanced and facilitated by Digital Library resource authors who are national experts and innovative practitioners. During the webinars and forums, resource authors provide an overview of the resource materials and highlight formative assessment strategies that can be used to support teaching and learning. To register, users need a Digital Library password. Below are links to information on two current series. The webinars are archived after the live presentations.

[Illustrative Mathematics Series – September 2015 through December 2015](#)

[Supporting Students with Disabilities Series – September 2015 through January 2016](#)

NCSC Alternate Assessment

In October, score reports will be available to systems via the NCSC online data portal. System test coordinators and administrators will receive log in information and will be able to access PDF reports to print and share with parents. Systems will also receive school and system reports, and digital data. The exact dates for the data portal access window will be announced when they are finalized this month. Watch for more information and a webinar announcement. For more information, please contact Yvonne Field, 444-0748, yfield@mt.gov or Judy Snow, 444-3656, jsnow@mt.gov.



For NCSC Alternate Assessment registration, please follow the process outlined on Page 2 on *How to Include Students with Disabilities*.



ACT Online Prep (AOP): This online preparation program has been provided to all Montana high schools through the GEAR UP grant for all students and will remain active through November 2015. At that time, the program will be removed from the statewide contract and OPI will purchase AOP on behalf of high schools that wish to continue using the program. OPI will contact system test coordinators and school ACT test coordinators with information on how to request the program for use in their high schools after the current contract expires.

NOTE: Results for the junior class tested in 2015 and the 2015 graduating class are in separate reports. The junior administration and contract are managed by OPI and schools; the graduating class results include junior students who took the ACT in their schools on a weekday in 2014 and other students who took the ACT during the Saturday administration. Below is information on the reports and dates for the 2015 junior class:

- District profile reports were mailed on a CD to the system test coordinator no later than August 28, 2015.
- School profile reports (one printed copy): mailed to the high school principals no later than August 28, 2015.

My Access Online Writing Program

The Office of Public Instruction (OPI) is able to offer select Montana schools a limited number of licenses for *My Access*, an online writing assessment tool from Vantage Learning. The licenses are provided at no cost to schools through funding provided by Montana GEAR UP. These licenses are intended for use in grades 8-10 as preparation for career and college ready writing as well as the writing portion of the ACT Plus Writing state test for public school juniors.

- Schools are invited to submit an online application to acquire available licenses. Licenses will be issued in the order in which they are received.
- Schools should apply if there is an educator or group of educators willing to integrate *My Access* into one or more classes and even across multiple grades. Please limit plans to no more than 300 students in grades 8-10. Applications for grades 4-7 may be considered if there are additional licenses available. Training on the use of *My Access* will be provided by OPI via webinar and at assessment conference sessions.

Please submit your application online by November 18, 2015 at <http://www.keysurvey.com/f/692001/2349/>