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Sent: Friday, May 8, 2026 10:26 AM

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Subject: Accountability Contact Update - May 2026 - HB 25-1278 Implementation and WIDA ACCESS updates

Hello Accountability Contacts-

As we celebrate school staff this week- we also want to share our deep gratitude for our district staff. We know you all are working hard behind the scenes to champion school staff and students, and we appreciate you! In this email we have updates on the timeline for implementing Performance Framework changes, WIDA ACCESS On-Track growth, data availability timelines, and upcoming webinars.

H.B. 25-1278 Implementation Updates

- **Implementation timeline:** In March, CDE presented a proposed revision to the implementation timeline to the State Board of Education, including updates to Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness (PWR) indicators and the incorporation of data from new PWR data collections into the performance frameworks. CDE outlined three potential timeline options and recommended Option 1, which would delay all performance framework changes until fall 2028 based on feedback from districts and schools. **At its April 2026 meeting, the State Board of Education voted to adopt this approach, delaying implementation of all Performance Framework changes to no earlier than fall 2028 and pursuing any necessary legislative changes in the next legislative session.** Current frameworks will be produced for points in fall 2026 and fall 2027. *Informational* frameworks with 1278 updates will be produced in spring 2028 so that districts and schools can see how revisions impact ratings. Frameworks with 1278 updates will be produced *for points* in fall 2028. Additional information and guidance will be shared when available.
 - Materials presented to the Board in March are available [here](#), and a recording of the presentation can be viewed [here](#).
- **PWR data collection:** The new Post-Secondary and Workforce Readiness (PWR) data collection is open and will close June 30, 2026 for the 2025-26 school year. You can find training resources at this [training link](#). Note that this data collection replaces the CDIP data collection in previous years. Industry-recognized credential data from this collection will be used for fall 2027 frameworks (existing matriculation sub-indicator), and work-based learning data will be included in spring 2028 informational frameworks (PWR indicators).

- **Public written testimony is still open for rulesets impacted by H.B. 25-1278**, including Insufficient State Data: Low Participation; End-of-clock pathways (district proposed pathway & Pathway Plans); and Calculations and Definitions Changes (does not impact Frameworks). Rulemaking for additional components of H.B. 25-1278 updates will occur in spring 2027.
 - Here are links to [rules documents, including redline version of rules, and presentation](#).
 - We encourage you to share your thoughts through this [feedback survey](#).

WIDA ACCESS updates

This year's WIDA ACCESS assessments reflected the updated [WIDA English Language Development \(ELD\) standards Framework, 2020 Edition](#). **For 2026, assessment scale scores are generally higher than in prior years; however, performance levels have not changed because they are still based on the 2016 cut scores.**

CDE's Accountability Analytics Unit is reviewing ACCESS 2026 data to evaluate the consistency of scale score relationships and growth metrics compared to prior years. **For accountability purposes, the 2026 school and district performance frameworks are expected to include English Language Proficiency (ACCESS) Growth but will not include On-Track to English Language Proficiency Growth. Additionally, the AYFEP count will continue and will not be paused.** Note that Colorado's growth calculations are separate from the WIDA consortium. For growth indicators included in school and district performance frameworks, rely only on information communicated directly by CDE. A standards-setting process is forthcoming in July, and new cut scores will be implemented in 2027. For more information, see [Behind the Scenes of WIDA ACCESS](#).

Schools and districts should continue to follow state guidance for multilingual learner redesignation when making reclassification decisions. Please reference the [2026-2027 Colorado Standardized Redesignation Procedures](#) for District and school obligations and guidance.

CDE staff will host a webinar to discuss early trends from WIDA ACCESS data and implications for the 2026 redesignation process and performance frameworks on **May 19th at 4 pm**. Please join us with your questions! You can register for the webinar [here](#).

Technical Advisory Panel Membership Opportunity

CDE is seeking one or more additional members to serve on the state Technical Advisory Panel for Longitudinal Growth (TAP). The TAP serves as an advisory body to the Department of Education regarding the implementation of the Colorado Growth Model and the

Educational Accountability Act. TAP members are appointed by the Commissioner of Education and serve three-year terms in a volunteer capacity. Applicants should have a strong foundation in educational assessment, student growth (including the Colorado Growth Model), research, and/or accountability systems. We especially encourage applications from individuals with experience in school or district leadership, advocacy, or other direct work with communities with a stake in school and district accountability policy.

Applicants should email a statement of interest and resume and/or direct any questions to Daniel Mangan (mangan_d@cde.state.co.us).

Upcoming Webinars

The department is hosting a series of webinars to support districts and schools with accountability changes and the release of state accountability data. These include:

- **WIDA ACCESS Updates webinar:** May 19th 2026 from 4-5 pm. [Register here](#)
- **Unified Improvement Planning 101 webinar:** May 20, 2026 from 10-11:30am [Register here](#)
- **State Accountability 101 webinar:** August 13 from 10-11am [Register here](#)
- **Stakeholder Engagement webinar:** August 27 from 1-2pm [Register here](#)
- **Accreditation and Request to Reconsider webinar:** September 3, from 9-10am [Register here](#)
- **Newly Identified Sites webinar:** September 16, from 9-10am [Register here](#)

Assessment Data Access updates

Spring 2026 individual student level results will be available to families, districts, and schools in the coming weeks.

Program	Available to Families	Available to Districts and Schools
CMAS (all content areas) CoAlt (science and social studies)	By May 29th via Family Portal *	By May 29th via PearsonAccessnext

PSAT/SAT	By May 14th via students' online College Board account or in the BigFuture School app (PSAT 10 and SAT)	By June 5th via College Board's K-12 assessment reporting portal
CoAlt (ELA and math)	By June 1st Kite Parent Portal *	By June 1st via Kite Educator Portal

*Families need their student's state ID (SASID) to access CMAS and CoAlt results.

Visit [CDE's assessment website](#) to see the full reporting timeline, including when summary data, additional CMAS and CoAlt reports, Growth, and School and District Performance Frameworks are scheduled to be available.

AEC Actual Measures Collection Window Opens May 13

Districts with Alternative Education Campuses are required to complete the AEC Actual Measures Collection to submit optional measures for inclusion in the AEC SPF or to opt out of the optional measure submission [via pipeline](#). Signatures of the school principal, district superintendent or authorizer executive director, and the local board president must be submitted as evidence of agreement on the school's selected AEC measures, metrics, and cut-points and verification of the accuracy of the data submitted. New for 2026: Districts will only be able to select measures in the data pipeline that have been approved for use by the school. For more information visit <https://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/aecaccountabilityhandbook>

Have a great weekend!