



Linda McCulloch, Superintendent

Montana Office of Public Instruction
 PO Box 202501
 Helena, Montana 59620-2501
www.opi.mt.gov

MontCAS
Montana Comprehensive Assessment
System
May 2007 Newsletter

Spring 2007 MontCAS Report Dates

Report dates for the Spring 2007 Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT) and the Criterion-Referenced Test Alternate (CRT-Alt)	
June 25, 2007	Measured Progress posts preliminary data/summary reports online on <i>iAnalyze</i> . The online reports will be stamped "preliminary." There will be no paper summary reports. All summary reports will be accessed online through <i>iAnalyze</i> . Please locate your user name and password prior to June 25. If you need assistance, please contact one of the OPI assessment staff. (Contact information is provided at the end of this newsletter.) Measured Progress does not release user names and passwords.
June 25 - July 6	Schools verify preliminary data and report discrepancies to OPI. Since the demographic data for the CRT comes directly from the OPI AIM student information system, only the following discrepancies can be resolved during this verification period: wrong schools, wrong grades, or misplaced student. Please report discrepancies to one of the OPI assessment staff. (Contact information is provided at the end of this newsletter.)
June 29, 2007	Measured Progress ships parent reports and folder labels to school systems.
August 1, 2007	Measured Progress posts updated data/summary reports posted on <i>iAnalyze</i> . The "preliminary" stamp will be removed.

Report Dates for the Spring 2007 Norm-Referenced Test (the Iowa Tests)	
April 4 – May 9, 2007	Systems receive Stage 1 reports. This shipment includes all the reports except Group Customized Skills Report, by System.
May 30, 2007	Office of Public Instruction mails letters to authorized representatives with information about reviewing their system and school disaggregated NRT data. Contact information for the review is included in the letter.
June 1, 2007	Riverside ships Stage 2 reports. This shipment contains the Group Customized Skills Report by System.
June 25 – June 29, 2007	School systems review disaggregated data on a secure site by using the secure search and their current user names and passwords for IRIS (Citrix).
June 29, 2007	Last day for school systems to contact OPI with questions. Contact Mike Chapman, mchapman@mt.gov or 406-444-4527 with questions.
Report Date for the Fall 2006 English Language Proficiency Test (ELP)	
June 8, 2007	Questar mails ELP reports to Systems.

2007-2008 MontCAS Testing Schedule

October 23- November 23, 2007	English Language Proficiency Assessment for students identified as Limited English Proficient (LEP) in grades K-12.
February 11 – March 26, 2008	CRT-Alternate, Grades 3-8 and 10, Reading and Math (It is recommended that the first week of this window be used for training, becoming familiar with the materials, and organizing the testing.)
March 3 – March 26, 2008	CRT, Grades 3-8 and 10, Reading and Math; Grades 4, 8, and 10 in Science

Tentative Dates Assessment Conference Spring 2008:



April 28 and 29, 2008, Helena

Thank you for your support of the 2007 conference, *The Assessment Toolkit*. We look forward to seeing you next year.



Testing Contractor Contact Information

✦ **MontCAS, Phase 1, the Iowa Tests—Riverside Publishing Company**

Meredith Durgin, Montana Program Manager
meredith_durgin@hmco.com or 800-767-8420 x6094

Carol Taylor Cann, Montana Assessment Consultant
carol_taylor_cann@hmco.com or 800-767-8420 x7113

✦ **MontCAS, Phase 2, the CRT and the CRT-Alternate—Measured Progress, Inc.**

Dan Verdick, Montana CRT Program Manager
dverdick@measuredprogress.org or 800-431-8901 x2220

Nancy Hall, Montana CRT Program Assistant
nhall@measuredprogress.org or 888-792-2741

Jake Goldsmith, Montana CRT-Alternate Program Manager
JGoldsmith@measuredprogress.org or 800-431-8901 x2239

Niki Carr, Montana CRT-Alternate Program Assistant
ncarr@measuredprogress.org or 800-431-8901x2238

✦ **MontCAS, the English Language Proficiency (ELP)—Questar Assessment Inc. (previously named TASA, Inc.)**

Pamela Demarest, Program Manager
pdemarest@tasa.com or 845-277-8100

Test Coordinator Information

If you will not be the System Test Coordinator next year, please contact the Office of Public Instruction assessment staff with updated test coordinator information. Information needed is name, email address, phone number, shipping address, and mailing address. Contact information is at the end of this newsletter.



MontCAS Phase 2

Welcome Dan

Dan Verdick is the new Montana program manager for the Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT).

Contact information for Dan:
dverdick@measuredprogress.org or 800-431-8901 x2220



Sample CRT Science Items are Online

In the Spring of 2008, Science in grades 4, 8, and 10 will be added to the statewide CRT administration. Samples of science items for grades 4, 8, and 10 are online at

<http://www.opi.mt.gov/PDF/Assessment/CRT/RI/07Gr4Science.pdf>

<http://www.opi.mt.gov/PDF/Assessment/CRT/RI/07Gr8Science.pdf>

<http://www.opi.mt.gov/PDF/Assessment/CRT/RI/07Gr10Science.pdf>

iAnalyze Training

iAnalyze is the online reporting tool for the CRT and CRT-Alternate. All summary reports will be on *iAnalyze*. No printed summary reports will be mailed.

OPI's *iAnalyze* Training Team will provide training on site for your system or school. A request form is online. Please fax it to the number on the form. The link to the form is

<http://www.opi.mt.gov/PDF/Assessment/Forms/06TrainRqst.pdf>

Test Development Projects in July

Thank you for your enthusiastic response to the item selection sessions in July 2007 for the Reading and Math CRT, grades 3-8 and 10, and the Science CRT in grades 4, 8, and 10. The sessions are filled, and participants will receive confirmation emails and details from Nancy Hall at Measured Progress the week of May 21.

OPI Assessment Contacts

- ✚ Karen Crogan, Assessment Assistant, kcrogan@mt.gov, 406-444-4431
- ✚ Karen Richem, Assessment Specialist, krichem@mt.gov, 406-444-0748
- ✚ Judy Snow, State Assessment Director, jsnow@mt.gov, 406-444-3656



Have a great summer!