



Professional Learning Community

What is the Assessment Learning Network?

The ASSESSMENT LEARNING NETWORK (ALN) is a **professional learning community** open to educators and policymakers committed to improving student learning through effective use of high-quality, balanced assessment systems. The goal of the ALN is to **increase the assessment literacy** among professional educators and of those who make policy decisions regarding K-12 education.

- **ALN PARTICIPANTS** are education professionals and policymakers who are interested in building their own assessment literacy and in promoting assessment practices that improve student learning.
- **ALN AFFILIATES** are participants who have committed to share materials and resources made available through ALN with their colleagues, members and/or constituents. ALN Affiliates include:
 - **Individuals** with colleague networks with whom they share ALN resources
 - **Organizations** (and their representatives) whose members/constituents would benefit from improved assessment literacy

Through engagement and shared perspectives, this professional learning community invests in Michigan's children and educators by promoting the use of assessment to cultivate capable learners.

The ASSESSMENT LEARNING NETWORK is a unique concept that:

- is supported by the Michigan Assessment Consortium (MAC) and the Michigan Department of Education
- brings together leaders from Michigan's classrooms, districts, professional education associations and the Michigan Department of Education
- offers regular engagements where diverse education leaders learn together about the power of assessment to support the learning of our students and their educators, and our state's success



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How can I be involved in the Assessment Learning Network?

Any educator or policymaker can be an **ALN PARTICIPANT** to enhance their own learning. Interested individuals and organizations can also choose to become an **ALN AFFILIATE** by committing to extend assessment literacy to all Michigan educators by intentionally sharing ALN resources.

PARTICIPATE in the ALN Professional Community

To participate in the ALN professional community, simply register for any ALN event posted to the ALN Calendar on the Michigan Assessment Consortium (MAC) website. The registration fees (discounted for MAC members) cover lunch (live events only), networking during the event, and ongoing access to all session materials and video. Registration fees are kept affordable by subsidies from the MAC and Michigan Department of Education.

Become an ALN AFFILIATE

ALN invites individuals and organizations to Affiliate with the ALN by committing to all the following **responsibilities**:

- Pre-register for and attend all ALN events (in-person and virtual)
- Participate in ALN event facilitated dialogue and activities
- Review Michigan's Assessment Literacy Standards and all available ALN resources
- Synthesize and share ALN information and resources with your colleagues or members/constituents of a sponsoring organization (if applicable)

In return, the MAC supports ALN Affiliates in their efforts to share assessment literacy learning with colleagues/members/constituents through a variety of **optional benefits**, including:

- Communications tools
- Customized consultation
- MAC individual membership (one-year)
- Recognition on the ALN website and selected printed publications

Affiliation opens a two-way conversation and a mutual commitment to increase assessment knowledge among your followers, members, or constituents.

Individual ALN Affiliate

Individuals who would like to invest time and effort into developing assessment literacy among Michigan educators or policymakers AND who are positioned to be successful in outreach to one or more constituent groups are invited to become ALN Affiliates. To indicate your interest in becoming an ALN Affiliate, [complete this simple form](#).



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Organizational ALN Affiliates

ALN Affiliate Organizations include education professional associations, intermediate school districts, and others. Organizations are invited to designate one or more representative(s) who are willing to work to increase their own assessment literacy *and* develop strategies by which the organization can work with the MAC to increase the assessment literacy of its members and/or constituents. **ALN Affiliate Organizations designate representative(s)** to fulfil all the responsibilities of ALN Affiliates listed above.

Organizations with an interest in becoming an ALN Affiliate Organization can contact Kathy Dewsbury-White at kdwhite@michiganassessmentconsortium.org or 517-816-4520.

2023-24 Schedule of Events ([see expanded descriptions](#))

All events except April 27 are in a webinar format. April 27 will be offered in person with a virtual option after lunch.

- Oct. 20, 2023 How Our Assessment Practice Can Develop Confidence in Learners, with Rick Stiggins
- Jan. 11, 2024 Using the Science of Joyful, Deeper Learning to Rethink Assessment, with Bryan Goodwin
- Feb. 22, 2024 Stealth Assessment in Games to Measure and Support Learning. with Valerie Shute
- April 17, 2024 Teaching Through Students, Not To Students: Embodied equity within quality curriculum, instruction and assessment, with Heather Vaughan-Southard, Nafeesah Symonette, Tara Kintz, and Ellen Vorenkamp.

How to Register

If you are an ALN PARTICIPANT

Register for ONE event by clicking “register” on any ALN event page.

COST: \$ 50 (\$40 MAC Member)

Purchase a Season Pass* to all 4 events on the ALN Home page

www.michiganassessmentconsortium.org/ALN

COST: \$175 (\$140 MAC Member)

If you are an ALN AFFILIATE

AFTER completing the [Affiliate Application](#), purchase a Season Pass* using the custom code you receive from the MAC.

COST: \$140 (\$35/session) Includes (1) one-year Individual MAC Membership.

ALN Affiliate Organizations typically name ONE primary representative; additional representatives must each complete an Affiliate Application or register as participants.

**Season Pass event cancellations are not refundable; however, you may name an alternate for up to 2 events if a schedule conflict arises.*