



DESSA SYSTEM ARC OF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

2025-2026 School Year



DESSA Professional Learning provides high-quality development opportunities that will transform educators' skills, practices, and mindsets through the enhanced knowledge of the DESSA System.

We offer various modalities, including virtual and on-site training, self-paced courses, an on-demand video library, office hours, and Support Portal resources to accommodate diverse learning preferences.



SETTING THE STAGE FOR SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION

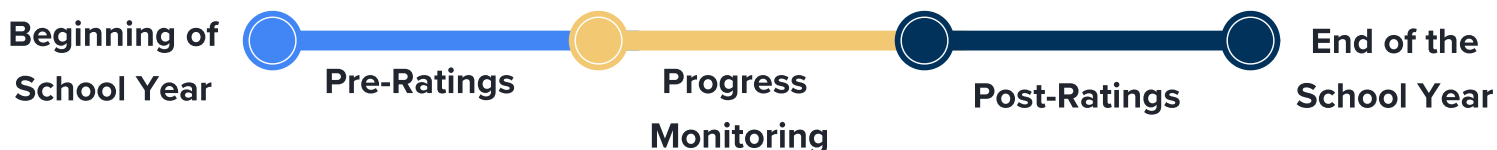
Ensuring all users have opportunities to learn about the DESSA through training opportunities is necessary for a successful implementation. Below you'll find some helpful tips to consider as you select the training option(s) that work best for your program or district.



Why is completing training before using the DESSA so important? It's simple—to be confident and prepared! Training provides users with a clear understanding of how to use the assessment products and instructional materials. This step in the implementation process is essential to ensure accuracy and reliability. DESSA Training helps users understand how to collect and interpret data, and avoid potential errors or biases. Training is recommended throughout the school year as data is collected and used to support student growth.

ESTABLISH A TIMELINE FOR TRAINING

Consider which timeframes throughout the year that training can be prioritized, such as before/at the beginning of the school, before completing ratings, after collecting data, and after progress monitoring to measure the impact of instruction and intervention.



ENSURE ACCESS TO THE DESSA SYSTEM

It is recommended that all users have access to their DESSA System Educator Portal prior to completing a form of training. Some training options are available within the DESSA System, while others will require users to follow along in their Educator Portal as part of the session.

DETERMINE THE MODALITY

We offer a variety of training options, including DESSA Training Courses (included in purchase), Virtual Webinars (customized sessions for purchase), and On-Site Workshops (customized sessions for purchase).





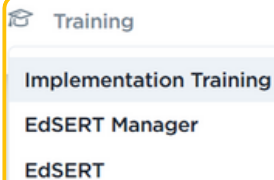
OVERVIEW OF TRAINING MODALITIES



**Included
in
purchase**

DESSA Training Courses

Our courses are self-paced, interactive learning experiences that provide all the information and resources you need to collect and use DESSA data. Recommended trainings are outlined for users that are new to the DESSA, and additional mini-courses are available with a variety of topics and plenty of implementation resources. Learning recommendations are provided and certificates of completion are provided for each course. To access the DESSA Training Courses, click on the Training tab within the DESSA System.



**Customized
Sessions for
Purchase**

Virtual Webinars

Custom Virtual Webinars provide an opportunity for educators and leaders to partner with a DESSA trainer. Together, we can align training sessions to the mission and vision of the District or Program to lay the foundation for future-ready skills, resilience, and well-being. Custom Virtual Webinars are for purchase and, therefore, are not included with the purchase of student licenses.

**Customized
Workshops
for Purchase**

On-Site Workshops

Much like our virtual webinars, we invite stakeholders to partner with the trainer in aligning the training to the mission and vision of the District or Program. On-Site Workshops provide an interactive, hands-on approach to training at your preferred location.





DESSA TRAINING COURSES

2025-2026 School Year

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**Included
in
purchase**

View the full list of course offerings:

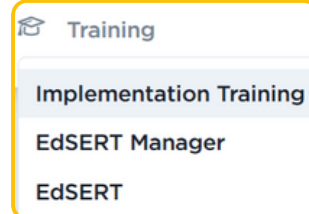
[DESSA Training Course Catalog](#)



Included
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purchase

DESSA TRAINING COURSES

Located in the Educator Portal under the Training tab



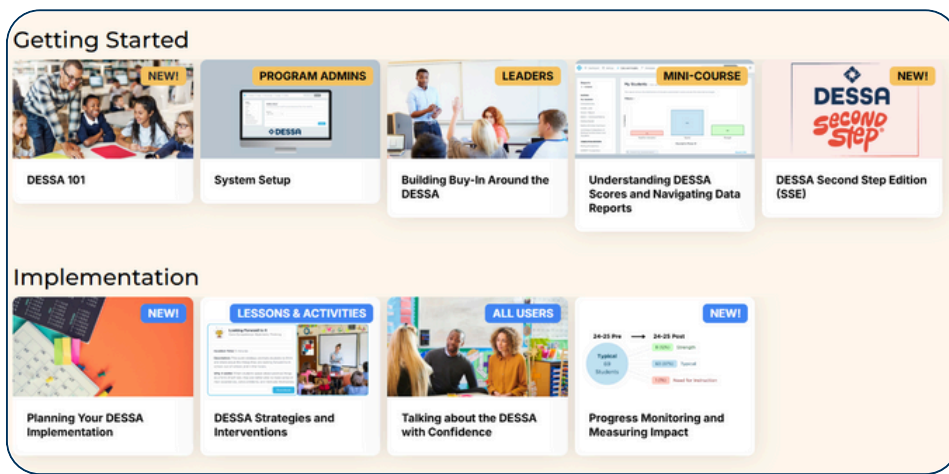
RECOMMENDED TRAINING

Full trainings are recommended for users new to the DESSA. Explore the additional mini-course options for refresher learning and specific implementation topics.

DESSA 2 DESSA High School Edition (HSE) <i>Educator-completed assessments</i>	DESSA Student Self-Report (SSR) DESSA SEIR <i>Student-completed assessments</i>
Before rating: Getting Started with the DESSA	Before students complete ratings: Introduction to the DESSA Student Self-Report (SSR) If applicable: DESSA Screener for Externalizing and Internalizing Risk (SEIR)
After collecting data: Turning DESSA Data into Action: Analyzing and Applying Results	After collecting data: Turning SSR Data into Action: Analyzing and Applying Results
Refresher mini-courses: DESSA 101 Mastering DESSA Ratings	Refresher mini-courses: DESSA 101 Supporting Students with the SSR and Student Portal

MINI-COURSES

A variety of mini-courses are available for a deeper dive into specific topics, such as “*Progress Monitoring and Measuring Impact*” and “*Talking about the DESSA with Confidence*”. Each module includes video resources, templates, and implementation materials.



View the full list of course offerings:


[DESSA Training Course Catalog](#)



VIRTUAL WEBINARS AND ON-SITE WORKSHOPS

TRAINING TOPICS

2025-2026 School Year

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**Customized
Sessions for
Purchase**



**Connect with your Riverside Partnership Team Member
to schedule a customized webinar or workshop.**

WEBINARS AND WORKSHOPS

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Purchase

Year 1

Year 1 trainings are designed to build buy-in with important stakeholders and familiarize users with the essentials of the DESSA assessments and the Educator Portal.

Year 1

Before First
Rating

BUILDING BUY-IN AROUND THE DESSA SYSTEM (60 MINS)

Audience: District and Building Leaders

Objectives:

- Define the purpose and benefits of implementing the DESSA system.
- Equip stakeholders with effective tools and strategies to enhance engagement with the DESSA system.
- Identify and address potential resistance to ensure a successful implementation.
- Develop structured processes for measuring progress and evaluating success.

Year 1

Before First
Rating

GETTING STARTED WITH THE DESSA SYSTEM (60 MINS)

Audience: District and Building Leaders, Educators

Objectives:

- Identify key components of the teacher-completed DESSA assessments in order to support educators with implementation.
- Learn best practices for completing ratings and understand the scoring result categories.
- Explore the features of the Educator Portal and learn how to maximize the resources.

Year 1

Before First
Rating

GETTING STARTED WITH THE DESSA SYSTEM **PLUS** (90 MINS)

Audience: District and Building Leaders, Educators

Objectives:

- Identify key components of the teacher and student-completed DESSA assessments, including the DESSA, DESSA MSE-SSR, DESSA HSE-SSR, and/or the DESSA SEIR in order to support educators with implementation.
- Learn best practices for completing ratings and understand the scoring result categories.
- Explore the roles of staff members responsible for supporting students in completing the self-assessment and utilizing the collected data.
- Learn how to navigate the Educator and Student platforms, including the main resources, tools, and features.

WEBINARS AND WORKSHOPS

Customized
Sessions for
Purchase

Year 1
**Before First
Rating**

INTRODUCTION TO THE DESSA STUDENT SELF REPORT (60 MINS)

Audience: District and Building Leaders, Educators

Objectives:

- Identify key components of the DESSA Student Self-Report assessments to support educators with implementation.
- Explore the roles of staff members responsible for supporting students in completing the self-assessment and utilizing the collected data.
- Learn how to navigate the Educator and Student platforms, including the main resources, tools, and features.

ANALYZING DESSA DATA IN THE EDUCATOR PORTAL (60 MINS)

Audience: District and Building Leaders, Educators

Objectives:

- Access various teacher-completed DESSA reports within the Educator Portal.
- Analyze and interpret data through a multi-tiered system of support (MTSS) lens.
- Explore strategies to support student growth using a strengths-based approach.
- Apply Data-Driven Recommendations and Tier 2 Interventions to develop a targeted action plan.

Year 1
**After First
Rating**

ANALYZING STUDENT-SELF REPORT (SSR) DATA

Audience: District and Building Leaders, Educators

Objectives:

- Access various DESSA Student Self-Report reports within the Educator Portal for the DESSA MSE-SSR, HSE-SSR and SEIR assessments.
- Analyze and interpret data through a multi-tiered system of support (MTSS) lens.
- Explore strategies in the Educator and Student Portals to support student growth.
- Apply Data-Driven Recommendations and Tier 2 Interventions to develop a targeted action plan.

Year 1
**After First
Rating**

ANALYZING DESSA DATA IN THE EDUCATOR PORTAL **PLUS** (90 MINS)

Audience: District and Building Leaders, Educators

Objectives:

- Access various DESSA and DESSA Student Self-Report reports within the Educator Portal.
- Analyze and interpret data through a multi-tiered system of support (MTSS) lens.
- Explore strategies in the Educator and Student Portals to support student growth.
- Apply Data-Driven Recommendations and Tier 2 Interventions to develop a targeted action plan.

Year 1
**After First
Rating**

Year 2

Year 2 trainings are designed to deepen DESSA System implementation and equip users to make productive, data-driven decisions in their role.

Year 2

After Second Rating

USING DESSA DATA: IMPACT IN ACTION (60 MINS)

Audience: District and Building Leaders, Educators

Objectives:

- Gain skills to use the DESSA for tracking student growth and monitoring the effectiveness of interventions over time.
- Learn how to interpret assessment data through a strengths-based lens to inform instructional decisions.
- Explore strategies for effectively communicating data insights and student progress to key stakeholders.

USING DESSA DATA WITHIN THE MTSS FRAMEWORK (60 MINS)

Audience: District and Building Leaders

Objectives:

- Understand how the MTSS framework impacts student outcomes.
- Learn best practices for integrating DESSA data into an MTSS framework.
- Establish procedures for monitoring student growth.

UNLOCKING STUDENT STRENGTHS WITH THE DESSA SYSTEM (60 MINS)

Audience: District and Building Leaders. Educators

Objectives:

- Explore how the DESSA can enhance support for students receiving special education services.
- Learn to use DESSA data to inform present level of performance statements and develop aligned IEP goals.
- Identify strategies and resources based on DESSA data to promote targeted skill building and student growth.

CONSIDER THIS:

- When can your educators and building leaders complete asynchronous courses (located in the DESSA System) for the foundational DESSA training?
- If your district, school, or program uses both teacher and student-completed DESSA assessments, determine how to schedule and communicate the schedule for those trainings.
- If you purchase a custom webinar or workshop, will elementary and secondary teachers/leaders attend the same training, or will DESSA training require multiple dates?



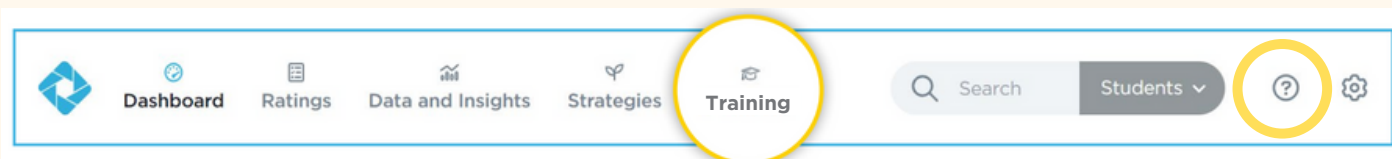
**Connect with your
Riverside
Partnership Team
Member to
schedule a
customized webinar
or workshop.**



TRAINING RESOURCES

Additional resources for all users in the Educator Portal include video tutorials, guides, FAQs, and helpful documents. To access other training modalities, log into the portal and click Training. To access the Support Portal, log into your account and select the question mark icon in the upper right-hand corner of the dashboard. A new tab will open containing the Support Portal (please disable your browser's pop-up blocker).

Included
in
purchase



On-Demand Video Library

Our [On-Demand Video Library](#) contains short self-service videos that guide users through using the DESSA assessments system. Depending on the content in an on-demand video, they will range from 3-7 minutes.

Office Hours

Office Hours provide monthly micro-learning opportunities that include a 15-minute presentation and 30 minutes of general Q&A time with staff from our Professional Learning and Success Teams. [Register today!](#)

Support Portal

Our [Support Portal](#) is a 24/7 resource library that contains FAQs, user guides and manuals, and articles. You can search by keyword or browse by topic.