Aperture Education

EDUCATOR QUICK-START GUIDE

A guide to the basics of getting started with the Aperture System

LEARN HOW TO:

ACCESS YOUR ACCOUNT

Log Into the Aperture System, Activate Your Account

CONDUCT RATINGS & ACCESS REPORTS

Complete Ratings, Explore the Data & Insights Tab, Access Reports

ACCESS STRATEGIES & SUPPORT

Explore Growth Strategies and Foundational Practices, Access Support

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GETTING STARTED

DESSA OVERVIEW

Universal Screener			
DESSA-mini	8 questions (1-2 minutes per student)	Educator completes	Sample Form
DESSA-HSE mini	8 questions (1-2 minutes per student)	Educator completes	Sample Form
Diagnostic Strength-Based Assessment of Social-Emotional Competencies			
DESSA	72 questions	Educator completes for students who demonstrate need for instruction	Sample Form
DESSA-HSE	43 questions (3-5 minutes per student)	Educator completes for students who demonstrate need for instruction	Sample Form
DESSA-HSE SSR	55 questions (5-7 minutes)	Student completes self-report	Sample Form
DESSA-MSE SSR	50 questions (5-7 minutes)	Student completes self-report	Sample Form

DEMO VIDEO ICON

Look for this icon throughout this Quick-Start Guide to access short demo videos to support your work in the Aperture System.

ACTIVATING YOUR APERTURE SYSTEM ACCOUNT

- You will receive an email from Aperture Education with the subject line Welcome to Aperture!* Please check your junk or spam folder if you do not see in your inbox.
- Click the Create Account link in the email to open the activation window. Email invitations are only active for 7 days. If you receive a message that the link has expired, the Program Administrator will need to send a new invitation out to you.
- Choose a password for your account, select the checkbox and click Activate.
- *Note: If your program has Single Sign-On enabled, you will not need to register as outlined above. You can access your Aperture account by going to your district SSO login page and clicking the   icon.

LOGGING INTO YOUR APERTURE SYSTEM ACCOUNT

Use this Aperture System link to log into your account using the email and the password you just created. Consider bookmarking this link for future use.

ADDITIONAL PRODUCT RESOURCES

SEL STRATEGIES AND INTERVENTIONS PACKAGE

The SEL Strategies and Interventions Package includes data-driven recommendations based on students' DESSA results, provides SEL strategies and tiered interventions, and offers the ability to track implementation. Leveraging the MTSS framework, the package allows educators to provide students the level of support they need to be successful.

Key Resources:
- SEL Strategies and Interventions Overview Video
- SEL Strategies and Interventions Quick-Start Guide

STUDENT SELF REPORT

The DESSA Student Self-Report (which includes Middle School (MS-SSR) and/or High School Student Self-Report (HS-SSR)) is a student-facing platform that allows students to report on their own social and emotional strengths, adding an important perspective to the assessment and promotion of students' social and emotional competence. This information allows students to make choices about which skills they want to develop and which goals they want to set.

Key Resources:
- SSR Fundamentals Video
- Getting Started with DESSA-SSR (Student Facing Slide Deck)
- High School SSR Quick Start Guide
- Middle School SSR Quick Start Guide

EDSERT

Educator Social and Emotional Reflection and Training (EdSERT) is a holistic approach for educators that enhances their understanding of SEL, increases their capacity to teach SEL, and empowers them to model SEL to their students. For the 2023-2024 school year, CEUs will be offered for EdSERT. Individuals who wish to obtain CEU credits should complete the CEU Application Form in the Educator Guide at least seven days prior to the start of the EdSERT program.

Key Resources:
- EdSERT Overview Video
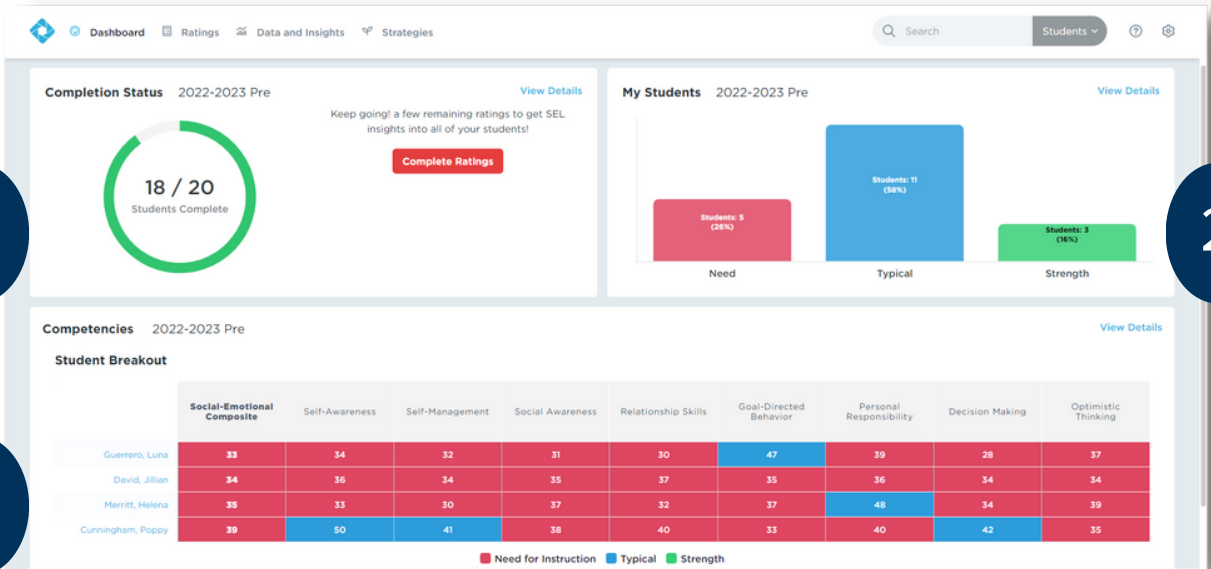- EdSERT Educator Guide

NAVIGATING THE APERTURE SYSTEM

YOUR APERTURE SYSTEM DASHBOARD ▶

When educators log in to the Aperture System they will be taken to their dashboard. This dashboard contains the following components:

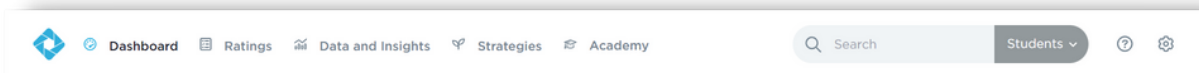**1** Progress on your ratings and a call to action to complete any ratings that are incomplete.

2 Preview of My Students report (a breakdown of descriptive score ranges) for the students in the group assigned to you. You can only see students on your rater list in this section (even if you have permission to see others). You can also change the filters on your report by clicking View Details.

3 Preview of the Competencies report for those students who have had a full DESSA assessment completed of those students assigned to you for ratings. You can also change the filters on your report by clicking View Details.

NAVIGATION IN THE APERTURE SYSTEM ▶

- **Dashboard:** Main landing page for all users containing 3 modules with relevant data.
- **Ratings:** Where users complete their student ratings.
- **Data & Insights:** Access your interactive reports on this tab.
- **Strategies:** Growth strategies including foundational practices, intervention strategies, and lesson plans.
- **Academy:** EdSERT and educator training materials.
- **Search:** Search for a specific student to access their individual student report.
- **Question Mark:** Opens Support Portal to allow you to search for assistance or explore resources.
- **Settings Cog:** Contains basic info and administrator functions as well as the logout option.
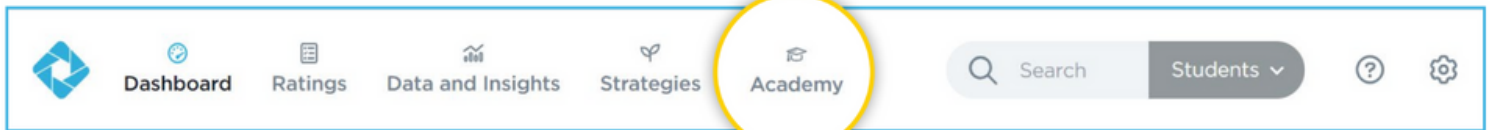
PROFESSIONAL LEARING OPPORTUNITIES

Educators who complete training are better able to complete their DESSA ratings confidently, analyze and use their data, and implement the Aperture System resources more effectively. There are three ways to learn about how to use the DESSA assessments and the Aperture System.

You can access each of these resources via the Aperture System Academy.

Our Interactive Courses are asynchronous, interactive learning experiences that will deepen your use and knowledge of the Aperture System. Courses can be completed at a time that best suits your school or program.

- Aperture System Essentials for Educators
- Introduction to the Aperture System: High School or Middle School Student Self-Report
- Analyzing Data in the Aperture System: High School or Middle School Student Self-Report
- Encouraging Student Agency in Social and Emotional Growth

The On-Demand Video Library recognize that the demand for accessible and portable on-demand learning is growing. Our On-Demand Video Library contains short self-service videos that guide users through using the DESSA assessments and the Aperture System.

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.

COMPLETING RATINGS

To complete ratings for your assigned students, log into the Aperture System, click Ratings, choose a student, respond to the items (in either Single Question or Table format), and click Complete.

ACCESSING REPORTS

ACCESSING REPORTS ON THE DATA & INSIGHTS TAB ▶

To access reports, log into the Aperture System and click on the Data & Insights tab at the top of your Dashboard. Click on My Students on the left to see a chart and table visualization of students who fall into each descriptive range category. Use the filters to sort and break down this list further. Clicking on the student's name will bring you to their individual student report. The table can be exported as a comma-separated values (CSV) text file (to be imported into Excel or other spreadsheet software) by clicking on the Export CSV option. For more detailed information on reports and action steps view the Implementation Guide.

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT REPORT

The Individual Student Report shows a line graph of a student's rating scores over time for each rating conducted in the Aperture System. Hover over a rating for details about that rating, or click on it to see more details. The table below the line graph provides more detail in addition to a Report icon where you can see Individual Item Analyses. To print this report, click the three dots at the top right.
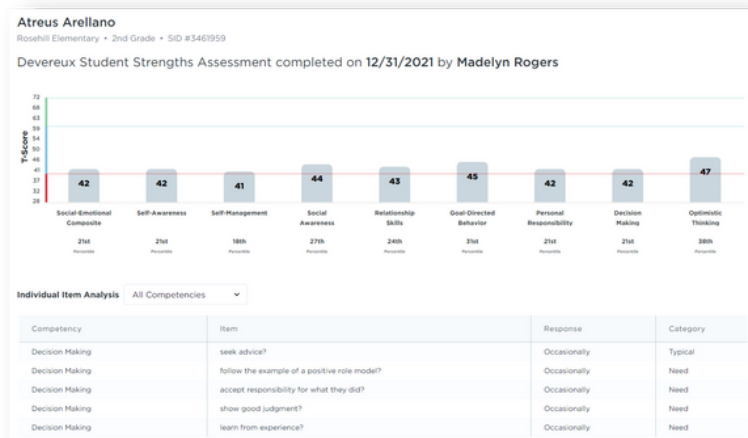
INDIVIDUAL RATING REPORT AND ITEM ANALYSES

Access the Individual Rating Report by clicking the Report icon in the table at the bottom of the Individual Student Report.

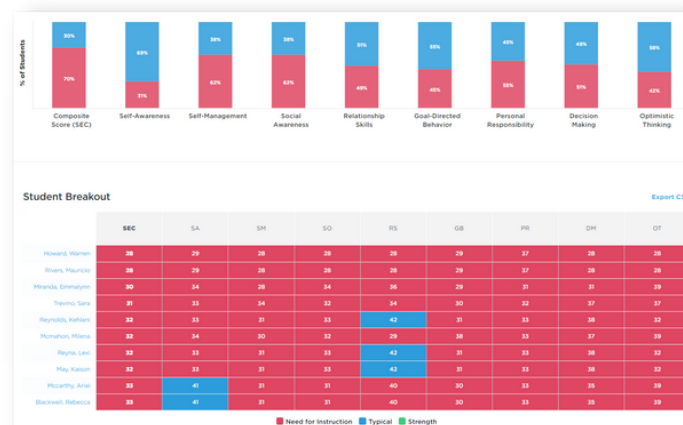| 04/30/2022 | 21-22 Post | Typical | 43 | 24th | DESSA | 2nd Grade | Madelyn Rogers | 📊 🗑 |

For students who have taken the DESSA, this report will show a bar graph with a T-score for each competency. Filter the table below by competency to help identify areas of strength and needs for instruction for the student and gather ideas for targeted small group or individual interventions. To print this report, click the three dots at the top right.

COMPETENCIES REPORT

The Competencies Report shows the breakdown of students across the descriptive ranges for a given competency. Bear in mind that this chart can skew heavily toward Need for Instruction given that it will only include students who have been rated using the full DESSA diagnostic assessment (not the DESSA-mini).
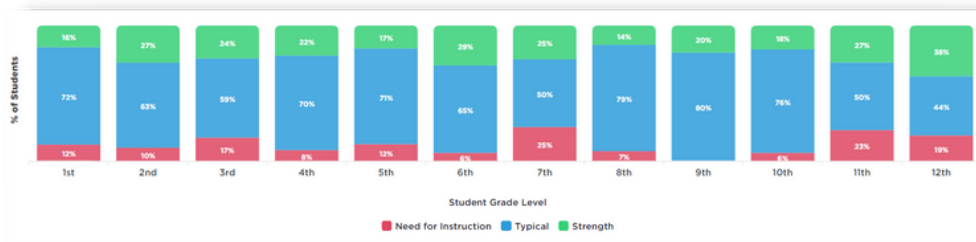
The Student Breakout table displays a row per student with their respective scores. You can use the chart and table in tandem to determine which competencies to focus on for individual, small group, or universal instruction.
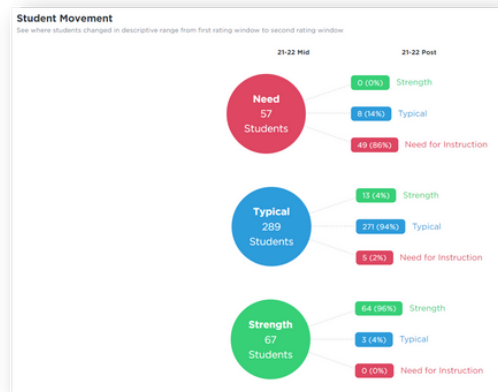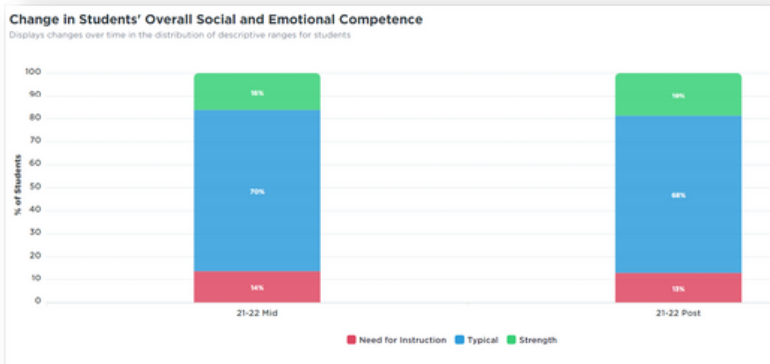
GRADE LEVEL REPORT

The Grade Level Report shows the breakdown of students across descriptive ranges in selected grades. Keep in mind that the user level dictates access to data, so depending on your access level, you may not see the Grade Level Report available or may only see a grade level comparison of the specific students on your roster. For more information about what data is collected within your school, connect with your Site Leader or Program Administrator. To print this report, click the three dots at the top right.
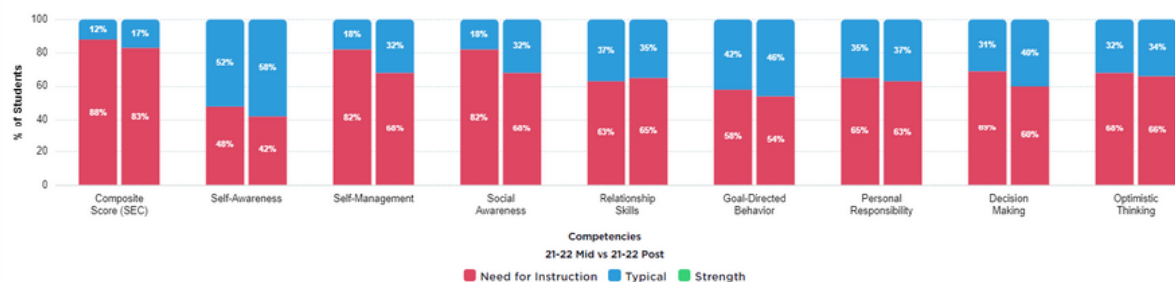

IMPACT REPORT

The Impact Report provides several different views of the compared data for the rating windows selected. It includes a graph of Change in Students' Overall Social and Emotional Competence, a Student Movement visualization, and a chart breaking down rating comparisons by specific competencies. To print this report or export it as a CSV text file, click the three dots at the top right.
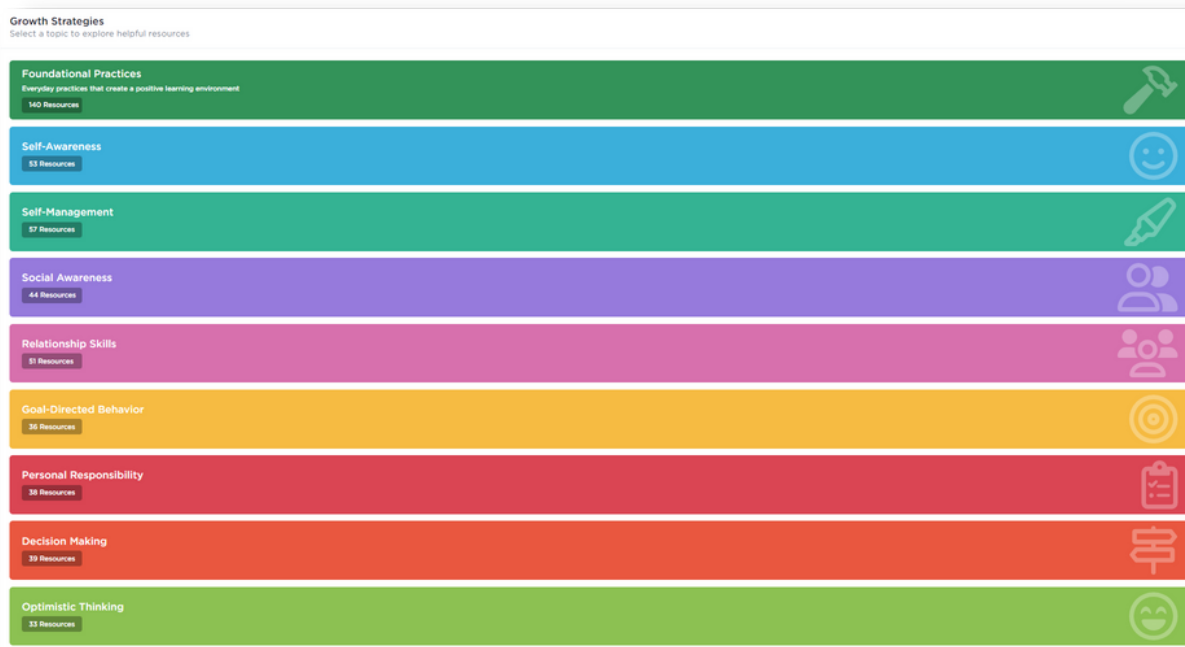
STRATEGIES ▶ ▶

To access strategies after rating, click on the Strategies tab on your Aperture System dashboard. The Strategies landing page displays Foundational Practices for social and emotional learning in general as well as specific strategies for each of the social-emotional competencies. The demo videos for this section of the Quick-Start Guide provide a short overview of the Strategies tab as well as a longer example of how to connect your data to strategies.

- Within each competency, you can filter to find a desired strategy (which you can break down by grade level)

- Click on a given resource to download it to your computer.

- Use Foundational Practices as everyday strategies to create a positive learning environment.

GETTING SUPPORT ▶

Additional resources for all users in the Aperture System include video tutorials, webinars, educator guides, FAQs, and helpful documents. To access the support portal, log into your Aperture System 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).

In the Support Portal, type the name of the resource you are looking for into the search bar or scroll through the suggested resources. To contact our Support Team, click the Submit A Request button on the top right to submit a ticket.