



Michigan Merit Examination - Plans and Prospects

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Current MEAP High School Test

- # Spring testing (March-April, 2006)
- # Fall retesting (late October-early November, 2006)
- # English Language Arts (Reading and Writing), Mathematics, Science count for the Merit Award
- # Social Studies also assessed but does not count for the Merit Award

Current Program

Grade 10

- Students take the MEAP High School Assessment to qualify for dual enrollment (assessment in fall or spring)

Grade 11

- Students take the MEAP High School Assessment to qualify for dual enrollment (in the fall) and the Merit Award
- All students take the MEAP in the spring (if they have not already passed the MEAP)

Grade 12

- Students take the MEAP in the fall or spring to qualify for the Merit Award

Current Program

- # Merit Award: \$2,500 for passing the English language arts tests (reading and writing), mathematics and science at the high school level
- # Merit Award: \$500 for passing the same subjects in grade 7 and 8 (each is assessed in each of these two grades)

MME Legislation

- # PA 592 of 2004 - MME inserted into Career and Technical Preparation Act
- # PA 593 of 2004 - Replaces high school MEAP with MME in School Aid Act
- # PA 594 of 2004 - Replaces high school MEAP with MME in Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act
- # PA 595 of 2004 - Replaces high school MEAP with MME for determining Merit Award Scholarships
- # PA 596 of 2004 - Replaces the high school MEAP with MME in the School Code

Steps Used to Implement MME

- # Visited potential vendors to share/obtain ideas
- # Competitively bid the MME program
- # Reviewed the bids
- # Selected new contractor(s) - Pearson/ACT
- # Determined the content of each MME test
- # Conducting statistical alignment study (pilot test)

Spring 2006 Pilot High Schools

MME Pilot Schools



Steps Needed to Implement MME

- # Conduct additional content alignment studies needed
- # Set cut scores on MME and MEAP Grade 11, to be used for the Merit Award and NCLB AYP
- # Prepare revisions to the NCLB Accountability Workbook
- # Establish PLAN and PSAT cut scores for dual enrollment purposes

Steps Needed to Implement MME

- # Submit application for approval to U.S. Department of Education by June, 2006
- # November 1 is the "drop-dead date" for the MME versus MEAP HST decision for Spring 2007
- # Receive approval from USED prior to drop-dead date OR continue MEAP High School Assessment (if approval is not received by that date)
- # Implement the MME in grades 11 in the 2006-07 school year; maintain MEAP HST for Grade 12 only

MME Assessment Design

- # Grade 10: College entrance readiness test (PLAN and PSAT - local school/student choice)
- # Grades 11 and 12: Michigan Merit Examination
 - English Language Arts - ACT, WorkKeys and 1 Michigan-developed Social Studies item
 - Mathematics - ACT mathematics and a few items from the ACT science section, WorkKeys and 8 Michigan-developed items
 - Science - ACT test and 39 Michigan-developed items
 - Social Studies - 52 Michigan-developed items

Michigan Merit Examination Components and Score Contributions

Assessments Administered	Contributes to an English Language Arts Score	Contributes to a Mathematics Score	Contributes to a Science Score	Contributes to a Social Studies Score
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •ACT Plus Writing •WorkKeys Applied Mathematics & Reading for Information •Michigan Science and Mathematics •Michigan Social Studies 	<p><u>Total ELA Score</u></p> <p><u>Reading</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •ACT Reading (MC) •WorkKeys Reading for Information items (MC) <p><u>Writing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •ACT English (MC) •ACT Writing (CR) •Michigan Social Studies CR item - writing score) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •ACT Mathematics (MC) •WorkKeys Applied Mathematics (MC) •Selected ACT Science items (MC) •Michigan items (Approximately 8 MC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •ACT Science (MC) •Michigan Science (39 MC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Michigan Social Studies (51 MC and 1 CR - social studies score) <p>Note: The number of Michigan items may increase in order to field-test new items to replace those released annually.</p>

MME Assessment Administration

Grades 11 and 12 - Spring Administration

- March 13 - ACT Plus Writing
- March 14 WorkKeys Assessments
- March 14-21 Michigan tests in Mathematics, Science and Social Studies
- March 27 - Makeup ACT Plus Writing
- March 28 - Makeup WorkKeys
- March 28-April 4

Grades 11 and 12 - Fall Administration

- Saturday, October 27, 2007 - ACT and WorkKeys
- October 29-November 2 - Michigan components

MME Year-by-Year Implementation

2005-2006

- Fall - MEAP HST (grades 10, 11, 12)
- Spring - MEAP HST plus statistical linking to ACT (grade 11 only)
 - Small sample (37 high schools; 7,000 students)
 - Scale ACT tests and state-developed tests together to create the Michigan Merit Examination (MME)
 - Set standards on MME equivalent to current MEAP HST passing scores

MME Year-by-Year Implementation

- # 2006-2007 (Assuming Federal Approval)
 - Grade 10 - use PLAN or PSAT for dual enrollment
 - Local district selects test; state sets qualification score(s)
 - Student or school district pays the testing cost (no state reimbursement)
 - Grade 11 - Offer MME in the Spring for Merit Award
 - Grade 12 - Offer MEAP HST to complete Merit Award (one year only) OR MME

MME Year-by-Year Implementation

- # 2007-08 (No More MEAP)
 - Grade 10 - use PLAN or PSAT for dual enrollment
 - Local district selects test; state sets qualification score(s)
 - Student or school district pays the testing cost (no state reimbursement)
 - Grade 11 - Offer MME in the Spring for Merit Award
 - Grade 12 - Offer MME in the Fall and Spring
 - Students get one free (state-paid) re-take
 - Students in poverty may receive one re-take on ACT/SAT from those vendors

MME Schedule for 2006-2007

March, 2006

- Statewide videoconference on MME assessment accommodations (March 6)

April, 2006

- Statewide videoconference on MME plans for 2006-2007 (April 27)
- Written communications about schedule, requirements, and other information

MME Schedule for 2006-2007

- # May, 2006
 - Help pilot schools use pilot test information
 - Analyze pilot school information
 - Prepare USED request
- # June, 2006
 - Submit change request to USED
- # July - August, 2006
 - Select Michigan assessment items

MME Schedule for 2006-2007

September-October, 2006

- Conduct statewide videoconference
- Conduct in-person MME briefings around the state
- Schools identify high school Test Supervisor, Backup Test Supervisor, and Test Accommodations Coordinator
- Apply for school site certification
- Frequent communications about MME activities and schedules

MME Schedule for 2006-2007

- # November, 2006-February, 2007
 - Test Supervisor, Backup Test Supervisor and Test Accommodations Coordinator training
 - Schools receive notice on site certification
 - Schools apply for accommodations for students with disabilities and English language learners
 - ACT reviews accommodation requests and determines those eligible for college-reportable or state-reportable scores

MME Schedule for 2006-2007

February-March, 2007

- Students registered for the MME
- Accommodations determined and materials ordered
- Tests (ACT and Michigan) produced
- High school test coordinators train test administrators and coordinators

MME Schedule for 2006-2007

March-April, 2007

- MME administered statewide
 - March 13 - ACT
 - March 14 - WorkKeys
 - March 15-21 - Michigan-developed tests
- Make-up testing scheduled two weeks later
 - March 27 - ACT
 - March 28 - WorkKeys
 - March 29-April 4 - Michigan-developed tests
- Test centers offered for non-public students

MME Schedule for 2006-2007

April-July, 2007

- Students receive their reports of results
 - Regular ACT reports (college-reportable)
 - WorkKeys reports
 - MME score reports
- Schools receive ACT, WorkKeys, and MME score reports
- MME scores used for EducationYES! accreditation and NCLB AYP accountability purposes
- Students can register for MME retake in October

MME Schedule for 2006-2007

August-November, 2007

- Students register for MME retake via ACT
- MME Retake occurs on a single fall nationally-scheduled ACT testing Saturday administration in October (fourth Saturday - October 28, 2007)
- WorkKeys offered at a limited number of high schools administering the ACT (same Saturday afternoon)
- Students take remaining MME assessments in school over the five days - October 31-November 7, 2007

Getting Started Now

- # Consider how and where the MME will be administered
- # Make sure IEP teams are considering accommodations needed for both high school assessments
 - MEAP HST
 - MME
- # Think about who will manage the MME
 - Test Supervisor and Backup Test Supervisor
 - Test Accommodations Coordinator

Helping Students Prepare for MME

- # Make sure that students enroll in rigorous college preparatory classes (of equivalent ones that address the same content)
- # Review ACT standards that are assessed and make sure the course content matches the course title
- # Have students participate in reasonable ACT prep activities, but focus on learning the skills rather than just test-taking skills

Getting Started Now

- # Review past ACT high school assessment reports
 - Percent of students taking the ACT
 - Percent of students taking recommended college core
 - Performance of students taking college core versus those who did not
 - What are the trends over time?
- # What are the implications of ACT results?
 - For counselors - better course-taking advice?
 - For academic departments - improved rigor of courses?
 - For districts - More rigorous graduations requirements?

Issues and Challenges

- # Assuring adequate assessment administration preparation - for very secure tests (ACT)
- # Accommodations for students with disabilities
 - What accommodations will be offered and under what conditions?
 - Will MI-Access need to be modified and/or expanded?
- # Participation of English language learners
 - What accommodations will be offered and under what conditions?
 - How can ELL's be excused from testing in year 1 of U.S. residence?

For Questions and Comments

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