

MEAP High School Assessment, Spring 2007

Seniors (graduating class of 2007) will have one final opportunity to take the MEAP assessment from March 12 – March 30, 2007. Listed below are some key points for the Spring 2007 MEAP High School Assessment.

- OEAA will pre-identify 12th grade students who took the assessment during the Fall 2006 High School Retest and achieved a level 3 or 4 in a subject. Pre-identified barcode labels will be shipped to be placed on the student's answer document.
- Schools will need to identify new 12th grade students and students that did not test during the Fall 2006 assessment but wish to test during the Spring 2007 test cycle. Barcode labels will need to be printed for students by the school if identified after February 2 – **NO NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION FORMS WILL BE PROVIDED.**
- OEAA has created a formula based on Fall 2005, Spring 2006 and Fall 2006 and will automatically provide the determined quantity of materials to schools. Materials will be shipped directly to the high school. A 10% overage will be shipped to the district office. Materials are due to arrive in schools the week of February 26, 2007.
- OEAA will provide a form via email to districts/schools the week of January 29 to order accommodated versions of the test. You may need to estimate the quantity needed.
- Districts/schools need to verify their contact information and shipping information via the OEAA Secure Site prior to February 2, 2007 to ensure correct delivery.

MEAP High School Assessment Administrator Manual, Spring 2007

The Spring 2007 MEAP Administrator Manual for the high school retest is available on the MEAP web page at www.michigan.gov/meap. Printed copies will be shipped with MEAP assessment materials which are expected to begin arriving in schools during the week of February 26th.

Only seniors (graduating class of 2007) are allowed to take this last administration of the MEAP high school retest. Juniors (graduating class of 2008) must take the new Michigan Merit Examination (MME).

NEW PROGRESS REPORTS FOR FALL 2006 MEAP

If you have seen any individual student reports or summary reports from the Fall 2006 MEAP, you have also seen some new data on the reports. We are now tracking students' progress from year to year, and reporting the data in the reports.

Progress reports are available only for grade 4-8 students in Mathematics and English Language Arts (including Reading and Writing). In order to receive a progress report, students must have taken the MEAP in Fall of both 2005 and 2006, and must have moved up one grade from Fall 2005 to Fall 2006.

For the Fall 2006 MEAP reports, the reports consist of only the performance level from Fall 2005 and the performance level in the next grade up in 2006. Beginning next year, we plan to report two new pieces of data: a progress score, and progress level which are similar in nature to the achievement score (scale score) and achievement level (performance levels).

A sample summary report of both achievement and progress is given in Figure 1 below. On the left hand side of summary reports, the data you are used to is displayed, indicating the achievement of students who took the MEAP in your schools or districts. On the right hand side of the summary reports is the new progress report. The summary progress report is based on a different set of students than the achievement summaries on the left hand side. While the achievement summary is based on all students who took the Fall 2006 MEAP in your school or district, the progress summary is based only on the subset of those students who also took the Fall 2005 MEAP in the previous grade.

ACHIEVEMENT									PROGRESS				
Year	* No. of Students Assessed	Scale Score		Performance Levels					Fall 2005 Performance Levels	Fall 2006 Performance Levels			
		Mean	Margin of Error	4-Apprentice	3-Basic	2-Met Standards	1-Exceeded Standards	Levels 1 & 2		4-Apprentice	3-Basic	2-Met Standards	1-Exceeded Standards
		(269-534)		(269-377)	(378-399)	(400-431)	(432-534)	(400-534)					
	Scale Score Range												
2006	225	425	422-428	1%	11%	49%	38%	88%	4-Apprentice	1 (0%) not gaining	0 (0%) gaining	0 (0%) gaining	0 (0%) gaining
2005	237	425	422-428	3%	12%	46%	39%	86%	3-Basic	1 (0%) declining	11 (5%) not gaining	9 (4%) gaining	3 (1%) gaining
									2-Met Standards	1 (0%) declining	12 (6%) declining	54 (26%) maintaining	12 (6%) gaining
									1-Exceeded Standards	0 (0%) declining	1 (0%) declining	41 (20%) declining	64 (30%) maintaining

* Includes all tested forms; including Emergency and Braille form student results.

Number (%) of Students Assessed in 2006 Also Assessed in 2005: 210 (93%)

Figure 1. Sample Summary Achievement and Progress Reports.

School and district summary progress reports also follow the transitions students make from performance level in one grade to performance level in the next. The progress reports are given in a table that list the performance level from Fall 2005 along the left side, and the performance level from Fall 2006 along the top. This makes it possible to track the number (and percent) of students who transitioned from any performance level in 2005 to any performance level in 2006. These numbers and percents are the data contained in the progress reports.

The summary progress reports also contain descriptive labels (relating to meeting Michigan standards) for each type of transition. For example, students who were in the apprentice performance level in 2005 and in 2006 are described as “not gaining” toward proficiency; students who were in the apprentice performance level in 2005 but moved to basic performance level in 2006 are described as “gaining” toward proficiency; students who met standards in both 2005 and 2006 are described as “maintaining” proficiency; and students who met standards in 2005, but moved to basic in 2006 are described as “declining” away from proficiency.

Michigan Merit Examination Updates

Please check the MME website for these additional resources:
MME Administration Manual – Spring 2007
MME Training Session Outline and Topics for Discussion
MME Administration Powerpoint – Fall 2006 OEAA Conference
MME Training Powerpoint

Delivery of Materials:

Non-secure materials for the Spring MME will be delivered to the Test Supervisor the week of February 12 in separate shipments from ACT (Day 1) and PEM (Day 2 and 2-4). Non-secure materials are answer folders (blank), administration manuals, bar code labels and *Taking the ACT Plus Writing for State Testing*.

Secure materials will be delivered to the Test Supervisor or Test Accommodation Coordinator the week of February 26.

When a shipment arrives immediately open the container(s) and count the contents and check against the materials packing list. Check to be sure you have received the entire shipment. Complete directions for checking-in materials can be found in the MME Administration Manual and the ACT Supervisor's Manual of Instructions for the ACT Plus Writing. If there are problems with the shipment please contact: Day 1 materials call ACT 1-800-553-6244 extension 2088 for Day 2; 2, 3, or 4 call PEM 1-800-204-4109.

Pre-test Sessions:

Schools are reminded that the non-test portions of the answer documents must be completed **before** test day. Non-test portions of the answer document may not be completed on test day. Approximately 1 hour is required to complete the non-test portions for the Day 1 answer folder and approximately 15 minutes each for Day 2 and Day 2, 3, or 4 answer documents. Please refer to the Administration manuals for specific instructions to read verbatim to students.

Professional Practices:

For assessments to yield fair and accurate results, schools are encouraged to review the "Professional Assessment and Accountability Practices for Educators" document, also referred to as the "ethics document" found at the OEAA website www.michigan.gov/oeaa. Section 3 of the ethics document outlines appropriate and ethical assessment preparation activities. Test preparation activities must cease ten school days prior to the beginning of the state assessment window. This includes ACT and WorkKeys like items as well.

Educators: You Can Review Items for Future MEAP Assessments!

In order to ensure the highest quality for our assessments, all assessment items developed for grades 3 through 9 MEAP are being pilot tested with a small number of students, in addition to the traditional field-testing and item reviews.

As a part of the pilot testing process, MEAP staff and Harcourt Assessment will be conducting statewide field reviews in mid-February. During that time, Michigan educators will be given an opportunity to review the pilot test items, under strict conditions of security and confidentiality. Each field review session will be half a day, with registration beginning at 8:00 AM and the reviews from 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM. The dates and locations are shown below.

February 20, 2007	Lansing Center Lansing, Michigan
February 21, 2007	M-Tech at Kirtland-Gaylord Gaylord, Michigan
February 22, 2007	Forest Hills Eastern High School Ada, Michigan

Each district may send no more than four representatives to the location of their choice (one for each of the four content areas—English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies). A district may not send representatives to more than one location. Space at each facility is limited to 40 participants for each content area. Priority will be given to districts that participated in the January 2007 pilot tests, with the remaining space available on a first come, first served basis.

If your application is accepted, you will receive a confirmation by email no later than a week prior to the session. Please bring a hard copy of your confirmation email as proof that your application was accepted. While walk-ins may be admitted without a confirmation email, it is unlikely that extra space will be available.

Interested participants will have until February 10, 2007 to sign up online by going to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=172843091217>.

EducationYES! Update

The Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability (OEAA) together with the Office of School Improvement (OSI) have been working to develop new School Performance Indicators based on the School Improvement Framework. The School Performance Indicators measure investments that schools are making in improved student achievement based on indicators that come from research and best practice, and account for 1/3 of a school's EducationYES! letter grade.

The School Improvement Framework Rubrics for Self Assessment consists of 90 rubrics representing the five strands or areas of focus, and is available at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/OSI_FW_Rubrics_v_157013_7.3.pdf. Based on a review of the research on school improvement, rubrics to measure 39 characteristics had been selected as having the most effect on student achievement, and were identified as the new School Performance Indicators. Staff presented the 39 identified characteristics to the State Board of Education in December 2006. The Board requested that one more indicator be added, bringing the **new total to 40 Characteristics**. The new characteristic addresses the mentoring and coaching of new teachers, and will be part of the statewide collection of data on the School Performance Indicators through MI-Plan this spring. A listing of the 40 characteristics that comprise the new EducationYES! School Performance Indicators is available on the web at: http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/40_Key_Characteristics_183149_7.pdf.

The MI-Plan collection window is expected to open in early March and to remain open for at least one month. During that time, schools will log in to MI-Plan to complete the self-assessment on the 40 School Performance Indicators, and provide evidence of their self-rating. The process is similar to that of previous years, in that the self-assessment is completed at the building level and then is submitted to the district superintendent for final approval. The self-assessment will be scored and contribute 1/3 of the school's EducationYES! letter grade.

One strategy some schools are using is to select the 40 Indicators from the 90 rubric document, print the 40 rubrics, distribute them to the school improvement team, and begin to have conversations about where your school falls on each of the 40 Indicators, and think about the evidence your school has to support the self-rating. This allows schools to get a “head start” on the self-assessment process and not wait until the MI-Plan collection window opens.

Questions about the EducationYES! process should be directed via e-mail to Paul Bielawski at bielawp@michigan.gov and Linda Howley at howleyl@michigan.gov.

MEAP Test Centers

Non-public school seniors whose own high school will not offer the MEAP tests this spring may test at a MEAP Test Center. If you have not yet registered, please do so before January 27 to maximize your chances of being assigned to the location you desire. Registration forms are available at www.michigan.gov/meap, then click on "MEAP Test Centers" near the bottom of the page. We will continue to accept late registrations after January 27, but under no circumstances will we accept a registration postmarked after February 28. Questions about MEAP Test Centers should be directed to Bob Nelson (phone 517-241-4987).

We offer an email service to non-public school students (Class of 2007 and after) who wish to receive email alerts about MEAP Test Centers (or MME Auxiliary Test Centers). This service helps students avoid missing registration deadlines, offers news about when test scores will be available to schools, etc. To join, visit the "MEAP Test Centers" page (or "MME Auxiliary Test Centers" page) on our website. This is a free service. We do not share your email address with anyone.

Spring 2007 ELPA Pre-Identification

As the pre-identification window for ELPA students draws to a close, please carefully review the students who are included on your Pre-Identified Student Report.

You can create a Pre-Identified Student Report for your district by logging into the OEAA Secure Site. When you have logged in, you will see a button on the left that says “Pre-Identified Students” under the “Reports” heading. Enter in the required information and you will have your report generated for you, complete with student names.

If you are not familiar with how to pre-identify students, you can view the **OEAA Secure Site User Manual** by clicking on its pink link on the login page of the OEAA Secure Site.

If you have students who scored Proficient on the Spring 2006 ELPA but are still receiving ELL services, please add these students to the list of pre-identified students, they are required to participate in the Spring 2007 ELPA. Also include any student who began the 2006-2007 school year as an ELL but exited ELL services before the Spring assessment date.

Your pre-identified students are scheduled to be transferred to Harcourt by the close of business on January 31.

For more information regarding pre-identification of students, ordering materials, the Spring 2007 ELPA, or obtaining an ELPA Manual for district and building coordinators online, visit the updated

www.michigan.gov/elpa website. For specific questions, call Phil Chase, ELL Assessment Specialist, at (517) 335-3967.

ACT Tests Provided by State at No Cost

High school students who need an ACT score for possible admission to college can avoid paying the \$29 registration fee by simply taking the new Michigan Merit Examination (MME). The new battery of tests, offered at no cost to Michigan students in the high school graduating class of 2008 and beyond, includes an ACT element that is accepted by colleges and universities as a valid ACT score.

“There is no need for students to take both the MME and the ACT,” said Dr. Ed Roeber of the Michigan Department of Education. “By taking the MME, students receive a reportable ACT score and avoid having to pay the ACT registration fee.”

Roeber says the MME, first administered to juniors this March, replaces the high school Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) tests administered since 1970.

The State will assume all costs related to two MME testing opportunities, usually in the spring of a student’s junior year and again in the fall of the senior year. A third testing opportunity exists, but would include a registration fee paid to ACT.

“All public high schools are required to administer the MME this March,” says Roeber. “We are delighted that so many non-public high schools have also decided to test their own students.”

Non-public school students whose school does not offer the MME and who did not register by January 10 to test at one of eight MME Auxiliary Test Centers located throughout Michigan may test as seniors in Fall 2007. Registration information for Fall 2007 MME Auxiliary Test Centers is available at www.michigan.gov/mme.

Secondary Credit Assessment System

The Secondary Credit Assessment System (SCAS) was introduced by Dr. Ed Roeber at OEAA conference general session. The use of the Secondary Credit Assessments could provide rich information about student achievement of the academic content standards. The SCAS would be comprised of three parts:

- Summative assessments (end-of-course examinations) available to school district.
- Interim benchmark assessments that can be administered to students when they complete units of instruction; and
- Formative assessment strategies for teachers to use to guide student learning and to verify instruction on a daily basis in classrooms.

OEAA is looking for teams of high school educators to participate in the development of the SCAS. Participation of teams may include formal item development activities, professional development in classroom assessment activities, or sharing locally developed assessment activities.

A Secondary Credit Assessment System is currently under development at the OEAA website. This site is intended to be a resource for information on summative, interim benchmark and formative assessments, local and state initiative.

For more information please feel free to contact Kimberly Young 517-373-0988 or email youngk1@michigan.gov.

2007 NAEP Assessment is Underway

The NAEP assessment in Reading (G4, G8), Writing (G8, G12) and Mathematics (G4, G8) began this week, January 22 and will run until March 1. Stratified random samples of schools from across the state have been chosen. There is considerable emphasis this year on getting more seniors to take the exam. There is also increasing emphasis on inclusion. We are making every effort to include students with disabilities. One area where there is a need for clarification is where the IEP calls for audio accommodation. Whenever possible, students with audio/video accommodations should be included by having an accommodations provider assist them.

OEAA Contact Information

OEAA web site: www.michigan.gov/oeaa

OEAA Secure database: www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure

OEAA email address: oeaa@michigan.gov

OEAA Office local phone number: 517-373-8393

OEAA Office toll-free phone number: 877-560-8378

OEAA Office fax number: 517-335-1186

MEAP web site: www.michigan.gov/meap

MME web site: www.michigan.gov/mme

Department of Treasury, Merit Award/Michigan Promise Scholarship: 888-447-2687