



Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the Michigan Merit Examination Score Reports
August 2007

1. What is the Michigan Merit Examination (MME)?

The MME replaced the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) High School Test beginning in spring 2007. The MME is administered to 11th grade students and is based on the ACT plus writing college entrance exam, WorkKeys – an ACT work skills assessment, plus several Michigan components developed to assess Michigan curriculum not assessed by the ACT Plus Writing college entrance exam or WorkKeys assessments.

2. How does my student Qualify for the Michigan Promise scholarship?

To qualify to receive Michigan Promise scholarship funds at all, students must receive valid MME scores in mathematics, reading, writing, and science. To qualify for early receipt (installment payments) of Michigan Promise scholarship funds, students must meet or exceed Michigan standards in mathematics, reading, writing, AND science.

Students who receive a valid score in all four subjects, but who do not meet or exceed Michigan standards in all four subjects do not have to retake the MME to qualify to receive Michigan Promise scholarship funds, but may elect to retake the MME to qualify for installment payments of those funds.

For details regarding the requirements for the Michigan Promise scholarship, please contact the Michigan Department of Treasury, Office of Grants and Scholarships (OGS), toll free at (800) 447-2687 or visit their Internet website at <http://michigan.gov/promise>.

3. IMPORTANT: Does my student need to retake the MME?

If your student did not receive a **valid** MME score on mathematics, reading, writing, OR science, your student **does not qualify** to receive any Michigan Promise Scholarship funds **and will need to retake the MME during his or her 12th grade year if he or she would like to qualify.**

If your student did not meet or exceed Michigan standards in all four subjects, they may elect to retake the MME during his or her 12th grade year to qualify for early receipt of scholarship funds.

For details regarding the requirements for the Michigan Promise scholarship, please contact the Michigan Department of Treasury, Office of Grants and Scholarships (OGS) toll free at (800) 447-2687 or visit their Internet website at www.michigan.gov/promise.

4. In what subject areas are students tested by the Michigan Merit Examination?

The MME is composed of assessment items in the areas of English language arts (reading and writing), mathematics, science and social studies. The assessment items are aligned to the Michigan Curriculum Framework.

5. Can I compare the Michigan Merit Examination scores to the MEAP High School Test scores?

No. The MME was taken for the first time this spring by Michigan 11th grade students. The MEAP high school test is being reported for the last time this year for the Class of 2007. The two tests are different and students taking the MEAP have had multiple opportunities to retake the assessment to better their scores, so a comparison to first time testers on MME would not be an appropriate comparison.

6. Why do students have to take the Michigan Merit Exam?

State assessments, like the MEAP tests for younger students and the MME for high school students, provide a way to measure all Michigan students in the same subject, at the same time. The test provides valuable information to parents on their child's academic performance.

7. My student got a decent score on the ACT portion of the MME but did not receive a high score on the MME? How is this possible?

Scores for the ACT and WorkKeys portions of the MME are calculated separately. In determining the MME score, the individual items from both ACT and WorkKeys (not the scores) are combined with the balance of the Michigan items to determine the MME score. There are several explanations as to why a student who did well on the ACT did not fare so well on the MME. The most likely is the student just did not do as well on the Michigan items (writing responses, for instance).

8. Can my student retake the MME?

Students may have one free retake if they do not have a performance level of 1 or 2 in MME reading, writing, mathematics and/or science. Students eligible to retake may do so either in Fall 2007 or Spring 2008.

9. I am familiar with the ACT, but what is WorkKeys?

WorkKeys is a national assessment that measures work readiness skills in the areas of reading for information and applied mathematics. Scores can provide a snapshot of the skills for a particular job. More information on WorkKeys can be found at <http://www.act.org/workkeys/>.

10. Does the ACT taken as a part of the MME count for a college reportable score?

Yes, if the test was taken under college reportable conditions, meaning Standard Testing or ACT Approved Accommodations. If you are uncertain if the student's test was taken under these conditions, please contact your student's high school for more information.

11. Is an MME score tied to graduation or a diploma?

While schools are required to administer the MME to all students in Grade 11, it is not a State requirement that students take the MME

in order to graduate. You should contact your student's high school for local graduation requirements.

12. How do MME scores impact AYP?

The process for determining the Adequate Yearly Progress status under the federal No Child Left Behind act for a school or district is very complex, involving data from many sources. Results from the MME are included in the calculation. AYP status will be reported separately by the State when all elements of the process have been assembled. For more information, please refer to the MDE web page on AYP at <http://www.michigan.gov/ayp>.

13. Where can I find more information regarding MME results on the web?

Go to <http://www.michigan.gov/mme> to the MME Test Results tab in the left-hand menu bar. You will find information on state, district and school results, including a Guide to Reports, a downloadable school and district summary file, and other information to aid your understanding of the MME results.