

Assessment & Accountability Announcements - Week of December 17, 2012

Please see **5 IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS** below regarding: 1) MEAP S.A.F.E. Data Now Online, 2) Recruitment for Pilots of Michigan's New Interim Assessments, 3) Spring 2013 MI-Access Online Answer Document Sign-up, 4) AMAOs Released for 2011-2012, and 5) State Offices Closed 12/24, 12/25, 12/31, and 1/1/2013.

1) MEAP S.A.F.E. Data Now Online

We are pleased to announce that the Student Analysis File Extract (SAFE) for the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) has now been posted to the BAA Secure Site (www.michigan.gov/baa-secure).

The SAFE file allows schools and districts to review item analysis data that previously was available only on the PDF or printed reports, or by districts aggregating data locally from the student data file.

It is not permissible to share any school- or district-level results from the SAFE with parents, the community, or other external parties until results are released to the public. School board meetings are open meetings; therefore, the sharing of embargoed assessment results at these meetings is not permissible until the public release. A date for the public release of the assessment data will be scheduled by the Michigan Department of Education after all MEAP PDF reports have been released. ****In the meantime, individual student data can be shared with parents/guardians and all data from the SAFE and the Student Data File can be shared with teachers, administrators, internal committees and consultants who make use of the data for planning and school improvement purposes.****

RELEASE OF SCHOOL AND DISTRICT RESULTS IN ADVANCE OF THE PUBLIC RELEASE (DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED) IS PROHIBITED AND WILL JEOPARDIZE THIS COURTESY FOR SCHOOLS AND DISTRICTS IN THE FUTURE.

Information Included in the MEAP Student Analysis File Extract (SAFE)

The SAFE includes information that can be found in the Item Analysis Reports when they become available in PDF and paper formats. See the section on downloading below for information about how to obtain a guide to the SAFE.

Downloading the SAFE file

If you have a user ID and password for the BAA Secure Site, you can access the SAFE file by clicking on "Student Test Scores" from the menu at the left, and selecting the Fall 2012 MEAP Grades 3 – 9 test cycle. Once you have selected the test cycle, the guide to the SAFE file will appear at the bottom of the page. If you do not have BAA Secure Site access, please contact your district assessment coordinator for assistance.

2) Recruitment for Pilots of Michigan's New Interim Assessments

BAA is pleased to announce the launch of a new assessment program, the Michigan Interim Assessment Program. These new assessments will be online, pre-post assessments to be given at the beginning of a grade/course and end of a grade/course. These assessments may also be used as one possible measure of student growth. The Michigan Interim Assessment Program includes grade 3 – high school assessments in science and social studies, which are aligned to Michigan's current Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCEs) and High School Content Expectations (HSCEs). Additionally, the Michigan Interim Assessment Program includes Kindergarten through 2nd grade and high school course-based assessments in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics, which are aligned to the Common Core State Standards.

Michigan educators will play a critical role in assisting BAA in the development of the Michigan Interim Assessment at all grade levels and content areas. The first opportunity to experience these new assessments for teachers and students in grades 3 through high school is pilot testing in science and social studies, which will take place in April and May 2013. The pilot science interim assessments include grade 3 – 7 grade level assessments, and Earth science, biology, chemistry, and physics high school course-based assessments. The pilot social studies interim assessments include grade 3 – 8 grade level assessments, and U.S. history and geography, world history and geography, civics, and economics high school course-based assessments.

The minimum technology requirements for the online assessments include:

Apple

- MAC OS X® 10.5 – 10.8
- 256 MB of RAM or greater
- 1024x768 or greater screen resolution
- 10 MB hard disk space
- 400 MHz processor

Windows

- Windows XP® or 7
- 256 MB of RAM or greater
- 1024x768 or greater screen resolution
- 100 MB hard disk space
- 700 MHz processor

To participate in the Michigan Interim Assessment pilots, please complete a survey at <http://tinyurl.com/interimpilotsurvey>. **Surveys must be completed by Friday, January 18, 2013.**

Districts may have several buildings participate but each building must register with a separate survey. More information about the Michigan Interim Assessments may be found at www.michigan.gov/interimassessments.

3) Spring 2013 MI-Access Online Answer Document Sign-up

Based on the success and positive feedback from the spring 2012 and fall 2012 online answer document pilots, the Bureau of Assessment and Accountability (BAA) is again offering an online version of the grade 11 MI-Access student answer documents in spring 2013. We are looking for districts interested in using an electronic answer document for the recording of student responses for the spring 2013 administration. *This would replace using a paper-based answer document.*

Please review the informational/overview sheet posted to the MI-Access webpage (www.michigan.gov/mi-access) to learn the basics of the MI-Access Online Answer Document Pilot. After you have reviewed this information, if your district: 1) meets the minimum requirements for participation and 2) is interested in participating in the pilot, please complete the *Spring 2013 MI-Access Online Answer Document Pilot Sign-up Survey* **by January 11, 2013.**

IMPORTANT!! Please be sure you also have your students pre-identified in the BAA Secure Site (www.michigan.gov/baa-secure) **by January 11th.**

Students not pre-identified by this deadline, will be ineligible to have their answer documents submitted online. In addition to pre-identifying these students, please be sure to do the following:

- Have someone with a good understanding of your district's technology review the survey questions and overview documentation ahead of time.
- Have the district superintendent, or someone on his/her behalf, complete and submit the survey which can be found at the following location:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MIAS13OnlineAnswerDocSign-Up>

Completion of the survey will enable Questar Assessment, Inc. and the BAA to better assess each district's testing needs and ensure that districts are aware of the technology requirements. The MI-Access Online Answer Document Pilot will use the same "iTester" system that has been successfully implemented with the online English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA) since spring 2011 and the previous MI-Access online answer document pilots for the spring 2012 and fall 2012 administrations.

4) AMAOs Released for 2011-2012

A few weeks ago, district superintendents and other Title III contacts were notified by email of their 2011-2012 Annual Measureable Achievement Objective (AMAO) status. AMAO results for all Title III districts can now be accessed on the AMAO webpage at (www.michigan.gov/amao). Prior year's AMAO results and supporting resources, such as *AMAO Basics*, *Frequently Asked Questions*, and a sample parent letter for districts not meeting one or more AMAOs can also be found on this page. Please use the AMAO webpage as your first source for AMAO information.

If you have questions about your district's 2011-2012 AMAO status, please contact the Accountability Unit at (877) 560-8378, option 6 or email MDE-Accountability@michigan.gov. All other questions regarding AMAOs, such as AMAO targets or consequences, Title III funding, or developing or revising your district's Title III plan, should be directed to Shereen Tabrizi, Ph.D., Manager of the Special Populations Unit, Office of Field Services at 517-373-6066 or at OFSspecialpops@michigan.gov.

5) State Offices Closed on 12/24, 12/25, 12/31, and 1/1/2013

State Offices will be closed in observance of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, December 24 and 25, New Year's Eve, December 31, and New Year's Day, January 1, 2013. Happy Holidays.

Questions?

Please email us at baa@michigan.gov or call 877-560-8378 and select the appropriate menu option.