

FAQ for the “Sending Scores Back” Policy
Shared Educational Entities (SEEs) & Specialized Shared Educational Entities (S2E2s)
2011-2012

1. What is the difference between a SEE and an S2E2?

Both SEEs and S2E2s are formed when two or more districts enter into a cooperative agreement to provide educational services to a specific group of students; however, a SEE provides those educational services in a single location. An S2E2 provides those educational services in multiple classrooms inside of existing schools. To help you decide which type is appropriate, please see flowchart attached to the 2011-2012 SEE/S2E2 application.

2. What kind of documentation do I need to complete to establish as a SEE/S2E2?

To establish as a Shared Educational Entity (SEE) or a Specialized Shared Educational Entity (S2E2), the district or agency responsible for operating the SEE/S2E2 must complete the 2011-2012 SEE/S2E2 application and submit it along with a copy of the cooperative agreement between the resident district(s) and the operating district. This agreement must be signed by the superintendent of all participating districts. This agreement must also specify the funding structure of the SEE/S2E2 and must outline the responsibilities of both the resident districts and operating district. Finally, the agreement or an addendum to the agreement, must contain a statement that each participating district understands that their cooperative arrangement will be established as a SEE/S2E2 and that scores will be return to the resident districts for accountability purposes. Documentation for the 2011-2012 school year must be received by the Office of Psychometrics, Accountability, Research, & Evaluation (OPARE) by September 1, 2011. Documentation can be scanned and emailed to MDE-Accountability@michigan.gov or hard copies sent via mail to:

Office of Psychometrics, Accountability, Research, & Evaluation (OPARE)
Attn: SEE/S2E2
P.O. Box 30008
Lansing, MI, 48909

3. Is it required that we become a SEE or S2E2?

No. The decision to establish as a SEE/S2E2 is optional. If educational services are being provided to students from multiple districts under a cooperative agreement and those participating choose not to become a SEE/S2E2, business will continue as usual for districts sending students to those programs. The building will continue to be part of building-level accountability calculations. No one is required to become a SEE/S2E2.

4. What will happen to the scores of a student who is in my district through schools of choice, but then attends a SEE/S2E2?

Student scores will be sent back to the operating district. If there is a discrepancy between the operating district and the resident district, the primary educational provider entity (PEPE) code will be used as a default. Please see example below.

Example: Student lives in District A, but has been attending District B for several years through schools of choice. This student then transfers to a SEE to receive specific educational services. In this situation, District B would receive the student's scores back. Schools of Choice students are identified using the "Student Residency" characteristic of the student's record in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS).

5. If I establish my school as a SEE/S2E2, do we need to complete the EdYes! reporting?

No, it is not necessary for SEEs/S2E2s to complete EdYes! reporting, as this is a specific function related to accreditation status and SEEs/S2E2s will not receive a school accreditation status.

6. To establish as a SEE/S2E2, do all sending districts have to agree that the receiving entity should establish?

Yes. If an entity elects to establish as a SEE/S2E2, all districts that wish to send students to that SEE/S2E2 must be included in the cooperative agreement.

Districts that do not wish to sign the agreement and be part of SEE/S2E2 will then be responsible for providing their students with these educational services in a different manner. Services must be provided to students as specified in their IEP (when applicable), but districts have a choice regarding whether to participate in a SEE/S2E2 or to provide students with those services in a different manner.

7. For districts that send more than 30 students out of district, will the new "scores sent back" subgroup include all students from all grade levels in the district? Or will there be individual subgroups for elementary, middle, and high schools?

The new "scores sent back" subgroup will be separated by level and will be calculated in the same manner as other district-level subgroups. There will be an elementary "scores sent back" subgroup (grades 3-5), a middle school "scores sent back" subgroup (grades 6-8), and a high school "scores sent back" subgroup (grades 9-12). When any one of these subgroups exceeds the minimum subgroup size for the district, it will be reported as a subgroup.

8. If a district has fewer than 30 students for whom they will be receiving scores back, will they still receive the scores for individual students, even though they will not create a new subgroup?

Yes. Districts will receive individual scores of individual students, which will count toward overall accountability purposes and all relevant subgroups. They will not, however, form a new "scores sent back" subgroup.

9. What about special education transition programs serving students who are aged 19-26? Do they need to establish as a SEE?

Transition programs serving students aged 19-26 do not generally receive accountability designations, as students in these programs are highly unlikely to take the state assessments and are not tracked in the graduation rate in the same manner. Transition

programs are eligible to become SEEs, but there is likely no benefit for them to do so, as they do not enter the accountability pipeline in the same manner as other schools. If these programs elect to become a SEE/S2E2, they should follow the same guidelines and business rules as other programs.

10. How does the 1% cap function for districts that choose to participate in SEEs?

Districts are currently able to apply up to 1% of the proficient scores obtained from MI-Access to their overall proficiency. Students whose scores are sent back would count toward this 1%. This will apply as well to the MEAP-Access 2% cap since MEAP-Access will return as an operational assessment in fall 2011.

11. Will we have an opportunity next year to establish as a SEE/S2E2?

Yes. This will be an annual process. SEE/S2E2 applications will be reviewed annually and your status as a SEE/S2E2 or non-SEE/S2E2 can change annually.

12. Will we still receive any data at the building level if we establish as a SEE? What about an S2E2?

Yes. SEEs will still receive assessment data reporting at the building level, as well as a building graduation rate reported (if appropriate). However, for accountability purposes, students' scores and graduation/attendance rates will be sent back to their resident districts. Schools designated as SEEs will not receive an Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) status, will not receive an accreditation status, and will not be eligible for inclusion on the federally-required Persistently Lowest Achieving (PLA) or the state Top to Bottom Ranking lists.

S2E2s will be established as an entity code (in addition to the building codes at which the students are actually being educated) (e.g., the several classrooms in various buildings across the operating district). So, the buildings where the S2E2 students are actually educated and assessed will receive assessment data reporting and a building graduation rate reported (if appropriate). However, the S2E2 will not have any building-level reporting and, for accountability purposes, students' scores and graduation/attendance rates will be sent back to their resident districts, not the operating district.

13. Do I need to change anything in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) with regard to student building code or district code?

Students who attend SEEs/S2E2s must be reported in the MSDS using the following rules:

1. The school/facility number (entity code) must be a number registered in the Educational Entity Master (EEM) as a SEE/S2E2 for the current school year.
2. The operating district is the district within which the SEE/S2E2 is located, based on the normal school/district hierarchy in the EEM.
3. The operating district and all member districts MUST be an approved member district of the SEE/S2E2, as specified in the cooperative agreement.
4. For S2E2s, on the student's MSDS record you will report the entity code (school/facility number) of the building in which the student is actually being educated and assessed, and in addition, you will populate the "S2E2" field with

the S2E2 entity code. This field will remain blank for all students not participating in an S2E2.

14. Does this change how we conduct assessment functions, such as pre-ID?

No. For SEEs, their building code is also the SEE code, so SEEs will pre-ID students in their own building code, the same as has been done previously. S2E2s will pre-ID students in the building they are actually being educated and assessed in (using its building code, not the S2E2 code).

15. Do we have to provide an addendum to the cooperative agreement if the cooperative agreement already meets all the requirements outlined in the application?

No. Cooperative agreements need to meet the requirements listed on page 1 of the 2011-2012 SEE/S2E2 Application. This can be accomplished by either incorporating all elements into the cooperative agreement, or by creating an addendum to the original agreement that meets these requirements. You do not need both.

Still have questions?

Contact OPARE at MDE-Accountability@michigan.gov or 877-560-8378, option 6.