

Kindergarten Entry Assessment Trainers Needed

Michigan Department of Education's Bureau of Assessment and Accountability (BAA) is currently seeking trainers for the Fall 2013 Pilot of the Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA). The primary duty of the trainers is to provide professional development to the kindergarten teachers participating in the MDE KEA Pilot and ongoing implementation over the next three years. The trainers should have knowledge of early childhood education and familiarity with *Teaching Strategies GOLD*® is recommended. Participants are given a username and password to access *Teaching Strategies GOLD*® online, and we encourage that participants take the online "*Teaching Strategies GOLD*® Basic course" before the Training of Trainers.

What is the Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA)?

The KEA is an observation-based assessment of children's progress towards attaining specific skills and meeting important milestones of development when they enter Kindergarten; it is not a test. It provides teachers and parents with important criterion-based information about a child's learning and development at the beginning of kindergarten so that teachers can inform individual instruction and parents can provide learning opportunities beyond the school day. Michigan chose *Teaching Strategies GOLD*® for the pilot assessment. It is an online, observational survey administered the first 45 days of school. For more information about *Teaching Strategies GOLD*® visit their website at <http://www.teachingstrategies.com/page/GOLD-assessment-online.cfm>.

What is the Training of Trainers Session?

The purpose of the sessions is to prepare designated personnel to train teachers to use *Teaching Strategies GOLD*® for Kindergarten, reliably and to understand the developmental levels of the children in their classrooms. Participants become ready to show teachers how to use assessment data to plan for individual children and the class as a whole, and to report children's progress to families and other stakeholders as appropriate.

The four-day TOT session enables approved trainers to provide ongoing support and technical assistance to teachers and administrators at all levels of experience with *Teaching Strategies GOLD*® for Kindergarten. Participants will be able to train others to:

- explain the structure of *Teaching Strategies GOLD*® for Kindergarten;
- identify the components of *Teaching Strategies GOLD*® for Kindergarten;
- identify the areas of and objectives for development and learning;
- explain the progressions of development and learning;
- interpret the colored bands as ranges of widely held expectations for children in particular age-groups and classes/grades;
- relate documentation to relevant objectives for development and learning;
- evaluate (score) children's knowledge, skills, and behaviors;
- upload documentation samples;
- enter observation notes;
- enter checkpoint evaluations;
- understand how to use the various teacher, family, and administrative features of *Teaching Strategies GOLD*® for Kindergarten
- understand the purposes of the major *Teaching Strategies GOLD*® reports; and

- understand how to generate, read, and interpret various reports.

TOT training is competency based, and all TOT participants are expected to achieve interrater reliability certification before moving forward with supporting and training teachers. Successful participants receive trainer's notes and a set of PowerPoint slides to conduct *Teaching Strategies GOLD*® training for Kindergarten teachers and administrators. Teaching Strategies provides ongoing, targeted technical assistance and coaching as the participants undertake their responsibilities for training Michigan teachers and administrators.

If you are interested in training as a KEA Trainer please complete the application survey located at the bottom of this page. For consideration, as a KEA trainer, you should have knowledge about:

- early childhood content standards;
- early childhood assessments; and
- presenting to Early Childhood educators.

KEA trainers will be certified for three years and expected to provide a minimum of two training sessions to kindergarten teachers participating in the pilot this fall. Training for the teachers participating in the pilot this fall is scheduled in multiple locations on multiple dates beginning August 12 through August 29. Availability to train at least two sessions during this timeframe is essential.

MDE will reimburse those who travel greater than 50 miles (round trip) mileage and those who travel greater than 150 miles (round trip) lodging expenses at the established state rate. Trainers will not be compensated for teacher training unless they are employed or contracted by an agency that provides the training such as an ISD, college/university, childcare facility/organization, district/school. Application review will begin immediately and all chosen applicants will be notified by July 19, 2013.

When is the training?

Training is July 29, 30, 31, and August 1 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM each day.

Where is the training?

The training location is Lansing Community College West Campus/MTEC. It is located at **5708 Cornerstone Drive** just north of Mount Hope Highway between Creyts Road and Snow Road in Delta Township and visible from I-496.

How can you help?

If interested and qualified, please complete the Application Survey for Kindergarten Entry Assessment Trainers.

[Application Survey for KEA Trainers](https://baameap.wufoo.com/forms/kea-trainer-application/)

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To obtain additional information, please contact Jeff Beal at 517-335-0433 or bealj1@michigan.gov.