



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

March 3, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Local and Intermediate School District Special Education Directors
Public School Academy Directors and Authorizers
District and School Assessment Coordinators
Public School Principals
Nonpublic School Administrators

FROM: Sally Vaughn, Ph.D. *Sally*
Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: MEAP-Access Operational in Fall 2011

As previously announced, MEAP-Access will return as an operational assessment in fall 2011. The one-year delay for MEAP-Access was necessary to address the causes of low item reliability in the first operational assessment, perform extensive research and modification of test items, and prepare for a successful administration of MEAP-Access in fall 2011. The return of MEAP-Access will result in the following continuum of assessment options for students with disabilities in grades 3 – 8:

MEAP (without accommodations)
MEAP (with accommodations)
MEAP-Access
MI-Access Functional Independence
MI-Access Supported Independence
MI-Access Participation

The operational MEAP-Access assessments for fall 2011 will include reading, writing, and mathematics.

The Michigan Department of Education has developed and revised tools to assist Individualized Education Program (IEP) Teams in the identification of students for whom MEAP-Access would be appropriate. For instance, the *Michigan Statewide Assessment Selection Guidelines* document was recently published and is available at www.michigan.gov/oeaa, and the *MEAP-Access Eligibility Criteria and Guidelines for Participation* has been updated and posted to the MEAP-Access website

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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324

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(www.michigan.gov/meap-access). The Department will soon make available an Assessment Selection Guidelines interactive training module as part of the Michigan Online Professional Learning System (MOPLS). We encourage your IEP Teams to use these resources as they determine the appropriate assessment for students with disabilities this fall.

The Department will host a MEAP-Access webcast on March 9, 2011. Details on the training webcast were sent directly to assessment coordinators, principals, and special education consultants.

Further questions should be directed to Dr. Joanne Winkelman, Office of Special Education and Early Intervention Services at 517-335-0457 or email winkelmanj@michigan.gov or Dan Evans, Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability at 517-335-1165 or email evansd2@michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance