

Spotlight



on Student Assessment and Accountability

What's New

January 22, 2015

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M-STEP Spring 2015 Student Supports and Accommodations Webinar

These Webinars will focus on what you need to know to be up-to-date with the latest information regarding the students supports and accommodations guidelines for the M-STEP summative assessments.

Topics will include Universal Tools, Designated Supports, and Accommodations, as well as which students qualify for these accommodations and supports during this spring's testing cycle.

Dates of the webinars:

February 10 and 11: 8:00–9:00 A.M. and 2:00–3:00 P.M.

March 3 and 4: 8:00–9:00 A.M. and 2:00–3:00 P.M.

Participants need to only attend one of the sessions.

To register for these webinars, please send an e-mail to baa@michigan.gov with the subject line Student Supports and Accommodations Webinar and include the date and time you wish to attend. Interested participants may also call 517-373-7559.

M-STEP Mathematics Sample Classroom Activities and Performance Tasks

To familiarize teachers and administrators with the Paper/Pencil and Online M-STEP Mathematics Classroom Activities (CAs) and Performance Tasks (PTs), samples of both, for each tested grade, have been placed on the M-STEP website.

The Classroom Activity is a short, 30-minute scripted lesson presented to the students as close as possible, but no more than 3 days prior to the administration of the Performance Task (PT). It may occur on the same day as the PT. The Classroom Activity is delivered in class by the teacher, and is not an online activity. The purpose of

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Reminders

Recently Asked Questions

► Sign up for Spotlight at: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIMDE/subscriber/new>. Enter your email address and select Spotlight under Student Assessment.

Have Other Questions?

For assessment questions, please email BAA@michigan.gov.

For accountability questions, please email MDE-Accountability@michigan.gov.

For phone assistance with assessment or accountability issues, call 877-560-8378 and select the appropriate menu option.

the Classroom Activity is to introduce students to the vocabulary and the context of the Performance Task to follow.

Students will be asked to construct numerical responses as well as written responses to explain their answers.

CAs and PTs work together in a coordinated set. For example, the Grade 5 CA sample titled “Community Garden” discusses how people might plan their gardens for planting different fruits and vegetables. CAs are broader, more general in scope, and may be connected to several PTs. The subsequent online grade 5 PT sample complements the CA.

PTs are designed to assess student understanding of Mathematics content and are aligned to Michigan’s content standards.

One sample online Mathematics CA and PT for each grade level has been posted online, complete with scoring guides embedded in the PTs. The posted sample does not represent actual test items.

Samples of the Classroom Activities and Performance Tasks are located on the M-STEP website:

- **Grades 3–8:** http://michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-22709_70117_70118---,00.html
- **Grade 11:** http://michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-22709_70117_70122---,00.html

Material Orders for M-STEP and MI-Access for Paper/Pencil and Online Schools

The Initial Material Orders window for M-STEP and MI-Access grades 3–8 and high school **will open February 2, 2015**. There are things you can do now in preparation to ensure an on-time materials order.

1. **New this year**—students must be pre-identified for MI-Access prior to an order being placed. If you have not already done so, please start pre-

identifying MI-Access students on the Secure Site to ensure you are able to complete a MI-Access material order on time.

- a. All students in grades 3–8 and high school were pre-identified for the M-STEP assessment for all content areas using the school’s Fall MSDS General Collection (student count day), so the students who are not taking M-STEP, but taking MI-Access, can be moved from M-STEP to MI-Access using the Student Demographic-Mass Update screen under the Student Information menu.
 - b. Students taking different content areas in both the M-STEP and MI-Access Functional Independence (FI) assessments will need to be assigned to MI-Access FI. The content areas for both assessments will need to be updated to reflect which content area test the student will be taking in each assessment. This can be done on the Student’s Demographic page through Student Search or on the Student Demographics-Mass Update page under the Student Information menu.
2. Online schools will need to verify that students who are taking the paper/pencil test are NOT identified as Online on the Pre-ID Student Report. If you need to select or deselect online testing for a student, you can do so on the Student’s Demographic page through Student Search, or on the Student Demographics-Mass Update page under the Student Information menu.
 3. Schools administering MI-Access Functional Independence online will need to order the Expressing Ideas assessment materials. Expressing Ideas is only available in paper/pencil. MDE will NOT automatically generate an order for these materials. If you do not place an order for Expressing Ideas, you will not receive the materials.

A communication complete with instructions, will be sent when the Initial Material Orders window opens.

Ordering Additional WIDA Assessment Materials

Initial material orders for WIDA ACCESS for ELLs and WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs were placed automatically based on Pre-ID information received before January 9, 2015.

Additional materials may be ordered directly through MetriTech (WIDA's material vendor) once you have received your initial materials shipment during **the week of February 2nd through February 6th**. You will receive printed instructions for ordering additional materials in your initial material order shipment. Please note that additional material orders should only be placed for the following scenarios:

- You have a new student(s) who enrolled after January 9 and you do not have sufficient material coverage to test the student(s).
- You have a student whose IEP team has decided that the WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs is the appropriate assessment but you only have the general WIDA ACCESS for ELLs materials.
- You have a student for whom you had ordered the WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs, and whose IEP team has now determined that the general WIDA ACCESS for ELLs is appropriate, but you do not have sufficient material coverage to test the student.

For further information or questions, please send an e-mail to baa@michigan.gov with the subject line Additional WIDA Assessment Materials.

Reporting LEP Status in MSDS and Avoiding WIDA Test Score Invalidation

Newly identified LEP (Limited English Proficient) students taking the 2015 WIDA ACCESS for ELLs or WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs must be properly coded as LEP in MSDS to avoid having WIDA test scores invalidated. Schools/Districts can report the LEP component in the MSDS Spring (February) Collection. If a LEP student enrolls after the MSDS Spring (February) General Collection, a Student Record Maintenance (SRM) with the LEP component will need to be submitted with:

- An "AS OF" date of March 27, 2015 or sooner; and
- A certification date of April 29, 2015 or sooner.

For questions about MSDS, please email CEPI at CEPI@michigan.gov or call 517-335-0505. For WIDA questions, please email baa@michigan.gov or call 877-560-8378. For questions about criteria for identifying students as English learners/LEP contact the Office of Field Services at 517-373-6066.

Just a reminder...Important Dates!

Upcoming important dates, recent topics, etc.

Important Dates

January 2015

- **NOW – February 11, 2015:** Window for **ACT** to receive ACT- Approved Accommodations Late Consideration Form. For questions, please contact ACT by phone at 800-553-6244 ext.1788 or via email at ACTStateAccoms@act.org.
- **January 19-23, 2015:** **ACT** Test Coordinator receive Preliminary ACT – Approved Accommodations Roster for review.
- **January 26, 2015:** Last date to submit **WIDA** Test Exceptions. More information about WIDA Test Exceptions can be found at http://mi.gov/documents/mde/WIDA_ACCESS_for_ELLs_and_Alternate_ACCESS_for_ELLs_Test_Exceptions_Final_12.17.14_477031_7.pdf.
- **January 30, 2015:** Deadline to request changes to the Preliminary **ACT** – Approved Accommodations Roster.

February 2015

- **February 2, 2015:** Material orders for both paper/ pencil and online open for Spring 2015 **M-STEP** and **MI-Access** for students in grades 3–8 and HS.
- **February 9 – March 27, 2015:** **WIDA ACCESS** and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs testing window. Please refer to the Spring 2014-15 WIDA Schedule for more information about important WIDA ACCESS testing dates.
- **NOW – February 18, 2015:** **M-STEP** and **MI-Access** Grades 3-8 and high school pre-identification.

Articles in Our Last Spotlight, January 15, 2015

To access the following *What's New* articles from the last Spotlight edition, go to: [January 15, 2015 Spotlight](#).

- NEW Spring 2015 M-STEP Transition Readiness Timeline - Page 1
To assist you in preparing for the upcoming spring 2015 M-STEP, a timeline filled with assessment, accountability, instruction, and TRIG/technology information action items has been developed.
[Spring 2015 M-STEP Transition Readiness Timeline](#) WORD
[Spring 2015 M-STEP Transition Readiness Timeline](#) PDF
- M-STEP ELA Classroom Activities and Performance Tasks - Page 1
Visit the M-STEP website (www.michigan.gov/mstep) for a complete overview of the ELA assessment.
- Assigning Students to Online Sessions - Page 2
Instructions for assigning students to an online session can be found by clicking on “Spring 2015 Online Sessions” located at www.michigan.gov/securesitetraining under the Quick Reference section.
- WIDA ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS Certification - Page 2
- Full Academic Year (FAY) Status for the 2014-15 School Year - Page 3
Consult the business rules for FAY at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/2015_Full_Academic_Year_Business_Rules_478768_7.pdf.
- 1:1 Devices Can Be Used for Online Testing - Page 4

Recently Asked Questions

Can the Classroom Activity be “Skyped” to multiple locations at the same time?

There is no rule that prohibits skyping. Because students should have a similar experience with the Classroom Activity, skyping may provide that uniformity when working with students at multiple locations.

The Classroom Activity cannot be administered more than three days prior to the Performance Task. Does this mean calendar days or school days?

This requirement refers to three school days.

Can the Classroom Activity (CA) and the Performance Task (PT) be given on the same day?

Yes, the CA can be administered on the same day as the PT. The Classroom Activity must be administered before the Performance Task; there should be no more than a three-day lapse between the Classroom Activity and the PT administration.

Can the Classroom Activity be video recorded and be presented via video for students absent on the day of the Classroom Activity?

Yes.

► *Prior Recently Asked Questions can be found at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Recently_Asked_Questions_470957_7.pdf.*