

Spotlight



on Student Assessment and Accountability

What's New

Week of October 20, 2014

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Stay Informed with Weekly Spotlight

Recently, we have received several emails and phone calls asking how someone can sign up to receive our weekly Spotlight on Student Assessment and Accountability. The answer is . . . it's easy.

If you are not currently receiving our weekly publication, all you have to do is become a subscriber on any one of the assessment and accountability Listservs. To join, go to <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIMDE/subscriber/new>, enter your email address, click submit and then a full list of MDE Topics/Listsers will appear. Under the Student Assessment heading, select the listserve that is right for you.

MI-Access Functional Independence English Language Arts

Functional Independence English Language Arts will comprise what was previously referred to as "Accessing Print" (word study and passage comprehension), as well as "Expressing Ideas." As we move to assessing writing at all grade levels with our general assessment, we will be adding Expressing Ideas (constructed response) to the MI-Access Functional Independence (FI) English Language Arts (ELA) assessment at all assessed grades.

Please note that while the word study and passage comprehension portions of ELA (commonly referred to as Accessing Print) are offered online, the Expressing Ideas assessment will be a paper/pencil administered assessment for all students in grades 3–8 and 11.

If you have a student who will take the MI-Access FI ELA word study and passage comprehension part of the ELA assessment online, you do not need to apply for a waiver for Expressing Ideas. The only option for this part of the assessment is using paper/pencil.

Reminders

Recently Asked Questions

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.

Sample Schedules for Online Testing

The online testing of spring 2015 summative assessments gives schools a lot of flexibility in scheduling. Students do not have to be scheduled for the same content area, on the same day, at the same time. A test session at minimum is one part. Some schools may choose to schedule both parts in one session.

The following tables give a couple of sample options to help clarify.

Example 1: Three different classrooms are taking the English language arts online test on three different days. In this example each class is taking part one of the online assessment.

Content Area	Day	Session	Classroom
English Language Arts	1	1 - Part 1	1
	2	1 - Part 1	2
	3	1 - Part 1	3

Example 2: One classroom has part of the students taking the English language arts online test and part taking the mathematics online test on the same day, in two different sessions. In this example, each class is taking part one and two in a session.

Content Area	Day	Session	Classroom
English Language Arts	1	1 Part 1 and 2	1
Mathematics	1	2 Part 1 and 2	1

Reminder – a September Spring Testing Schedule Update is available at http://mi.gov/documents/mde/Spring_2015_Testing_Schedule_Update_464310_7.pdf.

Pre-identification for Spring 2015 Assessments

ACT Plus Writing and WorkKeys

In early December, the Division of Accountability Services (DAS) will pre-identify students using the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) fall 2014 general collection count data and Student Record Maintenance (SRM) files submitted by districts.

All grade 11 students who were not enrolled in Grade 11 during the Spring 2014 test window will be pre-identified for both the ACT Plus Writing and the WorkKeys assessments. Eligible grade 12 students are those who did not previously take the MME or took the MME but did not receive a full score in an MME subject area.

Grade 12 students, who have not previously been included in accountability calculations, will be pre-identified for testing and will be required to test.

Summative Assessments and MI-Access (grades 3–8 and 11)

Pre-identification of students for summative assessments will begin in early January using the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) fall 2014 general collection count data and Student Record Maintenance (SRM) files submitted by districts. All students will be pre-identified to the summative assessment and districts/schools will need to move MI-Access students from the summative to the appropriate MI-Access assessment.

WIDA

Students who are identified as Limited English Proficiency (LEP) in MSDS will be pre-identified by the state for the WIDA assessment. Additional students required to test and not pre-identified by the state will need to be added by the district or school.

Just a reminder...

Upcoming important dates, recent topics, etc.

Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA)

The Kindergarten Entry Assessment is well underway. If your school or district is participating please remember the following:

- The KEA test window closes October 31, 2014.
- The Inter-rater Reliability (IRR) module (3 SCECHS) must be completed before entering data into the TS Gold System. Professional Development modules (12 SCECHS) can be completed later.
- If you are a district or building coordinator, please check with KEA Test Administrators to ensure they are able to complete their IRR as soon as possible.
- All students must be Pre-ID'd on the MDE Secure Site and then placed in a session Site by the approved BAA Secure Site user. Directions for both steps can be found at: www.michigan.gov/securesitetraining.
- **Webinar Invitation:** The webinar "Completing the First Checkpoint for Michigan's KEA" presented October 16, 2014 at 4:00 pm was recorded and placed on the TS GOLD, teacher home page at https://www2.teachingstrategies.com/page/CC_StateMI.cfm
- **Parent Reporting--Arabic:** The English version of the Objectives for Development and Learning (ODL) is available for use during family conferencing. The ODL has been translated into a parallel Arabic version. KEA teachers can refer to the ODL in English and have parents follow along in Arabic. Both documents are available on the teacher home page.
- **Need assistance or support:** Email addresses, telephone contact information, and requests for on-site support for KEA Trainer/Coaches can be sent to baa@michigan.gov or call 866-736-5913.

Request for Paper/Pencil Administration

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) and schools around the state have been preparing to transition to online state assessments. Starting in spring 2015, all statewide general assessments as well as the MI-Access Functional Independence assessments will be administered online.

A paper/pencil version of the assessments will be available for schools that are not yet ready to make the transition to online assessments. Guidance on how to submit online waiver request(s) for the administration of the assessments via paper/pencil at your school can be accessed at http://www.mi.gov/documents/mde/Paper_Pencil_Request_470321_7.pdf.

The deadline to submit the online waiver request(s) is November 7, 2014.

NOTE: A waiver request can only be submitted by a district administrator level user of the Secure Site.

Technology Readiness Information

Beginning in spring 2015, all statewide general assessments as well as the MI-Access Functional Independence assessments will be administered online.

Note: The online testing device requirements was updated in September. Please be sure you are referencing the version dated 9-15 in the lower right corner of the document.

Technology Readiness, Device Information and Resources:

- **For technology readiness information visit:** <http://22itrig.org/>
- **Online testing device requirements can be found at** http://mtrax.org/files/Michigan_Testing_DeviceRequirements9-15-14.pdf.

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Upcoming important dates, recent topics, etc.

ACT Plus Writing and WorkKeys Update

ACT Plus Writing and WorkKeys will be part of the Michigan Spring 2015 accountability system. Participation in both ACT Plus Writing and WorkKeys, as well as performance on the ACT Plus Writing will be factored in school accountability scorecards.

Important Dates

- ACT Establishment Packets were shipped to high schools and should have been received. If your high school has not received an establishment packet, please call ACT at **1.800.553.6244, ext. 2800**.

As additional details are finalized they will be communicated through future Spotlights.

Material Orders for Paper/Pencil

The windows for ordering materials for students taking the paper/pencil assessments will open:

Early December 2014

- WIDA

Early January 2015

- Summative and MI-Access grades 3–8 and 11
- ACT Plus Writing and WorkKeys ([will be done through ACT – not the Secure Site](#))

Fall 2014 Interim Assessment Field Test for iPads and Chromebooks

Registration is now open for iPads and Chromebooks at <https://baameap.wufoo.com/forms/fall14-interim-ipadchromebook-field-test/>. Schools that have participated in the Fall 2014 Interim Assessment Field Test (desktops and laptops only—which ended October 17, 2014) may also participate in the iPad and Chromebook field test; however, these schools are still required to complete the iPad and Chromebook registration survey.

Note: Students may not take the same assessment more than once. For example, if a student took the ELA assessment during the desktop and laptop field test window, that same student may not take the ELA assessment during the iPad and Chromebook field test window.

Important Dates

- The test window runs from October 20, 2014 to November 14, 2014.
- Software necessary for the installation of DRC's test engine, INSIGHT, will be released on October 18, 2014.
- Technical Coordinator User Guide, checklists, and administration manuals are available at <https://mi.drcedirect.com/>.

Participation Incentive

- Schools who register for this field test will be eligible to receive the Technology Readiness Infrastructure Grant (TRIG) participation incentive of \$3.00 for each student test completed.
- Each content or subject area test consists of two parts, and both parts of the test must be completed to be eligible for the participation incentive. For example, a student who completes both parts of each assessment in ELA and Mathematics will earn the school district a participation incentive of \$6.00.

Preparation

- In preparation for using Chromebooks, please make sure you have set up Google Apps for Education and have enrolled all of your Chromebooks in the Device Manager. This will allow you to manage your devices including configuration and the INSIGHT testing software. If you have not already done so, visit Google to manage your Chrome devices: <https://support.google.com/chrome/a/answer/1289314?rd=2>.

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Just a reminder...

Upcoming important dates, recent topics, etc.

- If you require support with setting up your Google Administrator account or enrolling Chromebooks, please contact Google, directly.

Note: Chrome device management is automatically available for Chrome devices purchased directly from Google or an authorized reseller. To manage Chrome devices from third parties, purchase Chrome device management separately from a Chrome Devices for Business and Education sales representative.

Fall 2014 Interim Assessment Field Test Surveys

A vital part of every field testing process is the constructive feedback received from participating schools. The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is opening two Fall 2014 Interim Assessment Field Test surveys on Friday, October 17, 2014. The feedback collected from these surveys is extremely valuable in helping guide MDE in future online assessment administrations. If you participated in this field test, please consider completing the appropriate survey below.

[The Fall 2014 Fall Interim Assessment Technology Coordinator Survey](#) is geared towards Technology Coordinators and meant to collect technical feedback about the field tests.

[The Fall 2014 Interim Assessment Post-Administration Survey](#) is geared towards Interim Assessment Coordinators and school staff who were directly involved in the administration of the field tests.

Each survey should take less than 10 minutes to complete.

View Historical Student Assessment Scores in the MDE Secure Site

One of the enhancements on the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Secure Site is the ability for districts and schools to view historic state assessment scores for new students who did not test in the district or school. Because of system timing issues, this function has not always been available. Changes have been made to the MDE Secure Site to update the student's primary educational providing entity (PEPE) in real time from MSDS, so now historic scores will be available immediately.

IMPORTANT - Prior to being able to view scores for students who did not test in the district or school, the student's PEPE must be changed to the district and school in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS). This can be done by submitting the new student enrollment information in MSDS through the fall or spring MSDS general collection or by using a student record maintenance (SRM) file in between collections. The district pupil accounting person can assist with enrollment submissions MSDS.

Once the student's PEPE has been updated in MSDS, district and school users will have immediate access to the student's historic MEAP, MME, MI-Access, ELPA, ELPA screener, WIDA, and W-APT scores through the student demographic screen on the Secure Site.

Recently Asked Questions

If I requested an Online Waiver for one or more schools in my district, and have since determined that some or all of those buildings are ready to test online, can I withdraw the waiver request?

The online waiver request window is open until November 7, 2014. If you determine by that date that you would like to withdraw your waiver request for one or more schools, please send an email request to baa@michigan.gov with the subject line Withdraw Waiver Request, providing the district and school information, as well as your contact information. If you have additional questions regarding submission or withdrawal of the online waiver, please call **877-560-8378**, and select **option 8**.

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