

Administrator Survey

In June 2015, MDE administered a survey to 3,412 Michigan educators at the school and district level who took part in the planning or administration the 2015 M-STEP.

Survey questions focused on the value and usefulness of:

- M-STEP Online Administration Training Videos in providing the information and instructions needed to coordinate the M-STEP Online Administration.
- Online Tools Training (OTT) in familiarizing students and staff with the online M-STEP tools and format of new item types.
- The staggered testing window schedule in assessing all students.
- The M-STEP engine (INSIGHT) tools and designated supports and accommodations.

The survey also collected information on:

- Test administration experiences and difficulties.
- Customer technical support in various phases of test administration.
- Overall experience with the M-STEP online administration during spring 2015.

Survey respondents filled various roles in the rollout of the online administration of the M-STEP in schools and districts. Survey responses came from Assessment Administrator (53.11%), Assessment Proctor (19.93%) and Building Assessment Coordinator (13.57%). A smaller percentage of respondents came from various district roles (12.81%).

Key Findings

Administration Training Videos for Practice Tools and Test Samples

- Over three-quarters (78%) of Building Assessment Coordinators and 73% of Assessment Administrators, Proctors, and Accommodations Providers said the training video provided the information and instruction needed to administer the online M-STEP online administration.

Online Tools Training (OTT)

- Nearly two-thirds (62%) of respondents thought the Online Tools Training (OTT) was helpful in familiarizing students and staff with the online M-STEP tools and format of new item types.
 - A relatively large proportion of respondents did not watch the online videos; Assessment Coordinators (16.81%), Assessment Administrators, Proctors, and Accommodations Providers (28.90%).

Staggered Test Window

- Survey participants were asked to give feedback about the level of difficulty in building a testing schedule to accommodate students in all grade levels in the staggered testing window.
 - Over one-quarter of administrators (26%) said it was “somewhat easy” or “very easy” to build a testing schedule to accommodate students in all grade levels in the staggered testing window.
 - Respondents most frequently said it was “very difficult” (41.48%) or “somewhat difficult” (32.73%).

M-STEP Engine (INSIGHT), Tool and Universal Support Ease of Use and Helpfulness in Meeting Student Needs

- A majority of respondents (62%) agreed or neither agreed/disagreed that the INSIGHT test engine was easy for students to understand or use.
- Similarly, 71% agreed or neither agreed/disagreed students found the online designated supports and accommodations easy to use.
- 90% of those surveyed thought the universal tools, designated supports and accommodations met student needs.

Customer and Technical Support Feedback

- 86% of those who contacted customer and technical support prior to test administration rated the service they received as helpful, including 21% rating the support as “very helpful”.
- 86% of those who contacted customer and technical support during test administration rated the service they received as helpful, including 21% rating the support as “very helpful”.

Overall Test Experience for Administrators and Students

- 71% of administrators said they had a “very good”, “good” or both “good/bad” test administration experience.
- 63% thought students had a “very good”, “good” or both “good/bad” test administration experience.
- Survey participants were given the opportunity to answer the question, “What suggestions do you have for improving the M-STEP test administration schedule for Spring 2016?”
 - The most commonly included suggestions were to reduce the amount of time required for testing and the burden that placed on test-takers, computer-lab/library availability, and staff.