Please see **7 IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS** below regarding: 1) REMINDER: Fall 2013 MEAP Pre-ID/IMO Deadline Today, 2) Michigan 2013-14 Statewide Assessments, 3) REMINDER: ACT Online Prep Access Ending September 30, 2013, 4) Please Check Your MEIS Email Address, 5) WIDA W-APT Login Issued to Existing ELPA Coordinators, 6) Fall 2013 KEA Pilot Application Window Open, and 7) Fall 2013 Interim Assessment Application Window Re-Opening.

1) REMINDER: Fall 2013 MEAP Pre-ID/IMO Deadline Today!

The deadline to place an initial materials order (IMOs) for the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) and to pre-identify students to receive pre-printed MEAP answer documents is today, **Thursday, July 26, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.** Remember, MEAP IMOs and pre-ID (for pre-printed answer documents) must be completed in the "old" BAA Secure Site. The "new" BAA Secure Site will be opened for additional pre-ID and ordering functions in the coming weeks. Please watch for an announcement of the availability of these components.

It is important that you place an initial material order and include in that order any accommodated versions your students require. This will ensure you receive assessment materials (including accommodated versions) in time to properly inventory your materials before testing.

If you have questions about placing an initial material order or pre-identifying students for MEAP, please email **BAA@michigan.gov** or call 877-560-8378 and select option 2.

2) Michigan 2013-14 Statewide Assessments

To help schools and districts prepare for summative, interim and formative assessment activities scheduled for the fall of 2013 and spring of 2014, an overview document has been prepared for your use. This document can be accessed at the following link:

http://michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-22709_28463---,00.html

3) REMINDER: ACT Online Prep Access Ending September 30, 2013

As previously announced, the ACT EXPLORE-PLAN Pilot (which took place in the spring of 2012 and 2013) has ended and is not funded for 2013-14 school year. Therefore, schools/districts that would like to continue assessing students using EXPLORE or PLAN will have to place orders and make payment arrangements directly through ACT. You may recall that as part of the pilot project, Michigan schools were able to access the ACT Online Prep Program, and this free access will continue through **September 30, 2013**. If your school/district would like to continue to offer the ACT Online Prep Program to your students after September 30, 2013, you must contact ACT directly to arrange payment for this program. ACT Customer Services can be reached at 1-800-498-6065 or **ACTonlineprep@act.org.**

4) Please Check Your MEIS Email Address

With the "new" BAA Secure Site, there are many automated email functions that occur directly through the system to notify you of important dates, notify you that you have not accessed an important function during the review/appeals window, etc. The system uses the email address associated with your Michigan Educational Information System (MEIS) user account. Please take a moment to check the email address associated with your account and make any necessary updates to ensure you receive these system-generated notifications. You can check the email address after logging into your MEIS account at https://cepi.state.mi.us/meis/login.aspx/ and clicking on the "View/Edit User Profile" link. Please also take a moment to check the Educational Entity Master (EEM) and ensure you have the correct individuals listed in each role and the correct contact information (especially email address) is displayed. The Bureau of Assessment & Accountability will continue to use the EEM and contact information provided in the EEM for all other communications not generated through the Secure Site.

5) WIDA W-APT Credentials Issued to Existing ELPA Coordinators

The State of Michigan recently adopted the WIDA standards and assessment system for English learners (ELs). This transition will include several steps, and we are ready to begin the transition by providing access to the WIDA-ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT) screener assessment and training materials, which are downloadable for free from the WIDA website after secure login. As you may recall, the W-APT is replacing the prior "ELPA Screener" and will be used for identification and placement of students who are new to a particular school or district and who may be eligible for EL support services.

The secure W-APT section of the WIDA website contains several materials that you are strongly advised to review prior to administering the W-APT in your district:

- W-APT Recorded Webinar Trainings

- W-APT Download and Printing Instructions

- W-APT Test Administration Manuals for Kindergarten and Grades 1-12

- W-APT Scored Student Writing Sample Booklet

All existing ELPA Coordinators in the Educational Entity Master (EEM) will be automatically added to WIDA's system for W-APT access and will receive an email containing their secure login information on or around August 1, 2013. To ensure you receive the message, please check your district's spam or junk mail folders and/or check with a technical coordinator to be certain that your system is not blocking messages from help@wida.us or widahelp@wcer.wisc.edu. Also, please be sure the proper individuals are identified in the EEM and have the correct contact information (especially email address).

If you have any questions, concerns, or difficulty accessing the materials once you receive your login information, please contact the WIDA Help Desk at toll free 1-866-276-7735 or **help@wida.us.**

6) Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA) Pilot Application Window Open

On June 17, 2013, the Fall 2013 Kindergarten Entry Assessment Pilot survey opened on the KEA webpage at:

http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-22709_65339---,00.html.

To access details needed on participation in the pilot please visit:

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Kindergarten_Teachers_and_Students_Needed_424197_7.pdf?20130723151249

The actual survey can be accessed at:

https://baameap.wufoo.com/forms/kindergarten-entry-assessment-pilot/

7) Interim Assessment Pilot Application Window Re-Opening

The Bureau of Assessment and Accountability (BAA) is pleased to re-open the Fall 2013 Interim Assessment Pilot application window from **July 29 through August 9, 2013**. (An application to participate in the Fall 2013 Interim Assessment pilot should only be completed now if your school did not already complete an application by the initial June deadline.)

The Fall 2013 Michigan Interim Assessment Pilot is for grades 3-12 in science and social studies and grades K-2 in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics. When operational, these new interim assessments will be online, pre-post assessments given at the beginning of a grade/course and end of a grade/course. The operational Michigan interim assessments may also be used as one possible measure of student growth.

Michigan educators will play a critical role in assisting the BAA in the development of the Michigan Interim Assessments at all grade levels and content areas. Schools have the opportunity to experience these new assessments during **pilot testing**, which will take place **October 28 through December 6, 2013**. (See application link below to apply.)

Michigan Interim Assessment Pilot			
Grade Levels	**Content Areas**		**Alignment**
K – 2	ELA and Mathematics		Common Core State Standards
3 – 7	Science		Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCEs)
3 – 8	Social Studies		Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCEs)
High School	Science Earth Science Biology Chemistry Physics	Social Studies US History & Geography World History & Geography Civics Economics	High School Content Expectations (HSCEs)

The chart below provides minimum technology requirements for participation in the fall 2013 Michigan Interim Assessment pilot:

Minimum Technology Requirements for Student Testing Devices	
Apple	**Windows**
MAC OS X 10.6 – 10.8	Windows XP, Vista, 7, 8, Server 2003 and 2008

512 MB RAM	512 MB RAM
800 x 600 screen resolution	800 x 600 screen resolution
100 MB hard disk space	100 MB hard disk space
1 GHz processor	1 GHz processor
Neither tablets (iPad/Android) nor Chromebooks will be supported for this pilot.	

If your school did not already complete an application to participate in the **Fall 2013 Michigan Interim Assessment pilot**, but would like the opportunity to be a part of this important opportunity, please complete the application at **http://tinyurl.com/interimpilotapp**. Districts may have several buildings participate, but each building must register with a separate application. **Applications must be completed by Friday, August 9, 2013.**

For more information regarding the interim assessments, contact:

Interim Assessment Contacts		
Elementary (K-5)	**Secondary (6-12)**	**Technology**
Erika Bolig	**Kim Young**	**Matt Ayotte**
517-241-6397	**517-373-0988**	**517-335-4643**
bolige@michigan.gov	**youngk1@michigan.gov**	**ayottem@michigan.gov**

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.