

Please see **3 IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS** below regarding: 1) W-APT Transition Updates, 2) Fall 2013 Assessment Video Cast, and 3) Interim Assessment Pilot Follow-up Survey.

1) WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT) Transition Updates

W-APT Materials and Login Information

The WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT) has recently replaced the ELPA Initial Screening as the English language proficiency "screener" test given to incoming students who may be designated as English learners (ELs). Districts should no longer be using the ELPA Initial Screening and should securely destroy any remaining ELPA Screening materials. The materials needed to administer the W-APT are downloadable and can be found on WIDA's website at www.wida.us. Login credentials for the WIDA website were sent on August 1st to individuals listed as your district's ELPA Coordinator and District Assessment Coordinator in EEM. If you did not receive the e-mail from WIDA, please check your spam or junk mail folders and/or check with a technology coordinator to be certain that your system is not blocking messages from help@wida.us or widahelp@wcer.wisc.edu. If you have any questions, concerns, or difficulty accessing the materials on the WIDA website, please contact the WIDA Help Desk at 866-276-7735 or help@wida.us. If your district did not receive login information, please contact Jason Kolb at kolbj1@michigan.gov or Cristina Rodriguez at rodriguez@wida.us with the Office of Standards and Assessment.

W-APT Score Entry Update

The W-APT score entry function in the Secure Site is currently unavailable, but is anticipated to become available in late August. This, however, should not prevent your district from beginning to use the W-APT. Until the W-APT score entry function becomes available in the Secure Site, it is strongly recommended that you use the W-APT Score Calculator and keep a running record of your students' scores. When the Secure Site Score Entry function does become available, your district will be expected to enter the W-APT scores of your students. The W-APT Calculator can be found at: www.wida.us/assessment/w-apt/ScoreCalculator.aspx. To use the W-APT calculator, simply choose the student's grade, enter the raw scores by domain, and press "calculate." If you have any questions, concerns or difficulty accessing the W-APT Calculator on the WIDA website, please contact the WIDA Help Desk at 866-276-7735 or help@wida.us. If you have any questions about the Secure Site, please contact baa@michigan.gov.

Entrance Protocol Changes

With the transition to the W-APT and new WIDA proficiency levels, the current method for determining eligibility for English Learner services will be changing. A new Entrance Protocol will be announced shortly that will focus on the new proficiency levels.

Training Opportunities and Professional Development

If a representative from your district was unable to attend the recent W-APT training sessions in Lansing, further training sessions will be available this fall. Please check the WIDA Professional

Development Schedule found at:

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/WIDAProfessionalDevelopmentCalendar13-14_430230_7.pdf for a list of dates. Information on signing up for training sessions will be provided prior to each training date. In addition to training sessions, you are strongly encouraged to review the W-APT resources available at www.wida.us.

2) Fall 2013 Assessment Video Cast

Please join us on **Monday, September 9, 2013** for the Fall 2013 Michigan Assessment video cast. This event will provide District and School Test Coordinators with the information needed to ensure a successful administration of all the Fall 2013 statewide assessments. This video cast will consist of 2 sessions covering MEAP and MEAP-Access in the morning and the afternoon session will be devoted to the MI-Access assessments. Please be sure to block off time for these important events on your calendar.

The video cast will be a live event and archived for future viewing. A flyer will be posted and distributed in the next week for this event complete with an agenda and viewing details including times and access details. If you have not accessed a video cast through www.mistreamnet.org in the past, please visit the site prior to Monday, September 9th, to make sure your computer has the required connection and software to view the video cast.

3) Interim Assessment Pilot Follow-up Survey

Schools that have applied for the Fall 2013 Michigan Interim Assessment Pilot should have received a communication on 8/14 describing the next step in confirming interest in participating in this pilot. A follow-up survey is now available at <http://tinyurl.com/F13MIIPilot> and must be completed in order for schools to be included in this pilot.

For more information regarding the interim assessments, contact:

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