

Please see **5 IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS** below regarding: 1) HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPALS: Look for Your MME School Establishment Packets, 2) New MI-Access Functional Independence Content Standards for Social Studies, 3) Remaining ELPA Initial Screening Materials, 4) Michigan Merit Examination (MME) Spring 2014 Accommodations Briefing Wednesday, September 18, 2013, and 5) Michigan Merit Examination (MME) Spring 2014 Preparation and Planning Briefing Wednesday, September 18, 2013.

1) HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPALS: Look for Your MME School Establishment Packets

ACT began sending MME school establishment packets to school principals on Wednesday, August 28, 2013. The MME school establishment packets provide critical information needed for principals to appoint qualified individuals to serve as their school's Test Supervisor (TS), Back-up Test Supervisor (BU), and Test Accommodations Coordinator (TAC) for the Spring 2014 MME. These packets were addressed specifically to principals, so any principal who did not receive the MME school establishment packet from ACT should contact ACT immediately by email at: mi.mme@act.org or by phone at: 800-553-6244 ext. 2800.

2) New MI-Access Functional Independence Content Standards for Social Studies

The Office of Standards and Assessment (OSA) in the Division of Accountability Services is pleased to announce that the new Functional Independence Extended Grade Level Content Expectations (EGLCEs) and Extended High School Content Expectations (EHSCEs) in Social Studies are finalized and posted on the MI-Access webpage at www.michigan.gov/mi-access. Michigan educators extended the social studies GLCEs and HSCEs by reducing them in depth, breadth, and complexity so they are appropriate for the Functional Independence (FI) student population.

The posted EGLCEs and EHSCEs are designed with the teacher in mind. The Grade Level Content Expectation and the corresponding extension are displayed side-by-side. In addition, the Key Concepts covered by the EGLCE/EHSCE are included with the EGLCE/EHSCE and may prove to be a helpful teacher resource.

Michigan educators wrote FI social studies test items this summer tied to the new EGLCEs and EHSCEs. The next step: conduct cognitive labs with FI students who, together with their teacher, will review a sample of new social studies items and provide feedback to the OSA. The ultimate goal: develop a new state assessment for FI students in Social Studies.

The projected timeline for the development of the new FI social studies assessment:

- Fall 2013 – FI social studies cognitive labs (online)
- Spring 2014 – FI social studies pilot assessment (online)
- Spring 2015 – first operational FI social studies assessment (online and paper/pencil option)

If your school is interested in participating in the FI cognitive labs scheduled for November 2013, and/or the FI Social Studies Pilot scheduled for spring 2014, please send an email to: BAA@michigan.gov. Please include your name and contact information.

3) Remaining ELPA Initial Screening Materials

Due to the replacement of the ELPA Initial Screening with the WIDA Access Placement Test (W-APT) this fall, schools/districts may now securely destroy all used and unused ELPA Initial Screening materials. Please **DO NOT** return materials to MDE. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the BAA at 877-560-8378, option 7.

4) Michigan Merit Examination (MME) Spring 2014 Accommodations Briefing Wednesday, September 18, 2013

Michigan Department of Education's Division of Accountability Services in collaboration with Wayne RESA and MI Streamnet will be presenting a live videoconference and webcast for high school principals, MME key testing staff, Test Accommodation Coordinators, and District Assessment Coordinators on **Wednesday, September 18, 2013 from 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

The Accommodations briefing will cover topics such as:

- Requesting Day 1 Plus Writing Accommodations
- Ordering Day 2 and Day 3 Accommodated Materials
- Review of Differences Among the Types of Accommodations
- Upcoming Due Dates and Deadlines
- What's New for Spring 2014 MME Testing

To register for the Wayne RESA location, please contact Brenda Hose at 734-334-1437 or hoseb@resa.net.

You may FAX questions during the webcast to: 734-334-1857 or email questions during the webcast to: answers@resa.net.

The webcast will also be available live at: <http://www.mistreamnet.com>. Click on the "Live Stream" link. You may view the archived version (posted within 24 hours) at: <http://www.mistreamnet.com>. Click on the "Video on Demand" link.

DVD copies will be available for a cost of \$10 plus \$4 for shipping and handling.

To see the *MME Spring 2014 Accommodations Briefing* invitation flyer, please go to http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Accommodations_Briefing_2014_Invite_432954_7.pdf?20130905132541.

Michigan Merit Examination (MME) Spring 2014 Preparation and Planning Briefing Wednesday, September 18, 2013

Michigan Department of Education's Division of Accountability Services in collaboration with Wayne RESA and MI Streamnet will be presenting a live videoconference and webcast for High School principals, MME key testing staff, Test Accommodation Coordinators, and District Assessment Coordinators on **Wednesday, September 18, 2013 from 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Major topics include:

- What every High School Principal must know about the MME
- School Establishment/Renewal Process
- Selecting your key MME Staff – TS, BU, and TAC
- Staff Training in December and January
- MME Critical Dates and Schedule
- What's New for Spring 2014 MME Testing

To register for the Wayne RESA location, please contact Brenda Hose at 734-334-1437 or hoseb@resa.net.

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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.