



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents, Public School Academy Administrators, School Principals, District Assessment Coordinators, District MI-Access Coordinators

FROM: Joseph Martineau, Ph.D.
Director, Office of Educational Assessment & Accountability

DATE: May 5, 2009

SUBJECT: Launch of MEAP-Access for Fall 2009

The new MEAP-Access assessments in reading and mathematics will be administered for the first time this fall. *Schools will want to consider administering MEAP-Access to their eligible students for the following reasons:*

- MEAP-Access is more appropriate for eligible students than the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) or MI-Access.
- MEAP-Access is shorter than MEAP, with fewer questions for students to answer.
- MEAP-Access multiple choice items have fewer options to choose from than on MEAP.
- MEAP-Access will have new cut scores appropriate for the MEAP-Access population.
- MEAP-Access scores will be used in calculating Adequate Yearly Progress (up to 2% of a district's students can be considered proficient based on MEAP-Access).

Schools should also be aware of the following about MEAP-Access:

- MEAP-Access will be administered during the same window as MEAP.
- MEAP-Access can only be taken by students that meet all eligibility requirements identified at <http://www.michigan.gov/meap-access>.
- MEAP-Access in Fall 2009 may look different and shorter because the pilot administered in Winter 2009 used multiple formats.
- Based on feedback from stakeholders, the Fall 2009 MEAP-Access will include new item types in both reading and writing designed specifically for MEAP-Access in grades 4 and 7 on the date reserved for writing.

For more complete information about the MEAP-Access, a Frequently Asked Questions document is attached to this memorandum.

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