



Announcements from Assessment & Accountability -- located within the Division of Accountability Services (DAS) – Week of August 25, 2014

There are TWO ANNOUNCEMENTS below:

- 1) Opportunity to Participate in Interim Assessment Field Test for K-2 and High School
- 2) Pre-identification for the Fall 2014 K-2 and High School Interim Assessment is Now Open

1) Opportunity to Participate in Interim Assessment Field Test for K-2 and High School

Schools are invited to register to participate in the Fall 2014 Interim Assessment Field Test (September 15-October 17, 2014). This field test is an important part of a high quality test development process and can be valuable to schools, students and teachers.

Reasons to Participate

- Prior to the state summative assessment to be administered in the spring 2015, participation in the Fall 2014 Field Test provides an opportunity for schools to test bandwidth capacity and to logistically schedule and move students through an online assessment experience.
- Students would have the benefit of taking an online assessment in a low-stakes situation. The test would offer students a chance to have an online experience and to practice commonly used online assessment tools.
- Teachers who offer the field test assessments will receive an invitation to participate in a focus group that will provide valuable feedback on the interim assessment reporting features.

Districts may have several schools participate in one or more subjects and grade levels. Each participating school must individually register. Content areas to be field tested include:

- English language arts (ELA) and mathematics for grades K, 1, and 2.
- High school science courses (Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics)
- High school social studies courses (US History & Geography, World History & Geography, Civics, and Economics).

Technology Considerations:

- Schools may use Windows or Mac desktops and laptops to administer the field test assessments.
- Additionally, MDE is seeking schools to administer the field tests on devices such as iPads, Chromebooks, and Windows 8 tablets (non-touch). Test window runs from October 20 - November 14, 2014. Additional information on testing with these devices will be provided during the next few weeks.

Details regarding the minimum requirements for each device type is provided in the Michigan Testing Device

Requirements <http://mtrax.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Michigan-Testing-Device-Requirements.pdf> document.

Additional information regarding the Fall 2014 Interim Assessment Field Tests:

- The Michigan interim assessments are only available online.
- All interim assessments are aligned to Michigan's education standards and assesses students currently enrolled in the subjects selected.
- If Earth Science high school courses are offered to 8th grade students, schools may consider offering the Earth Science interim assessment to these 8th grade students.
- The field test window is September 15, 2014 through October 17, 2014. Schools may administer the field test assessments any time within this five-week test window.

How to Register

To participate in the Fall 2014 Interim Assessment Field Test, please complete the registration survey for each school at <https://baameap.wufoo.com/forms/fall14-interim-assessment-field-test-registration/>.

More information about the Michigan Interim Assessments may be found at <http://www.michigan.gov/interimassessments>.

2) Pre-identification for the Fall 2014 K-2 and High School Interim Assessments is Now Open on the Secure Site at <https://baa.state.mi.us/BAASecure/Login.aspx>.

There are three different methods for *registered schools* to pre-identify students on the Secure Site for the Interim Assessments. You can use one or a combination of these methods to identify students for testing.

a) Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) Early Roster Collection

- 1) The Early Roster file is submitted in MSDS by the authorized district MSDS person. This is usually the district pupil accounting person.
- 2) Data is pulled from MSDS into the Secure Site by the Division of Accountability Services (DAS).
- 3) This is the preferred method and will ensure students have a Unique Identification Code (UIC) which is required in the Secure Site.

b) Upload a Student Data File directly to the Secure Site

- 1) Students must have a UIC issued by MSDS before they can be entered in the Secure Site.
- 2) The file must be a .txt or .csv file and in our required format.
- 3) This file can usually be created by the district MSDS person who is usually often the district pupil accounting person.

c) Enter students one at a time

- 1) Students are entered directly on the Secure Site by any Secure Site user that has access above "view only".
- 2) Students must have a UIC issued by MSDS before they can be entered in the Secure Site.

Camtasia videos with instructions for each of the pre-ID methods listed above and the Secure Site

Procedure and User Manual can be found at http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-22709_57003---,00.html.

Students must be pre-identified on the Secure Site to be loaded to Data Recognition Corporation's (DRC) (the contractor for Interim Assessments) eDIRECT system. DRC will continue to pull student data daily from the Secure Site through October 14, 2014.

Once students have been loaded into the eDIRECT system, users (Interim Assessment Building Coordinators) will need to assign students to a testing session. Instructions for creating testing sessions and adding students can be found in the Interim Assessment Building Coordinator Handbook found in the Documents section at <https://mi.drctdirect.com> (no login required). The handbook (along with other helpful training materials) will be available on the site beginning the week of 8/25.

Users will receive an email from DRC with their user ID and password to access the secured areas of eDIRECT on September 4 – September 5, 2014

Have Other 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.