

Please see **4 IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS** below regarding: 1) SBAC Digital Library Development – Educators Needed, 2) FINAL REMINDER: Spring 2013 IMOs and Pre-ID Due Tomorrow, 3) REMINDER: ELPA Exemption Requests Due 2/15, and 4) Spring 2012 Teacher-Linked Assessment Data Now Available.

## **1) SBAC Digital Library Development – Educators Needed**

The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium will be developing an online digital library designed to be a one-stop site with professional development opportunities to learn more about balanced assessment systems, in particular formative assessment practices. The digital library is envisioned to have an extensive selection of resources necessary to transform classroom instructional and classroom assessment practices in support of student readiness for career and college.

The Michigan Department of Education is looking to recruit 75 – 90 Michigan educators to become members of a network of educators from other states within the Smarter Balanced Consortium with the purpose of identifying and recommending resources for the SBAC Digital Library and educating colleagues on the purpose and use of the SBAC Digital Library.

More information regarding the role of Michigan’s educators in the development of the SBAC Digital Library, including expected time commitment and reimbursement is included in the application link below.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/StateNetworkofEducators>.

The deadline to complete the online survey application is **Friday, January 25, 2013**.

If you have questions, please contact: Kimberly Young, SBAC Formative Assessment Practices and Professional Learning Work Group, at 517-373-0988.

## **2) FINAL REMINDER: Spring 2013 IMOs and Pre-ID Due Tomorrow!**

This is a friendly reminder that the deadline to receive pre-printed student barcode labels for all three spring assessments: the Spring 2013 English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA), the Michigan Merit Examination (MME), and the high school MI-Access closes at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 11, 2013. **Please take a moment to review the Pre-Identified Student Report** on the BAA Secure Site ([www.michigan.gov/baa-secure](http://www.michigan.gov/baa-secure)) **and make any necessary updates**. Schools will receive printed barcode labels from the contractor for all students pre-identified and included on the Pre-Identified Student Report by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 11th. Schools will be required to print barcode labels from the BAA Secure Site for students identified after January 11th.

Tomorrow is also the deadline to place an initial materials order for all three spring assessments. **Please review your materials order and ensure it reflects, to the best of your knowledge, the materials your school/district will need for spring testing.**

**Ordering Note for ELPA Online Districts:** For Online ELPA districts, please check to ensure that buildings have been identified correctly as Online ELPA buildings. Online ELPA schools will not receive student test booklets however they will receive secure Test Administrator Manuals. Keep in mind that any LEP eligible students moving into the district after January 11th must take the paper-pencil version of the assessment.

## **3) REMINDER: Spring 2013 ELPA Exemption Requests Due – February 15, 2013**

If your school has submitted a request for a Spring ELPA Exemption in the BAA Secure Site, further documentation from the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) may be needed for the BAA to make a determination. If you have not yet forwarded the requested information to the BAA, please do so as soon as possible.

Please mail or fax the students IEP to the following address:

MDE-BAA/ELPA Department  
Attn: Jennifer Paul  
608 West Allegan St.  
Lansing, MI 48909  
Fax: (517) 335-1186

As a reminder, the deadline for requesting an ELPA exemption is February 15, 2013.

Because districts can monitor and view exemption approvals and denials within the BAA Secure Site, no separate communications regarding decisions will be provided. Secure Site users can print individual approvals and denials for record keeping purposes. Detailed guidance on the Spring 2013 ELPA Exemption Request process can be found in the *BAA Secure Site User Manual*, which is located on the BAA Secure Site home page under "Assessment Documents" once you log in.

Exemption approvals are good only for one year and all requests must be made on an annual basis.

#### **4) Spring 2012 Teacher-Linked Assessment Data Now Available**

The most recent Teacher-Student Data Link (TSDL) submission created a link between the students, their courses, and the teacher(s) who provided their instruction during the 2011-2012 school year. The TSDL collection is required by the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) legislation, and a primary benefit of the TSDL submission is that it allows the linking of student assessment results to the teacher(s) of record, which may then be used in annual educator evaluations.

##### **Accessing Spring 2012 Linked Assessment Data**

The 2011-2012 TSDL data have now been linked to state assessment results from the spring 2012 assessments: the Michigan Merit Examination (MME), high school MI-Access, and the English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA). Since spring assessments are high school assessments except for ELPA, if elementary and middle school TSDL data are downloaded at this time, only ELPA results will display. All spring 2012 linked data are now available through the BAA Secure Site ([www.michigan.gov/baa-secure](http://www.michigan.gov/baa-secure)). Under the "Reports" heading, a tab entitled "Teacher Student Data Link" has been added. To access these data, the creation of a TSDL user account is necessary and requires the district superintendent's approval. TSDL user accounts previously established are still active and do **not** require submission of a new form unless the level of access needs to be changed or updated. The form required to obtain a TSDL user account can be obtained by emailing [MDE-Accountability@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-Accountability@michigan.gov). We will make every effort to have user accounts available for use within 5 – 7 business days from receipt of the completed request form.

Given these are spring assessments, student performance on spring 2012 assessments is linked to the teacher(s) of record for the 2011-2012 school year. Each student's assessment results have been linked to every teacher of record submitted for that student in TSDL, which allows districts and schools maximum flexibility in the use of these data. However, it also means a number of local decisions must be made before the data can be used in an educator evaluation system. For instance,

- what duration (days or number of contact hours, for example) of instruction should a student have received from a specific teacher in order to associate the student's achievement with that teacher, or
- which courses are appropriate to be associated with a student's performance on a specific content area assessment?

Until these local decisions are made, TSDL linked data should be treated as preliminary or draft data. The MME and high school MI-Access TSDL data do not provide a means to measure student growth, but status and achievement data from these assessments could be used as an additional component of an educator evaluation.

### **Fall 2012 Linked Assessment Data**

The teacher-linked data from the fall 2012 assessment results will be released to the BAA Secure Site in late February or early March and will provide a measure of performance level change from one year to the next, or "growth," in reading and mathematics for most students. Because these are fall assessments, measuring learning from the prior school year, the results will be linked to the teacher(s) of record for the 2011-2012 school year.

### **Questions?**

Please email us at [baa@michigan.gov](mailto:baa@michigan.gov) or call 877-560-8378 and select the appropriate menu option.