

Please see **4 IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS** below regarding: 1) Michigan School Testing Conference Next Week, 2) Fall 2012 MEAP Writing CDs, 3) Spring 2013 ELPA Updates, and 4) Alternate Assessment Social Studies Reminder.

1) Michigan School Testing Conference Registration Still Open

The Michigan School Testing Conference (MSTC) will be held next week (February 19th – 21st) at the Kensington Hotel in Ann Arbor, Michigan. It is not too late to register. For a complete list of sessions and the registration form, click <http://www.gomiem.org/pdfs/mstc2013.pdf> or to register online, visit: http://www.miemeseries.org/source/Events/Event.cfm?EVENT=13_MST.

2) Fall 2012 MEAP Writing CD Shipments

Measurement Incorporated will soon begin shipping Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) writing CDs. They should arrive in districts the week of February 18 - 22. The CDs will contain images of all writing responses for every student who had a valid writing test in grades 4 and 7. Also included on the CD are scoring guides and rubrics, prompts, and sample annotated responses.

These CDs will be shipped via FedEx Ground and will be **sent to the district offices ONLY**. District offices are responsible for sharing these writing images with their schools. District offices can burn additional copies of these CDs; however, because of the **confidential information contained on these discs**, the district offices are responsible for keeping track of all copies made and the distribution of these CDs. Schools must request additional CDs from their district assessment coordinator.

District offices are encouraged to inventory the shipment and review the writing CDs as soon as possible after receipt. Districts should report missing or defective CDs to Measurement Incorporated by calling (877) 560-8378, option 2, **no later than March 15, 2013**.

3) Spring 2013 English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA) Updates

The Spring 2013 ELPA testing window opens on **Monday, March 4, 2013** and closes on **Friday, April 12, 2013**.

Initial Material Shipments

The Spring 2013 ELPA materials are scheduled to arrive in districts on Friday, February 22nd. Schools participating in the ELPA Online will also receive materials at this time. Upon receipt, coordinators should immediately inventory the shipment to verify the correct materials in the correct amounts have been shipped. If additional materials are needed, they may be ordered via the BAA Secure Site, beginning on February 25th (more detailed information below).

Additional Material Orders

The Spring 2013 ELPA Additional Material Orders window opens on Monday, February 25th. If additional testing materials are needed, please remember to enter your orders into the BAA Secure Site no later than **5:00pm EST on Friday, April 5th, 2013**. Additional material orders for ancillary materials will continue to be accepted until 5:00pm EST on Friday, April 26th. If you have concerns about material orders, please call (877)560-8378 and choose option 5.

Testing Materials	Last Day to Order
Test Admin Manuals Regular Test Booklets Speaking Test Booklets Answer Docs Listening CDs Accommodated CDs Braille Kits Enlarged Print Kits Emergency Listening Scripts	Friday, April 5th, 2013

Ancillary Materials	Last Day to Order
Class/Group ID Sheets School/Grade Header Sheets Special Handling Envelopes Paper Bands Scorable Stickers Non-scorable Stickers Return Shipment Labels	Friday, April 26, 2013

4) Alternate Assessment Social Studies Reminder

All students in grades 6, 9, and 11 must be administered a social studies assessment. Grade 11 students are tested annually in the spring; grades 6 and 9 students are tested annually in the fall. Michigan does not currently offer an alternate assessment for social studies; therefore, for spring 2013 grade 11

- students who:
 - receive instruction using Extended High School Content Expectations (EHSCEs), and
 - would take a MI-Access Participation, Supported Independence, or Functional Independence assessment in social studies if one were available (based on the determination of the Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team),
 - must be administered a local assessment for social studies.

When a local social studies assessment is the appropriate option, the assessment should be given during the Spring 2013 MI-Access testing window (February 11 – March 22) and should be reported to the Bureau of Assessment & Accountability during the 'Students Not Tested' window (since it will appear as if these students did not test in social studies). School districts are encouraged to have a local policy about which local social studies assessment will be used and have local school board-adopted proficiency standards for the local assessment.

To ensure the accuracy of social studies participation and proficiency data for your school and district, please make sure ALL grade 11 students are tested in social studies this spring and are properly reported during the 'Students Not Tested' window.

Future Plans for an Alternate Social Studies Assessment

As previously announced, the Bureau of Assessment & Accountability has begun work to develop a MI-Access Functional Independence (FI) assessment in social studies by forming committees to extend the Grade Level Content Expectations/High School Content Expectations (reducing them in depth, breadth, and complexity so they are appropriate for the student population to be assessed). Following is a revised projected timeline for the remaining development tasks related to this new assessment.

- February-March 2013 – field review of draft extended GLCEs/HSCes
- March 2013 – finalize GLCEs/HSCes and test design
- Spring & Summer 2013 – social studies item writing and review
- Fall 2013 – social studies cognitive labs
- Spring 2014 – online pilot-testing
- Spring 2015 – first operational FI social studies assessment administered

Questions?

Please email us at baa@michigan.gov or call 877-560-8378 and select the appropriate menu option.