

Please see **2 IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS** below regarding: 1) Fall 2012 Teacher-Linked Assessment Data Now Available, and 2) Spring 2013 ELPA Testing Window Reminder.

### **1) Fall 2012 Teacher-Linked Assessment Data Now Available**

The most recent Teacher-Student Data Link (TSDL) submission created a link between 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 Fall 2012 Linked Assessment Data**

The 2011-2012 TSDL data have now been linked to state assessment results from the fall 2012 assessments: the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP), MEAP-Access, and elementary and middle school MI-Access. This data provides performance level change from year-to-year for reading and mathematics (a measure that can be used to meet the growth requirement of MCL 380.1249 for educator evaluations) provided a student took the MEAP or MI-Access FI assessment in that content area the year prior. All fall 2012 linked data are now available through the BAA Secure Site ([www.michigan.gov/baa-secure](http://www.michigan.gov/baa-secure)). 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 that these are fall assessments measuring student learning through the end of the previous school year, student performance on fall 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.

#### **Using Fall 2012 Linked Assessment Data as a Measure of Growth**

As mentioned above, districts will first need to make determinations regarding how and for whom these data will be used. However, once those determinations are made, the *Weighted Performance Level Change Tool*, developed by accountability unit staff to provide one possible method to examine performance level change at a district, school, and/or teacher level can be used. It is an optional tool that your district or school can choose to use or not. An overview of the tool, instructions for its use, data definitions, and an explanation of the calculations are contained within the tool itself. A tab has been provided to simply cut-and-paste your TSDL-linked assessment data into the tool, as well as tabs to view your calculated results. The Weighted Performance Level Change Tool is available for download on the TSDL webpage once a TSDL user is logged into the BAA Secure Site or can be accessed at the bottom of the TSDL file download page (after secure login to the BAA Secure Site).

## **2) Spring 2013 ELPA Testing Window Reminder**

The Spring 2013 English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA) testing window opens on **Monday, March 4, 2013** and closes on **Friday, April 12, 2013**. Please review your material orders before you begin testing. 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 5, 2013**. Once your district has completed testing, please return materials to Questar as soon as possible - do not wait until the last day to return materials. Spring ELPA materials should not be returned to the BAA, if they are returned to BAA instead of the scoring contractor, the materials will not be scored and your district may incur a fee for late return of materials. The deadline for returning materials is **Friday, April 19, 2013**.

### **Questions?**

For assessment questions, please email [baa@michigan.gov](mailto:baa@michigan.gov).

For accountability questions, please email [MDE-Accountability@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-Accountability@michigan.gov).

For phone assistance with assessment or accountability issues, call 877-560-8378 and select the appropriate menu option.