

Assessment & Accountability Announcements - Week of August 13, 2012

Please see **4 IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS** below regarding: 1) ELPA Screener Cycle I Now Open, 2) Fall 2012 MI-Access Online Answer Document Pilot, 3) Fall 2012 MI-Access Schedule Change, and 4) Fall 2012 MEAP Online Social Studies Pilot Update

1) English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA) Screener Cycle I Now Open

The [ELPA Screener Cycle I](#) opened yesterday, Wednesday, August 15, 2012, on the Bureau of Assessment and Accountability (BAA) Secure Site. Students who have enrolled for the upcoming school year and have answered "yes" to one or more of the questions on the Home Language Survey should be given the ELPA Initial Screener to aid in determining whether or not Title III English Language Learner (ELL) services are necessary. As a reminder, once the ELPA Initial Screener has been given, scores should be entered into the BAA Secure Site by clicking on the "ELPA Screener Entry" tab. Please follow the steps on page 116 of the *BAA Secure Site User Manual* on how to enter the information. Please also refer to the *ELPA Initial Screening Test Coordinator Manual* available at www.michigan.gov/elpa.

ELPA Initial Screener materials can be requested via the BAA Secure Site. Just select the "ELPA Materials Orders" option from the left navigation pane and enter the desired quantities. Be sure to save your order before you exit.

2) Fall 2012 MI-Access Online Answer Document Pilot

The BAA is piloting online versions of grade 3-8 MI-Access **answer documents** this fall and is looking for districts interested in using an online answer document for the recording of student responses for the Fall 2012 administration. *This would replace using a paper-based answer document.*

An informational/overview sheet is posted at www.michigan.gov/mi-access (under the "Assessment Window Information" heading) to help you learn the basics of the MI-Access online pilot. Please review this information to determine if your district: 1) is interested in participating in the online pilot, and 2) meets the minimum technology requirements for participation. To sign up, please complete the *MI-Access Fall 2012 Online Pilot Sign-up Survey* **by Friday, September 7, 2012**, using the link and instructions below.

IMPORTANT!! Please be sure you also have your students pre-identified in the BAA Secure Site (<https://baa.state.mi.us/meap/login.asp>) **by Tuesday, September 11, 2012**.

- Students must be pre-identified by this deadline or they will be ineligible to have their answer documents submitted online.
- In addition to pre-identifying these students, please be sure to do the following:
 - Have someone with a good understanding of your district's technology review the survey questions and overview documentation ahead of time.

- o Have the district Superintendent, or someone on his/her behalf, complete and submit the survey, which can be found here: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MI-AccessF12Online>

Completion of the survey will enable Questar Assessment, Inc. and the Office of Standards & Assessments (OSA) to better assess each district's testing needs and ensure that districts are aware of the technological requirements. This pilot will use the same "iTester" system that has been successfully implemented with the online ELPA since Spring 2011. We expect the MI-Access online pilot project to be just as successful, and hope your district is willing to partner with BAA in this important pilot. For further information contact the BAA at 877-560-8378, option 4.

3) Fall 2012 MI-Access Schedule Change

On Wednesday, June 13, 2012, the BAA announced a change in the MI-Access schedule for Fall 2012. Please see a courtesy copy of the communication below:

After much thoughtful consideration, the Bureau of Assessment & Accountability (BAA) has decided to change the Fall 2012 MI-Access assessment administration dates to align the Tested Roster window for all three fall assessments. This alignment will offer MI-Access Coordinators the same opportunity that MEAP and MEAP-Access Coordinators have had to view Tested Roster data while there is still time to submit Student Record Maintenance (SRM) in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) before fall data is locked for assessment reporting and accountability calculations. Specifically, this change will allow MI-Access Coordinators to review and correct, if needed, out-of-level and special education flags. The alerts provided during Tested Roster are critical because a student who took an alternate assessment but who is not flagged as special education, or who is flagged as out-of-level (based on student's grade level in MSDS), will have his/her scores invalidated.

The MI-Access fall assessment window will remain six weeks in duration. **The Fall 2012 MI-Access assessment window will run October 1 – November 9, 2012.**

While the testing window has been moved up only one week, BAA has asked our MI-Access scoring contractor, Questar Assessment Inc., to deliver Tested Roster data two full weeks earlier than scheduled to accommodate the alignment of all three Tested Rosters this fall. This will provide the important opportunity to correct student data, if necessary. To deliver Tester Roster data on this aggressive timeline, BAA and Questar will need district assistance in the form of early materials returns.

- **Early returns shipped by November 6, 2012 will result in MI-Access student data being available when Tested Roster opens.**
- On-time returns shipped by November 14 will result in MI-Access student data being available in Tested Roster sometime after the opening of the Tested Roster window.
- **Late returns between 1 and 14 days late will be scored and included in data files, PDF and paper reports, and accountability calculations; however, the data will not be included in Tested Roster and fees will be assessed for late returns as specified in the MI-Access Test Administrator Manual.**
- Late returns 15 or more days late will not be scored.

We hope that this new procedure will result in more accurate data for students taking the MI-Access alternate assessments, and will result in fewer scores being invalidated. For convenience, a table has been prepared to summarize the shipping categories and their impact on the availability of student data during the Tested Roster window (11/28/ – 12/4/2012).

MI -Access Shipping	Tested Roster Result
Shipped by 11/6 (early returns)	Data available in Tested Roster on 11/28
Shipped by 11/14 (on-time returns)	Data available in Tested Roster before 12/4
Late Returns (1 to 14 days late)	Not included in Tested Roster (but scored and included in data files, reports, and accountability calculations) Late fees will be assessed as specified in the MI-Access Test Administrator Manual.
Late Returns (15+ days late)	Not scored

4) Fall 2012 MEAP Online Social Studies Pilot Update

On Friday, August 17, 2012, District MEAP Coordinators who have one or more approved schools participating in the Fall 2012 Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) Online Social Studies Pilot, will receive an **email notification from Measurement Incorporated**, the pilot contractor. The notification will include **download credentials** for each participating school. The download credentials will provide schools access to the MIST™ (online delivery system for this pilot) website and the MIST™ executable file.

A copy of this email will also be sent to Building MEAP Coordinators, Building Technology Directors, District Assessment Coordinators, District Technology Directors, and the Primary Technical Contacts (from the MIST™ Readiness Survey) from participating districts and schools.

Districts/Schools that do not receive the email notification from Measurement Incorporated on Friday, August 17, 2012 (and believe they had been approved for participation prior to the deadline) should contact Kate Cermak at cermakk@michigan.gov or 517-335-4152 no later than Wednesday, August 22, 2012.

Questions?

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