

The Office of Psychometrics, Accountability, Research, & Evaluation has received several recent inquiries regarding career- and college-ready cut scores. The new career- and college-ready cut scores have not yet been established. At the February 2011 meeting of the Michigan State Board of Education, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) was charged with conducting a study aimed at identifying a set of cut scores for the Michigan Merit Examination (MME) and the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) content areas which will signify whether a student is career- and college-ready (MME) or on-track to being career- and college-ready (MEAP). The study is underway and once results are available, the Bureau of Assessment and Accountability (BAA) will present their recommendations to the State Board of Education. We anticipate this presentation to occur no later than the September 2011 meeting. Pending approval, the new cut-scores will be in place for the 2011-2012 school year.

Also, a new operational writing test was implemented as part of the MEAP in fall 2010. Following that administration, new cut scores were established for the writing test. Questions have been raised whether the new cut scores for writing represent career- and college-ready cut scores. It is true the new cut scores set for writing are more in line with ACT benchmarks for college readiness; however, once the thorough analysis is completed, MDE may need to further align the new writing cut scores with the career- and college-ready cut scores.

If you have remaining questions on career- and college-ready cut scores, please email oeaa@michigan.gov or call 877-560-8378.

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