

Spotlight

on Student Assessment and Accountability

September 15, 2016

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Fall 2016 Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessment Administration

Michigan's Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments, developed with Michigan educators for Michigan students and educators, may be administered to students in grades 1 and 2 this fall from **October 3, 2016 to October 21, 2016**. These online assessments in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics contain two parts. Each part is expected to take students approximately 30-40 minutes.

Schools/districts should administer benchmark assessments in the fall and spring in grades 1 and 2 beginning in the 2016–17 school year. Kindergarten students may be given a benchmark assessment in the spring. The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) will provide the Michigan developed **Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments for grades 1–2 this fall**, or districts may choose to use a different benchmark assessment tool. There is no planned high stakes accountability for benchmark assessments.

If a district chooses to administer a benchmark assessment other than Michigan's Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessment, the chosen assessment must meet the benchmark definition and criteria. The MDE has provided guidance around benchmark assessments by supplying a definition and specifying the criteria, detailed in the [Guidance on Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments \(K-2\)](#) document, which is posted on the [Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/earlylitandmath). The MDE does not have an approved list of ELA or mathematics benchmark assessments. It is the district's responsibility to ensure their selected benchmark assessment meets both the definition and criteria of benchmark assessments set by MDE.

(Continued on next page)

Key:



Reminder



information Tech Coordinators also need to know

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Students for whom an IEP team determines that Michigan's Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessment is not appropriate would not be required to take the assessment. For example, an IEP team may determine that the best course of instruction for a student is on alternate academic content expectations for ELA and mathematics (Essential Elements). That same IEP team may then determine and document that Michigan's Early Literacy and Mathematics Assessment is not appropriate for the student since it is aligned to the general academic standards, and not the alternate academic standards.

By viewing the Online Assessments Tutorial led by the classroom teacher, students will receive a better understanding of the assessment. Once the tutorial is reviewed by the class, students can practice taking the MDE's online assessment by using the Online Tools Training (OTT).

The MDE has created the following checklists to help you prepare to administer Michigan's Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments.

District and Building Coordinators: Pre-Administration Activities Checklist

- Assign an Interim Assessment Coordinator for your school in EEM
 - **August 15 – October 21, 2016:** Pre-identify students on the [Secure Site](http://www.michigan.gov/baa-secure) (www.michigan.gov/baa-secure)
 - **August 15 – September 20, 2016:** Create/manage online test sessions in the [Secure Site](http://www.michigan.gov/baa-secure) (www.michigan.gov/baa-secure) – Pre-ID must be completed prior to creating test sessions
 - **September 22 – October 21, 2016:** Create/manage online test sessions in [eDIRECT](https://mi.drccedirect.com) (https://mi.drccedirect.com) – Pre-ID must be completed prior to creating test sessions
 - Watch the District and Building Coordinator Training Session:
 - ◆ Live on **September 22, 2016, 3:00 – 4:00 PM** – [Skype Meeting Link](https://meet.lync.com/drc365/smasterson/q1hpmj4y) (https://meet.lync.com/drc365/smasterson/q1hpmj4y)
 - ◆ Recorded session available **September 23, 2016** in [eDIRECT](https://mi.drccedirect.com) (https://mi.drccedirect.com)
 - Read the [Early Literacy and Mathematics Test Administration Manual](#) located on the [Early Literacy and Mathematics web page](http://www.michigan.gov/earlylitandmath) (www.michigan.gov/earlylitandmath)
- ## Test Administrators: Pre-Administration Activities Checklist
- Watch and read the following materials located on the [Early Literacy and Mathematics web page](http://www.michigan.gov/earlylitandmath) (www.michigan.gov/earlylitandmath):
 - [Early Literacy and Mathematics Assessments Video](#)
 - [Early Literacy and Mathematics Test Administration Manual](#)
 - **Early Literacy and Mathematics Test Administration Directions** (available by the end of September)
 - [Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments \(K-2\) Supports and Accommodations Table and Resources](#)
 - Watch the [Online Testing VideoTutorials](#) with your students – located in [eDIRECT](https://mi.drccedirect.com) (https://mi.drccedirect.com) → All Applications → General Information → Test Tutorials.
 - Provide students with online test practice by having each student complete the [ELA & Math Online Tools Training \(OTT\)](https://wbte.drccedirect.com/MI/portals/mi/) (https://wbte.drccedirect.com/MI/portals/mi/) – you **must** access the OTTs using the Chrome Browser

For more information, visit the [Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments \(K-2\) web page](http://www.michigan.gov/earlylitandmath) (http://www.michigan.gov/earlylitandmath).

M-STEP Is a “Triple Success”

During a House Education Committee meeting last week, Venessa Keesler, Deputy Superintendent of the Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports, presented on the success of the 2016 Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP).

Keesler characterized the M-STEP as a “triple success,” highlighting improved student proficiency in many grades and subjects, shorter tests in most grades, and the prompt turnaround of student results.

Keesler also acknowledged that proficiency rates are not yet where we want them to be. “We do have rigorous standards and it’s a rigorous test, so at least we have honest information about where Michigan students are performing,” Keesler said. “We’ll see improvements over time.”

To view video of the MDE’s presentation to the House Education Committee, [click here](http://www.house.mi.gov/MHRPublic/PlayVideoArchive.html?video=EDUC-090816.mp4) (http://www.house.mi.gov/MHRPublic/PlayVideoArchive.html?video=EDUC-090816.mp4).

2015-16 Accountability Information and Timeline

After pausing accountability reporting due to the transition to the M-STEP in 2014-15, the accountability team at the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is currently preparing data for the 2015-16 Accountability Scorecards and School Rankings.

Preliminary 2015-16 accountability results are anticipated to be available for school/district review later this fall with a public release following in mid-December. The Accountability Scorecards and School Rankings remain similar to the last publicly released versions in 2013–14 but there are a few differences worth noting for 2015–16 including:

School Rankings

- There will be two separate school rankings: one overall ranking based on achievement and growth and one ranking based on achievement gap
- Overall ranking will include achievement and growth weighted 50/50 for elementary/middle schools and 45/45 + 10% on graduation rate for high schools
- Content areas included will be weighted by number of student scores
- Achievement Gap ranking will only use ELA and mathematics scores

Label Identifications and Exits

- MDE will **NOT** identify new Focus schools
- Existing Focus schools meeting exit criteria will be exited
- MDE will identify new Reward schools
- MDE will identify new “Participation Non-Compliant” schools

Detailed information on these changes will be available as our guides and business rules are posted to the MDE Accountability web pages in the coming weeks.

Also note that the Annual Education Reports (AER) will be published in mid-December and will contain full accountability results.

Questions pertaining to Priority schools should be directed to the [State School Reform/Redesign Office](http://www.michigan.gov/sro) (www.michigan.gov/sro) or to Jill Baynes, SRO at BaynesJ@michigan.gov.

All other questions may be directed to MDE-Accountability@michigan.gov.

New Student Test Scores

Did you know that you can access new student test scores on the Secure Site even if they did not test at your school? Each student has a Primary Educational Providing Entity (PEPE) in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) based on their enrollment record in MSDS. The PEPE is changed in MSDS by submitting enrollment information using a student record maintenance (SRM) file or through a general collection submission. You can access a new student's historic state assessment scores in the Secure Site once his/her previous school becomes the PEPE in MSDS. If you would like to access the student's scores on the Secure Site before the fall general collection is closed in early December, you will need to work with the district pupil accounting person to submit an SRM in the MSDS to change the student's PEPE.

Once the school becomes the PEPE in MSDS, the scores will immediately be available to you on the Secure Site. Just search for the student from the **Student Assessments** menu, clicking on the student's name to access the **Student Summary** page and then clicking on the **Student Score History** button located at the bottom right of the screen.

Celebrate National Arts Education Week by Exploring the MAEIA Project

September 11-17, 2016—National Arts in Education Week is a celebration recognizing the transformative power of the arts in education. Visit the [Arts in Education Week web page](http://www.arteducators.org/events) (www.arteducators.org/events).

National Arts Education Week is the perfect time to celebrate and explore Michigan's new set of online resources and model performance assessments for arts educators. The **Michigan Arts Education Instruction and Assessment (MAEIA)** project's [new website](http://maeia-artsednetwork.org) (http://maeia-artsednetwork.org) offers a comprehensive set of resources and assessments

designed to improve arts education programming in dance, music, theatre, and visual arts for all kindergarten through 12th grade students.

The MAEIA project grew out of collaboration between the Michigan Department of Education, the Michigan Assessment Consortium (MAC), and Data Recognition Corporation (DRC). One key MAEIA resource is a set of voluntary model assessments that K-12 arts educators can use to authentically assess student learning in all grade levels and content areas in the arts. [MAEIA's online catalogue](#) of 350 project-based assessments is one of the largest in the nation, meaning teachers can choose the best performance tasks to fit their curricula and instruction. All assessments are curriculum-embedded and aligned to Michigan Standards and [National Core Arts Anchor Standards \(NCAAS\)](#).

These individual and small group performance assessments are intended to be used periodically throughout the school year to document student performance, for use in improving instruction and learning. MAEIA assessments also have the potential to support the effectiveness of arts educators.

Take action!

- Read more details about the [MAEIA's National Arts Education Week activities](http://maeia-artsednetwork.org/about) (http://maeia-artsednetwork.org/about).
- Explore [MAEIA's new website](http://maeia-artsednetwork.org) (http://maeia-artsednetwork.org) to access the model assessments and other MAEIA resources (program improvement, professional learning, and more!).
- Contact MAEIA at 517-816-4520 with questions or to learn more.
- [Join the MAEIA community](http://maeia-artsednetwork.org/join-the-conversation/) (http://maeia-artsednetwork.org/join-the-conversation/) to learn, grow, connect, and contribute to an ongoing conversation about quality K-12 arts education.

New ESSA Notes Newsletter Available

A new issue of ESSA Notes is now available and was distributed to subscribers on September 14, 2016. The new edition highlights:

- back-to-school ESSA updates
- how to access stakeholder feedback summary reports
- link to U.S. Department of Education proposed regulations on “supplement not supplant”

The newsletter is available on the [ESSA web page](http://www.michigan.gov/essa) (www.michigan.gov/essa). Just click on the **ESSA Notes** button and then the [9-14-16 ESSA Notes Newsletter](#). Visit our ESSA web page for more details on this work and to sign up to receive updates on Michigan's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) State Plan.

Spring 2017 WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Technology Coordinator Webinars

Technology Coordinators who are involved in preparation for the Spring WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 should consider attending one of each of the three WIDA Webinars on the scheduled dates and times listed below. Technology Coordinators do not need to pre-register for these events but can connect to a webinar by clicking the Join Here" link.

The table below is also located on the MDE [WIDA web page](http://www.michigan.gov/wida) (www.michigan.gov/wida) under **What's New** → [Spring 2017 WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Technology Coordinator Webinars](#).

Spring 2017 WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Technology Coordinator Webinars		
Pre-Testing: Software Updates & Technology Readiness Checklist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • share new updates to the TSM, INSIGHT • introduce and walkthrough the Technology Readiness Checklist 	10/13/16, 2:00 -3:00 PM: Join Here 11/3/16, 2:00 – 3:00 PM: Join Here 1/26/17, 2:00 – 3:00 PM: Join Here
Pre-Testing: Technology Installations *1.5 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide installs of the TSM, INSIGHT and DTK on varying devices (Windows, Macs, Chromebooks, iPads, Androids) • share information on updated system requirements 	10/6/16, 2:00 – 3:30 PM: Join Here 10/20/16, 2:00 – 3:30 PM: Join Here 2/16/17, 2:00 - 3:30 PM: Join Here
Pre-Testing: Technology Coordinator Support for Test Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide Technology Coordinators information to communicate with Test Coordinators and Administrators • facilitate how to establish a local communication plan to identify issues and troubleshoot if problems arise • review when to support Test Administrators at their testing sites by training them to respond to technical issues and when/how to report them 	11/10/16, 2:00 – 3:00 PM: Join Here 12/15/16, 2:00 – 3:00 PM: Join Here



Reminders



WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT)

This is a reminder that the W-APT is the assessment that **MUST** be administered to any newly enrolling students who have one "yes" to either of the two [Home Language Survey \(HLS\) questions](#). As outlined in the [Entrance and Exit Protocol](#), schools should include the HLS questions in their enrollment process for parents/guardians of newly enrolling students to complete. Both the HLS and Entrance and Exit Protocol can be found on the MDE [WIDA web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/wida).

Educators are also reminded that they must keep a hard copy of the student's W-APT scores in the student's permanent record file or CA-60 as well as enter scores in the Secure Site regardless of entrance into English Learner (EL) services or not.

Directions for entering W-APT scores in the Secure Site are in the **Secure Site Procedure and User Manual** (currently being updated), which will be located on the [Secure Site Training web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/seuresitetraining). Beginning on August 15, 2016, educators should have started administering the on-grade level (Cycle I) W-APT for any newly enrolling students who have one 'yes' to either of the two Home Language Survey (HLS) questions (language spoken at home or the student's native language). For questions pertaining to the Secure Site please call 877-560-8378, Option 3, or send an e-mail to baa@michigan.gov.

Educators should be sure to review the [MDE Common EL Entrance and Exit Protocol](#) to ensure correct procedures are being followed for identifying students as English Learners (ELs). Please call the Special Populations Unit at 517-373-6066 with any questions related to the criteria.

Educators must also be sure to communicate efficiently and regularly with their local pupil accounting colleagues to ensure that students who do meet the Entrance Protocol are identified correctly in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS). **Neither** the home language survey results nor a W-APT score that is entered into the Secure Site automatically identify a student as an EL in MSDS.

Additionally, educators seeking to ensure that recently arrived ELs (students who have been enrolled in U.S. schools for 12 months or less) are eligible for the one-time exemption from having to take the summative English language arts portion of state assessments **MUST** enter W-APT scores in the Secure Site.

Exchange Students

Any enrolled student for whom a district is receiving state and federal funding is held to all statewide assessment and accountability processes. Exchange students are required to be assessed by any assessments for which they qualify. Districts should enroll these students using the same enrollment processes described above that are used with all other students.



For New Principals and English Learner Assessment Coordinators

If you are a new principal or new English Learner Assessment Coordinator, **please** review the following documents available on the MDE [WIDA web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/wida):

- [WIDA New Principal Primer](#)
- [WIDA New Assessment Coordinator Primer](#)

These documents are designed to give you basic information about the WIDA assessments as well as to help you think about how best to plan for important assessment-related activities.



SCECHs Available for Student Assessment and Accountability Fall Webcast

The Office of Standards and Assessment (OSA) is pleased to offer State Continuing Education Clock Hours (SCECHs) for the Student Assessment and Accountability Fall Webcast on **September 26, 2016**. In order to offer SCECHs for those attending virtually—either via video streaming on MI Streamnet or a video-conferencing bridge—each site must have a

site monitor. All site monitors will be responsible for collecting and submitting SCECHs forms and sign-in sheets for their site.

If you are interested in serving as a site monitor for your school, district, or ISD, or need more information on the role and responsibilities of a site monitor, please send an email to baa@michigan.gov and put “Site Monitor for Fall Webcast” in the subject line, or call 877-560-8378, option 3 and ask to be transferred to Kim Mathiot, Professional Development Coordinator for the OSA.

SAT Corner

Information on SAT™, PSAT 8/9™, and PSAT10™ provided by the College Board

What’s new for Spring 2017?

In response to the feedback we received last year, the College Board has been working hard through the summer at enhancements for this year including:

- Last year, we know it was hard to navigate the variety of support lines. Therefore this year, there is a single line, 866-870-3127 (select Option 1), for all Michigan support. Once connected, you’ll be able to choose the specific type of support you need such as general information, SSD/ accommodations support, Test Administration Services (TAS), etc. Alternately, you may also reach our support team at michiganadministratorsupport@collegeboard.org.
- **Michigan-specific testing manuals:** College Board will be providing manuals customized with expanded information for the Michigan administration. For SAT, we are also breaking the manuals into three types to deliver the right information to the right test day staff. There will be a Test Center Supervisor Manual, an SSD Coordinator Manual, and a Testing Room Manual for test day staff. All manuals will be available in print and online.
- **Additional material order window:** More details will be available later this fall; however we will support an additional ordering window allowing schools to order test materials for students who are newly enrolled at the school and were not pre-identified during the window.
- **Accommodated Testing Window for SAT:** This year schools will have a two-week (10-day) window to test students who appear on the Non-Standard Accommodations Report (NAR), with accommodations that extend testing time beyond a standard school day. Like last year, the testing must be completed on a single day or on two consecutive days within the window.

(Continued on next page)

Look for more information about testing dates and other updates in future issues of Spotlight.

Workshops Start This Week—Sign Up if You Haven't Already

The Counselor Workshops are three-hour workshops designed for counselors and will provide important College Board Program updates for the 2016–17 school year, including: SAT Suite of Assessments, how score reports can help students improve their college readiness skills, free official SAT practice on Khan Academy, and upcoming changes to the 2017–18 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Register at: www.collegeboard.org/cw.

The SAT and PSAT Implementation Workshops are two-hour workshops for Administrators, Counselors, and Test Center Supervisors to provide updates and changes to the Michigan

SAT, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9 administrations in the spring of 2017. Learn about preparing for and administering the College Board exams; find out about the spring implementation timelines; and learn how our professional development offerings can prepare you for Spring 2017. Register at:

www.collegeboard.org/satschoolday.

Schedule:

- 8:30 – 9:00 AM: Counselor Workshop Registration and Breakfast
- 9:00 – Noon: Counselor Workshop Presentation
- Noon – 1:00 PM: SAT School Day Implementation Registration and Lunch
- 1:00 – 3:00 PM: SAT School Day Implementation Presentation

Registration typically closes 10 days before the event. However, you can register on-site the morning or afternoon of the workshop, if necessary.

Locations for Fall Counselor and Implementation Workshops

Dearborn	Friday, Sept. 30, 2016	University of Michigan-Dearborn
Detroit	Thursday, Sept. 29, 2016	Wayne State University
East Lansing	Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2016	Michigan State University
Grand Rapids	Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2016	Northview High School
Jackson	Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2016	Jackson Intermediate School District
Kalamazoo	Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2016	Western Michigan University-Kalamazoo
Marquette	Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2016	Northern Michigan University
Mount Pleasant	Monday, Sept. 26, 2016	Central Michigan University
Saginaw	Monday, Sept. 19, 2016	Saginaw Intermediate School District
Traverse City	Monday, Sept. 19, 2016	Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District
Waterford	Friday, Sept. 16, 2016	Oakland Intermediate School District

Important Dates

Approaching Deadlines!

Early Literacy and Mathematics

- **September 20, 2016:** Deadline for Secure Site Online Test Session Setup for the Fall 2016 Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments for students in grades 1 and 2.

Coming Next Week . . .

Early Literacy and Mathematics

- **September 22, 2016 – 3:00 to 4:00 PM: District/Building Coordinator Training** – You can join the Skype for Business meeting using this [link](https://meet.lync.com/drc365/smasterson/q1hpmj4y) (https://meet.lync.com/drc365/smasterson/q1hpmj4y). Unlike WebEx, Skype for Business does not have a registration step – users will simply click on the link when it is time for the meeting.

September 2016

Early Literacy and Mathematics

- **Now – Friday, October 21, 2016:** Window for Pre-Identification of students in grades 1 and 2 who will be taking the Fall 2016 Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments.

M-STEP, MI-Access, MME, & Early Literacy: Fall Webcast

- **September 26, 2016 – 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM: The Student Assessment and Accountability Fall Webcast** – streamed live and recorded on [MI Streamnet](http://mistreamnet.com) (http://mistreamnet.com). See the full article in the [September 1 Spotlight](#) (www.michigan.gov/mde-spotlight)

October 2016

Early Literacy and Mathematics

- **October 3 – October 21, 2016:** Window for the Fall 2016 Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments for grades 1 and 2.

WIDA

- **Monday, October 17 and Tuesday, October 18, 2016 – 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM:** WIDA Workshops for Interpreting WIDA Score Reports for Instruction (register for one day only). For more information and to register, go to the [Fall 2016 WIDA Workshops Registration page](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/fall2016WIDAworkshops) (https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/fall2016WIDAworkshops).

November 2016

WIDA

- **Wednesday, November 2 and Thursday, November 3, 2016 – 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM:** WIDA Workshop for School Leaders: Leading Schools for Language Learner Achievement (register for both days). For more information and to register, go to the [Fall 2016 WIDA Workshops Registration page](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/fall2016WIDAworkshops) (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/fall2016WIDAworkshops>).
- **Wednesday, November 9, 2016 – 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM:** WIDA Workshop for Alternate ACCESS for ELLs. For more information and to register, go to the [Fall 2016 WIDA Workshops Registration page](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/fall2016WIDAworkshops) (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/fall2016WIDAworkshops>).

► Access previous [Spotlight editions](http://www.michigan.gov/mde-spotlight) (www.michigan.gov/mde-spotlight)

Have Other Questions?

For assessment questions, please email BAA@michigan.gov.

For accountability questions, please email MDE-Accountability@michigan.gov.

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