



Writing Skills Field Test

Preparation for Passage-based Writing

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is looking for schools to participate in an M-STEP online Passage-based Writing Field Test **January 6–January 31, 2020**.

Why have a stand-alone field test?

Field tests are used to check the adequacy of testing procedures and statistical characteristics of new test items by testing them in the field before they appear on an actual assessment. This test follows the same setup and security as the M-STEP. The field test helps to ensure that the items we are putting on the M-STEP are high quality. And, the more writing exposure your students receive, the more improvement you will see!

Who can participate?

Students in grades 3-8 can participate in field-testing items written by Michigan authors for Michigan's state assessments.

What is involved?

During the field test, students will read one passage, either literary or informational, from a variety of genres as prescribed by the standards. Students will then answer five multiple choice questions and respond to a writing prompt, which includes a checklist of components found in a well-written essay. They will not receive a score, but will have an opportunity to prepare for the M-STEP and use the checklist to improve their writing skills in the testing environment.

Where will it take place?

The online field test will take place in your school on computers.

When do I sign up?

Beginning November 18, 2019, go to the [OEAA Secure Site](http://www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure) (www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure) to Pre-ID students for testing. For information about how to Pre-ID students for testing, or how to gain access to the Secure Site, go to the [Secure Site Training Site](http://www.michigan.gov/seuresitetraining) (www.michigan.gov/seuresitetraining).

**Don't miss this great opportunity!
Sign up today!**

