# Spotlight



on Student

**Assessment and Accountability** 

## What's New

**Week of March 31, 2022** 

- iPads Running iPadOS v15.4 Will Experience Problems During State Testing
- Accountability: Updated School Index Resources Now Available

#### Reminders

- Final Reminder: MI-Access Grade Level and Alignment Changes for Science
- Last Office Hours for M-STEP and MI-Access is April 12
- Spring 2022 Michigan Educational Research Association (MERA) Virtual Conference is April 29
- Be a Leader in Quality
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- Standard Setting for Michigan's Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments
- FAME Project Accepting New Coach Applications for 2022-23

#### iPads Running iPadOS v15.4 Will Experience Problems During State Testing

Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) has identified a problem with iPads that have been updated to the newest version of Apple's iPadOS v15.4 when they are being used as testing devices for M-STEP, MI-Access Functional Independence, or the Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark assessments. This update has introduced audio playback issues that impact assessments with listening passages or audio accommodations and supports such as Human Voice Audio (HVA), Text-to-Speech (TTS), and Virtual Sign Language (VSL).

DRC is working with Apple for a permanent solution, but it is unlikely one will be implemented before testing begins on April 11, 2022. This <u>Technical Bulletin</u> (https://mi.drcedirect.com/Documents/Unsecure/Doc.aspx) details the impacts and steps for a work-around until the permanent fix is implemented.

Please share this information with your technology staff responsible for preparing devices for testing as soon as possible.

In addition, if your district or building is using iPads running iPadOS v15.4, the following should be shared with impacted assessment administrators:

Be aware that any student with the Text to Speech (TTS) designated support will not hear the text being read to them on the first two pages after they log in (the Student Verification and Test Select pages). The TTS audio playback works on the remainder of the test, including test directions and all test questions. (This will not impact testing.)

MDE and DRC apologize for this inconvenience. If you require assistance in implementing the work-around described in the tech bulletin, please contact DRC Customer Service at 877-560-8378 option 2 or misupport@datarecognitioncorp.com.

## Accountability: Updated School Index Resources Now Available

Updated overviews of school support identifications – the Michigan School Index System and Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI), Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI), and Additional Targeted Support (ATS) – are now posted at <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/mde-schoolindex">www.michigan.gov/mde-schoolindex</a> under the Overviews section.

As testing season gets closer, these helpful overviews are quick refreshers as you prepare for school accountability reporting later this year. While no new School Index reports or results will be available until later this year, we will continue to update the resources on this page as new reports/results become available.

Specifically, these documents are designed to give districts, schools, and other stakeholders a high-level understanding of the School Index and its resulting school support identifications.

## Reminders

## MI-Access Grade Level and Alignment Changes for Science

The MI-Access science assessment is changing in 2022. These changes in MI-Access science grade level and content alignments have been under consideration in past years and are now a reality for Spring 2022.

Starting this spring, MI-Access Functional Independence, Supported Independence, and Participation science assessments will be given in grades 5, 8, and 11 (formerly given in grades 4, 7, and 11).

This change aligns the grade levels at which both Michigan's general assessment (M-STEP) and the alternate assessment (MI-Access) are given.

All MI-Access science assessments are aligned to the alternate content expectations (essential elements) that were finalized in the spring of 2020. Each assessment measures the corresponding essential elements' level of complexity (range):

- MI Access Functional Independence = High Range
- MI Access Supported Independence = Medium Range
- MI-Access Participation = Low Range

MI-Access science is no longer aligned to the 2007 extended benchmarks.

The alternate content expectations (essential elements) can be found on the MI-Access webpage (www.michigan.gov/mi-access).

At the main MI-Access page, click the red "Michigan's alternate content expectations" link (top of the page). Then click on the "science and social studies" link

and follow the individual grade level alternate content expectations links.

**Note:** Individualized Education Program (IEP) teams should consider making amendments to IEPs to reflect these changes for 2022.

## Last Office Hours for M-STEP and MI-Access is April 12

Do you have questions regarding the M-STEP and/ or MI-Access test administrations? Join staff from the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability (OEAA) for M-STEP and MI-Access Office Hours and ask your questions.

The online Office Hours is an unstructured Zoom meeting from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m., **Tuesday, April 12, 2022**.

#### The meeting link is:

https://zoom.us/j/9280987255?pwd=a3pSL3VoVWJ LQ2NYaTB6RHBkN0h6dz09

Meeting ID: 928 098 7255

**Passcode**: YUjqf7 (passcode is required)

There will be no formal agenda or presentation at Office Hours. This is a time for you to drop in and ask OEAA staff supporting the M-STEP and MI-Access test administrations questions for the Spring 2022 assessment administrations.

Remember, you don't have to wait for Office Hours. If you have an immediate question, please email mde-oeaa@michigan.gov for a timely response.

## Reminders

#### Spring 2022 Michigan Educational Research Association (MERA) Virtual Conference is April 29

The state of Michigan is experiencing a teacher shortage crisis, a crisis that is exacerbated by the pandemic. The shortage has created a great deal of uncertainty and disruption in districts and schools across the state and is likely to persist moving forward.

The Michigan Educational Research Association (MERA) Virtual Conference will help deepen your understanding of the drivers that contribute to this problem and learn about potential strategies that could help make a difference at your school setting.

• **Date:** Friday, April 29, 8:45 a.m. – 3:10 p.m.

• Cost: \$25

Program | Registration

A conference Zoom link and additional information (presenter materials, agenda) will be made available to registrants several days before the start of the conference.

## Be a Leader in Quality Assessment: Join the Achieving Balance in Classroom Assessment Program

Districts that implement high-quality, balanced assessment systems with fidelity in every classroom show improved student learning and increased student achievement. As districts move forward to address historic levels of learning loss following the COVID-19 pandemic, high-quality classroom assessment is more important than ever.

This is why the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is collaborating with the Michigan Assessment Consortium (MAC) in offering a three-year professional learning and implementation program to support district teams as they plan for and implement balanced classroom assessment systems.

In the Achieving Balance in Classroom Assessment (ABCA) program, districts will learn how balanced assessment — assessment for learning and of learning — can:

- substantially improve student instruction and learning
- · close gaps in student performance,
- increase equity in student learning and achievement.

For a full description of the ABCA program and a schedule of program activities, go to the MAC event webpage (bit.ly/MAC-ABCA).

The deadline to apply has been extended to **Saturday**, **April 30**, **2022**. To participate, complete your <u>district application</u> (bit.ly/ABCA-Apply).

Have questions? Contact the MAC at <a href="mailto:assistant@michiganassessmentconsortium.org">assistant@michiganassessmentconsortium.org</a> or MDE at YoungK1@michigan.gov.

## Reminders

#### **Final Reminder: Standard Setting for** Michigan's Early Literacy and Mathematics **Benchmark Assessments**

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is seeking educators to participate in a standard setting event for the Michigan Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments; the event is scheduled for May 3-5, 2022.

The Michigan Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments evaluate early learners' knowledge and skills in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics in grades K-2.

MDE has identified three specific questions to be answered when students take the benchmark assessments. These are:

- 1. Has the student's level of knowledge and skills in ELA and mathematics grown over the course of the school year?
- 2. Is the student significantly behind grade level (as specified by Michigan's Return to Learn law) and in need of intervention?
- 3. Is the grade 2 student likely to meet the requirements of the state's Read by Grade Three legislation (P.A. 147-149, MCL 380.1280f) or an analogous minimum-competency level of mathematics knowledge?

To answer these questions, MDE is asking educators to participate in the standard setting event, to establish three performance levels for each K-2 benchmark assessment. By establishing three performance levels (defined quantitatively by two cut scores), MDE will be able to describe students' level of mastery of the state's content standards in a way that is easy for stakeholders to understand.

Educators who are interested in participating in the standard setting will use the online survey to indicate their interest. MDE is actively seeking educators from northern lower Michigan and the Upper Pennisula.

**Note:** Completion of the survey does not guarantee a seat at the event, as MDE will work to balance demographics, geographic location, and other factors among participants to ensure a fair representation of Michigan educators. Accepted participants will receive training that outlines the standard setting process, their specific task, and the materials they will be using.

To be considered for participation, complete the survey (https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ELMBA Snd-Stng). All interested individuals should complete the survey by the end of the day, on Friday, April 1, 2022 to be considered for a spot on the panel.

#### **FAME Project Accepting New Coach Applications for 2022-23**

The Formative Assessment for Michigan Educators (FAME) project is entering its fifteenth year and is seeking interested educators who would like to lead a local learning team of teachers to explore, implement, and reflect on the formative assessment process in their classrooms. FAME Coaches are not expected to be the local expert on the formative assessment process - rather FAME Coaches are learners along with their learning team.

More information on the FAME project and access to the online 2022-23 New FAME Coach application (https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ NewFAMECoachApp) is available on the FAME public website (https://famemichigan.org).

The deadline to apply is Friday, May 6, 2022. If you have any questions, contact Kimberly Young, MDE/ OEAA (youngk1@michigan.gov) or call 517-712-8442.

## B College Board Corner

Information on SAT®, PSAT™ 8/9, and PSAT™10 provided by the College Board

#### Questions about Spring SAT, PSAT 8/9, or PSAT 10?

- Call the Michigan Educator Hotline: 866-870-3127 (select Option 1)
- Email: michiganadministratorsupport@collegeboard.org

#### WHAT'S NEW

#### **Error in SAT Standard Testing Manual and SAT Accommodated Testing Manual**

There is an error in one of the preadministration scripts of the SAT Standard Testing Manual and SAT Accommodated Testing Manual. Your school will be impacted only if you are administering a preadministration session to students with parental consent to complete the optional questionnaire.

Is your school administering a preadministration session for SAT with Essay?	Impact
No, my school is not administering any preadministration session for the SAT with Essay	No Impact
My school is administering a preadministration session, but proctors will use the <i>Preadministration Scripts</i> — Students Without Consent	No Impact
My school is administering a preadministration session and proctors will use the <i>Preadministration Scripts</i> — Students With Consent	Inform proctors of the error in the script

The error, which occurs on page 7 of the SAT Standard Testing Manual and page 9 of the SAT Accommodated Testing Manual, concerns the instructions to be given to students as they complete Field 9 on their answer documents. Schools that are administering a preadministration session to students with parental consent are to inform proctors that the instruction for students to bubble in their test type (SAT or SAT with Essay) should say "SAT with Essay" and not "SAT".

As they currently appear in the testing manuals, the instructions may create confusion with students and proctors as the Essay is required for students taking the Michigan Merit Exam.

For field 9, Test Type, say:

In field 9, bubble in "SAT" as the test that you will be taking if it isn't already bubbled in.

#### Helpful Reminders for a Successful Test Day

Many issues that arise on test day can be prevented with careful planning by the test coordinator and ensuring expectations with proctors have been set. Coordinators should review the Irregularity Chart in the back of each manual prior to test day to prepare to handle common issues that arise. Here are a few helpful reminders to share with test day staff to help reduce potential test day irregularities:

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 One of the most common causes of invalidated scores is the student being in possession of a prohibited device during testing. Students should be encouraged to not bring cell phones into the testing room. If a student is observed with any prohibited device at any time during testing or during a break, the student will receive an invalidated score (unless the student has an approved accommodation for the device).

While proctors may have a cell phone in the testing room to communicate with the test coordinator, it should be set on silent mode, and not used to actively text, email, or access the internet during the test. Proctors may not allow students to use the proctor's phone at any time for any reason.

- Proctors should be actively monitoring students as they complete testing, making sure that students are bubbling their answer on the correct area of the answer sheet.
- 3. Students must receive the correct test book. Refer to the Spring 2022 Test Book Usage and Return Information guide posted to the MME webpage (www.michigan.gov/mme) and the PSAT webpage (www.michigan.gov/psat) for directions on the test date(s) and the colors and icon shapes that appear on the various test books.
- 4. Proctors must follow the correct script exactly as written, except for the noted error above.
- 5. The plan for test day must be communicated to the students. Students who have appointments outside of school during testing must be helped to reschedule as much as possible. A student is not to start testing if it is known they will have to leave in the middle of the test, as they will likely have to start all over again on a makeup date.

#### REMINDERS

#### **Action Required: Complete Training**

All test coordinators are required to complete the College Board test coordinator training (http://professionaltraining.collegeboard.org) each year. If you have not yet completed training, please do so as soon as possible. Refer to the March 3 edition of the Spotlight for information on the required spring trainings.

#### **Test Book Usage**

A <u>College Board Testing Materials Diagram</u> has been posted to the <u>MME webpage</u> (www.michigan. gov/mme) and the <u>PSAT webpage</u> (www.michigan. gov/psat). The diagram summarizes the key items associated with the Spring 2022 testing materials.

SAT with Essay test books are differentiated by colors

- Students will use purple test books if they are testing without accommodations or testing with certain accommodations that require the student to test on April 13 (or April 26 for the makeup).
- Students will use blue test books if they are approved for College Board accommodations that allow testing in the accommodated testing window.
- Students will use lime test books if they are approved for state-allowed accommodations that allow testing in the accommodated testing window.
- The Nonstandard Administration Report (NAR) in SSD Online will indicate which test book color a student is to use.

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PSAT 10 and PSAT 8/9 test books are differentiated by shape icons

- PSAT-related test books are used in other states; therefore, in Michigan shape icons are used to designate test book usage, rather than the grade being listed on the cover.
- Test books in the initial shipment of materials will be used for the primary testing window and accommodated testing window; they will include these shapes:
  - » PSAT 8/9 for Grade 8 test books = Shield
  - » PSAT 8/9 for Grade 9 test books = Bell
  - » PSAT 10 test book = Shield
  - » PSAT 10 test book for state-allowed accommodations only = Apple
- Schools that will be administrating both Grade 8 and Grade 9 assessments must keep the test books for each grade separate. Students in Grade 8 and Grade 9 cannot test together and must use the correct grade-specific test book, or their scores will be invalidated.

Refer to the Spring 2022 Test Book Usage and Return Information guide posted to the MME webpage (www. michigan.gov/mme) and the PSAT webpage (www. michigan.gov/psat), which summarizes the test date, colors, and shapes associated with test books, and as well as information on when to return materials.

#### Additional Material Order Window

See the Additional Material Orders for Spring 2022 article in the March 10 edition of Spotlight on Student Assessment and Accountability if additional standard test books, answer sheets or Coordinator Manuals are required.



#### What's New

Test Window 1 (initial) testing is just a few weeks away, so this week's focus is on post-test activities.

## **Collect and Verify Test Materials After Each Test Session**

After students have finished testing, the Room Supervisors must:

- complete the Test Administration Forms folder
- complete any other applicable forms (Irregularity Report, Reader's Agreement, Interpreter's Agreement, others)
- personally return all testing materials to the WorkKeys Test Coordinator

Instructions for these activities are on page 20 of the ACT WorkKeys Administration Manual - Standard Time Paper and on page 29 of the ACT WorkKeys Administration Manual for Accommodations and English Learner Supports. Both manuals are posted on the ACT state testing website on the WorkKeys on Paper page in the Administration stage

## Order Test Window 2 (Makeup) Test Materials

Use the Makeup Testing policies detailed on page 6 of the ACT Test Coordinator Information Manual to determine if students are eligible to participate in Test Window 2 (the makeup administration) on April 28, 2022. This manual is posted on the ACT state testing website on the WorkKeys on Paper page in the Preparation and/or Administration stages.

The test coordinator must submit makeup materials orders April 14 - 15, 2022 by 5:00 p.m. ET through the OEAA Secure Site (www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure). Instructions for submitting the order are on the secure site training web page (www.michigan.gov/securesitetraining) under the Material Ordering section. Do not order test materials using ACT's test administration site.

## Return Answer Documents and Test Administration Forms to ACT

The WorkKeys Test Coordinator is responsible for assembling materials for return to ACT, using the directions that begin on page 30 of the <u>ACT Test</u> Coordinator Information Manual.

A training video is also available on the <u>ACT state</u> <u>testing website</u>, on the **WorkKeys on Paper** page, in the **Transportation** stage, under **Return Test Materials**.

While packing the processing envelope(s) be sure to:

- complete the front of the envelope to avoid delays in the processing of your answer documents
- use the pre-printed Site Header to avoid delays in the processing of your answer documents
- align the answer documents to be scored the same direction, with page 1 facing upward
- ensure the Booklet Number and Form fields are completed on all answer documents to ensure proper scoring

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Place the processing envelope inside the supplied polymailer and seal it, apply the appropriate preprinted return label to the outside, and store it in a secure location until pickup.

#### **Return Other Secure Materials to ACT**

Use the cartons in which the test materials were shipped to return the secure test forms to ACT. Pack the carton(s) using the instructions and illustration on page 33 of the ACT Test Coordinator Information Manual. Any unused cartons may be recycled.

Retain the administration manuals, unused answer documents, and ancillary materials for makeup testing. Do not return the original packing list.

If your school did not test any students:

- complete the outside of the processing envelope(s) and mark as "Did not test (provide reason)"
- · discard the unused Site Header
- pack the cartons using the instructions above and place the processing envelope on top
- send an email to <u>statetesting@act.org</u> indicating that you did not test any students and provide the reason

#### **Materials Pickup**

FedEx is scheduled to pick up the standard time test materials for return to ACT on **Monday, April 18**, **2022**, and the accommodations materials on **April 28**, **2022**.

 If your materials are not picked up within two business days after the scheduled pickup date, call ACT to arrange a new pickup.

The last day ACT will accept Test Window 1 (initial) answer documents for scoring is **May 5, 2022**.

For all upcoming events and deadlines, refer to the following documents:

- ACT WorkKeys Schedule of Events posted on the ACT state testing website (act.org/ stateanddistrict/michigan) on the WorkKeys on Paper page
- ACT WorkKeys List of Important Dates posted on the MME web page (www.michigan.gov/ mme) under General information, List of Important Dates.

#### **Contacting ACT**

If you have questions, you may:

- contact ACT via the <u>Contact Us web page</u> (www.act.org/aap/state/contact.html)
- 2. call ACT at 800-553-6244 between 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. ET
  - » standard time: ext. 2800
  - » accommodations: ext. 1788
  - » email accommodations questions to ACTStateAccoms@act.org

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<b>Important Date</b>	es		5	6
April 2022			12	13

#### **WIDA**

#### **April 4, 2022**

WIDA Material Return deadline.
Test materials not shipped by the
deadline will not be processed.



#### M-STEP

#### **April 7 – May 3, 2022**

 M-STEP (All Grades) Additional materials order window open in the <u>OEAA Secure Site</u> (www. michigan.gov/oeaa-secure). Orders close at noon.

#### **April 11 – May 6, 2022**

M-STEP Testing Window Grade 3 (ELA only)

#### April 11 - May 6, 2022

 M-STEP Paper/Pencil Testing Window Grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 11 (all subjects)

#### April 11 - May 20, 2022

 M-STEP Testing Window Grades 3 (mathematics only), 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 11 (all subjects)

#### April 12, 2022, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

- M-STEP Office Hours. Drop in to get answers and assistance from the OEAA staff who are supporting Spring 2022 test administrations.
  - » Office Hours link (https://zoom.us/j/92809872 55?pwd=a3pSL3VoVWJLQ2NYaTB6RHBkN0 h6dz09)

» **Meeting ID:** 928 098 7255

» Required Passcode: YUjqf7

#### **MI-Access**

#### **April 7 - May 24, 2022**

 Additional materials order window open in the <u>OEAA Secure Site</u> (www.michigan.gov/oeaasecure). Orders close at noon.

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#### April 11 - May 27, 2022

· MI-Access Testing Window

#### April 12, 2022, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

- MI-Access Office Hours. Drop in to get answers and assistance from the OEAA staff who are supporting Spring 2022 test administrations.
  - » Office Hours link (https://zoom.us/j/92809872 55?pwd=a3pSL3VoVWJLQ2NYaTB6RHBkN0 h6dz09)

» Meeting ID: 928 098 7255

» Required Passcode: YUjqf7

#### **PSAT 8/9 & PSAT 10**

#### Ongoing through April 7, 2022

 Additional materials order window open in the <u>OEAA Secure Site</u> (www.michigan.gov/oeaasecure). Orders due by 11:59 p.m.

#### **April 13, 2022**

PSAT 8/9 (Grade 8) Primary test day

#### **April 13 – 19, 2022**

- PSAT 8/9 (Grade 9) Primary Testing Window
- PSAT 10 (Grade 10) Primary Testing Window

#### April 14 - 19, 2022

 PSAT 8/9 (Grade 8) Primary Makeup Testing Window

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<b>Important Date</b>	<b>es</b>		5	6
April 2022			12	13

#### April 13 - 15, 2022

 Makeup Order Window. Coordinators should watch their email for instructions from College Board to complete the survey for makeup materials.

#### **April 26 – 27, 2022**

- PSAT 8/9 (Grades 8 & 9) Makeup Testing Window
- PSAT 10 (Grade 10) Makeup Testing Window

#### **SAT** with Essay

#### **Ongoing through April 7, 2022**

 Additional Materials Order window open in the <u>OEAA Secure Site</u> (www.michigan.gov/oeaasecure). Orders due by 11:59 p.m.

#### **April 13, 2022**

Primary Test Day

#### **April 13 – 15, 2022**

 Makeup Order Window. Coordinators should watch their email for instructions from College Board to complete the survey for makeup materials.

#### **April 26, 2022**

Makeup Test Day

#### **ACT WorkKeys**

#### **Ongoing through April 7, 2022**

 Additional material order window open in the <u>OEAA Secure Site</u> (www.michigan.gov/oeaasecure). Orders due by 11:59 p.m.

#### **April 14, 2022**

Primary Test Day

#### **April 14 – 15, 2022**

 Makeup Order Window. Place orders in the <u>OEAA Secure Site</u> (www.michigan.gov/oeaasecure).

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#### **Ongoing through April 24, 2022**

 Off-site Test Administration Requests through the <u>OEAA Secure Site</u> (www.michigan.gov/oeaasecure).

#### **April 28, 2022**

· Makeup Test Day

## Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessment

#### **April 11 June 3, 2022**

· Testing Window

#### **May 2022**

#### M-STEP

#### Ongoing through May 19, 2022

- Off-Site Test Administration Requests through the <u>OEAA Secure Site</u> (www.michigan.gov/oeaasecure)
- Pre-identification for online and paper/pencil testing remains open through each test window

#### **MI-ACCESS**

#### Ongoing through May 26, 2022

- Off-Site Testing Requests through the <u>OEAA</u> <u>Secure Site</u> (www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure)
- Pre-identification for online and paper/pencil testing remains open through the test window

### **Contacts**

#### For assistance with assessment or accountability issues:

#### **Assessment and Accountability Call Center**

877-560-8378 (select appropriate option)

Options	Topics	
1	to report cheating and unethical behavior by a district/school in regards to state assessments	
2	for support of Central Office Services (COS), DRC INSIGHT Portal, and INSIGHT for the online M-STEP, MI-Access, and Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments (K-2)	
3	for support of the OEAA Secure Site for <u>all</u> state assessments, administration and policy questions related to M-STEP, MI-Access, Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments (K-2), and accountability reporting	
4	for questions about the College Entrance and Workskills assessments  1. Eligibility, MDE policies, and OEAA Secure Site Support  2. SAT, PSAT 8/9, and PSAT 10 – College Board  3. WorkKeys – ACT	
5	for questions about the WIDA ACCESS for ELLs, WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs, and support for WIDA AMS, INSIGHT, and Central Office Services (COS)	
8	for all other questions	

#### **Email**

For assessment questions:

mde-oeaa@michigan.gov

For accountability questions:

mde-accountability@michigan.gov

#### For assistance with WIDA Screener, W-APT, and the WIDA Secure Portal questions:

(for questions not covered in options 3 and 5 in the table above)

#### **WIDA Client Services**

866-276-7735