



on Student

Assessment and Accountability

What's New

Week of March 10, 2022

- State Superintendent's Letter Regarding Spring Assessments is Available Now
- Additional Material Orders for Spring 2022
- WIDA ACCESS Additional Material Order Window Closing
- M-STEP Test Administration Training Chapters 1 and 2: Before and During Testing Now Available
- Text-to-Speech Guidance for M-STEP
- Support for Staffing Shortages
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- Standard Setting for Michigan's Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments
- Spring 2022 Michigan Educational Research Association (MERA) Virtual Conference is April 29

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- M-STEP and MI-Access Office Hours
- FAME Project Accepting New Coach Applications for 2022-23
- MI-Access Grade Level and Alignment Changes for Science

State Superintendent's Letter Regarding Spring Assessments is Available Now

State Superintendent Dr. Michael F. Rice has released a letter to Michigan families discussing the Spring 2022 assessments. The letter outlines the purpose of testing, lists the grade-level assessments, and explains how the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) will use data from the assessments to help target support and resources for students and schools. The letter is available for download and distribution on the MDE Office of Assessment and Accountability homepage (www.michigan.gov/oeaa).

Additional Material Orders for Spring 2022

Schools will be able to order additional materials for the Spring 2022 assessments from the Additional Material Order page on the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability (OEAA) Secure Site (www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure) as shown below.

Note: Inventory all received testing materials before placing an order for additional materials. When inventorying, check for the UPS or FedEx Airbill, and other materials needed to return paper/pencil tests. Do this before it is time to return the testing materials and avoid the risk of a late return.

SAT with Essay can be ordered March 22 – April 7, 2022, 11:59 p.m.

- Accommodated materials cannot be ordered from the OEAA Secure Site. Shipment of accommodated materials is based on the student submissions in the College Board SSD Online System as of February 22, 2022.
- These orders will be for additional standard test books and answer sheets for the April 13 test date.
- Schools on spring break the week of April 4, 2022 should place their additional material orders no later than 2 p.m. on March 25, 2022 (that is, before leaving for spring break) to receive their additional materials by April 1, 2022.

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Call Center: 877-560-8378

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- Only SAT with Essay, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9 Coordinator Manuals can be requested, not the SAT Testing Manual or SAT Accommodated Testing Manual. Digital copies of the manuals are available on the MME webpage (www.michigan. gov/mme).
- Note: April 13 April 15, 2022, makeup test materials will be ordered through College Board, not on the OEAA Secure Site. SAT Test Coordinators are advised to watch their email for instructions from College Board.

PSAT 8/9 and PSAT 10 can be ordered March 22 - April 7, 2022, 11:59 p.m.

- · Accommodated materials will be shipped based on the student submissions in the College Board SSD Online System as of February 22, 2022.
- These orders will be for additional Coordinator Manuals, standard test books, and answer sheets for the primary testing window.
- Note: April 13 April 15, 2022, makeup testing materials will be ordered through College Board, not on the OEAA Secure Site. PSAT coordinators are advised to watch their email for instructions from College Board.

ACT WorkKeys can be ordered March 22 -April 7, 2022, 11:59 p.m.

- · Schools can order both accommodated and standard materials from the OEAA Secure Site.
- These are additional materials for the initial test day.
- Makeup materials will be ordered April 14 **April 15, 2022**, 11:59 p.m., through the OEAA Secure Site Additional Material Order page.

MI-Access Functional Independence (FI), Supported Independence (SI), and Participation (P) can be ordered April 7 - May 24, 2022 at noon

- · Schools can order both standard and accommodated paper/pencil materials.
- All students taking the MI-Access FI: English language arts assessment, whether online or with paper/pencil testing, will take the Expressing Ideas part in the paper/pencil format. If additional students are pre-identified for MI-Access FI online, remember to order the paper/pencil Expressing Ideas materials.
- · For MI-Access SI and P, the number of administrators should be entered in the materials orders, to ensure that sufficient test administration materials are shipped. Remember to include both the primary and shadow administrator in the count.

M-STEP Grades 3-8 and 11 can be ordered April 7 - May 3, 2022 at noon

- Schools can order both standard and accommodated paper/pencil materials.
- If ordering English language arts assessment materials, also order the listening CD or download a listening script if your school does not already have one or if more will be needed.
- When Braille or Enlarged Print Kits are ordered, the answer document and the standard test booklet are included.
 - » Contracted and uncontracted braille materials are available for ordering; verify which version the student(s) needs before ordering.

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- » When ordering Braille or Enlarged Print Kits, make sure that the student who is testing is marked as "paper/pencil", so the student will come up in the "Select Students" list and you will be allowed to order the materials.
- Answer documents are not automatically included when test booklets are ordered (unless as part of an accommodated kit). Be sure to order one answer document for each test booklet as needed.
- Glossary Reference Sheets in many different languages are available to download and print from the Additional Material Orders page.
- · Online and paper/pencil Test Directions and Manual are available for ordering.

If all students are testing online, paper/pencil materials do not have to be ordered. Directions for the Additional Material Orders page for the OEAA Secure Site can be found on the Secure Site Training web page.

WIDA ACCESS Additional Material Order Window Closing

The WIDA ACCESS for ELLs and WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Additional Material Order window in the WIDA Assessment Management System (AMS) is scheduled to close on March 18, 2022. No materials can be ordered after that time.

M-STEP Test Administration Training **Chapters 1 and 2: Before and During Testing Now Available**

The first two chapters of the 2022 M-STEP Test Administration Training (Before and During Testing) are now available on the M-STEP web page (www.michigan.gov/mstep). They are posted under the What's New and Assessment Training and **Resources for Educators** sections of the web page.

The M-STEP Test Administration Training is a threepart series for online and paper/pencil assessments, organized into chapters for before, during, and after M-STEP administration:

- Chapter 1 (https://youtu.be/CgpMC7OdmmY) discusses the tasks to be done before the M-STEP administration
- Chapter 2 (https://youtu.be/NR3mljNvoN4) discusses the tasks to be done during the M-STEP administration
- Chapter 3 will discuss the tasks to be done after the M-STEP administration

Chapter 3 will be available soon — watch the Spotlight for more information.

Text-to-Speech Guidance for M-STEP

Educators who are unsure of the options available to students who may need to use text-to-speech, or who may need help identifying which students should use text-to-speech, can review these helpful resources:

- Text-to-Speech and Read-Aloud Decision Guidance for M-STEP, page 17 of the Supports & Accommodations Guidance Document (https://www.michigan.gov/documents/ mde/Michigan Accommodations Manual. final 480016 7.pdf)
- Supports and Accommodations TTS and Read Aloud Video (https://youtu.be/VoLr-K74KVA)

Support for Staffing Shortages

The Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability (OEAA) understands COVID-19 continues to create a variety of challenges for districts and schools. To support district and school test administrations, the OEAA is providing the following strategies to help mitigate the challenge potential staffing shortages might cause during test administration. There are several options available for schools and districts to best prepare to meet these challenges and ensure a smooth testing experience that generates valid and reliable assessment data.

- Train all eligible staff to maximize test administrator resources during the testing window. Test Administrators/Proctors can be selected from:
 - » Licensed teachers or administrators
 - » Paraprofessionals or non-licensed administrative personnel
 - » Substitute teachers

Include all eligible staff, including teachers, administrators (including Instructional Coaches, Deans, assistants), paraprofessionals, executive assistants or other non-licensed administrative staff, and substitute teachers in all required test administration trainings for the assessments administered in your building or district.

Be sure to follow College Board's and ACT's guidelines for allowable testing staff when planning for SAT, PSAT, and WorkKeys test administrations.

Anyone involved in testing must be completely trained in test administration and test security practices. Training requirements for test administration include:

- » Assessment Security Training Modules
- » Assessment-specific test administration training
- » OEAA Security Compliance Forms
- Create back-up assignments for testing staff
 Have a plan in place if staff are out the day of
 testing. Assign back up personnel for planned
 testing staff so there is someone trained and
 ready to assist in testing. This can include
 backup testing coordinators, backup test
 administrators, back up hall monitors, and other
 positions.
- Test early and plan for makeup testing
 The test administration windows were updated
 this year to provide more flexibility to schools and
 districts. Begin testing early in the test window to
 allow for makeup testing for the M-STEP and MI Access assessments if you are unable to test on
 your originally planned day.

Required testing schedules must reflect the grade(s) and content area(s) tested in each test session.

Utilize the <u>Safe Testing Planning Guide</u>
 The planning document includes guiding questions and considerations for each aspect of testing to help you plan for your test administrations (https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Safe_Testing_Planning_Guide 716132 7.pdf).

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Required Assessment Security Training

Annual MDE-provided security training is required for individuals who will take part in the administration of state assessments, including ACT WorkKeys, Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark, MI-Access, M-STEP, PSAT 8/9 & 10, SAT with Essay, WIDA ACCESS for ELLs, and WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs.

In addition to taking the <u>Assessment Security Training course</u> through Michigan Virtual (https://plp. michiganvirtual.org) (or the Refresher course if the full course was completed in the previous year), District and Building Assessment Coordinators are required to read the <u>Assessment Integrity Guide (AIG)</u> (https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Assessment_Integrity_Guide_291950_7.pdf).

Test Administrators and Proctors must take the training course and/or read the AIG. The Michigan Department of Education recommends that the District/Building Coordinators determine which training method is best for their testing staff and ensure that the training is delivered

Other staff with access to secure materials can satisfy the assessment security training requirement by reading the AIG section "Keeping Assessment Materials Secure" (in Appendix E).

OEAA Assessment Security Compliance Forms

All school staff members involved in the administration of any of the state's assessments are required to sign a copy of the Office of Educational Assessment (OEAA) Assessment Security Compliance Form. Completed forms must be kept on file at the building for three years. The OEAA Assessment Security Compliance Forms are available on the OEAA website (www.michigan.gov/mde-assessmentsecurity).

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.

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Educators who are interested in participating in the standard setting will use the online survey to indicate their interest. 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, <u>complete the survey</u> (https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ELMBA Snd-Stng).

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.

Reminders

M-STEP and MI-Access Office Hours

Do you have questions regarding the upcoming 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 are unstructured Zoom meetings and are scheduled on the following days:

- Tuesday, March 22, 2022 from 3:00 4:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 12, 2022 from 3:00 4:00 p.m.

The **meeting link** for all sessions 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 and get assistance as you prepare 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.

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.

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).

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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.

CB 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

Pre-Recorded Audio (MP3 via Streaming) Action Required

Students approved for the pre-recorded audio accommodation during testing will receive their audio through an online streaming application. To ensure a successful test day experience, administrators are encouraged to install and test the application ahead of test day on all computers intended for test administration using this accommodation. Early readiness is essential to avoid potential issues on test day.

To install the application and run a sample test form:

- Go to the College Board MP3 Streaming Application page in <u>SSD Online</u> (https://ssdonline. collegeboard.org/)
- 2. Select the link for MP3 Streaming
- 3. Follow the instructions

Access to SSD Online is necessary for access to the MP3 application. For proctors who will administer the test but do not have access to SSD Online, test coordinators will receive a separate access code and instructions during the week of April 4, which will allow proctors to access the MP3 application.

If the application was installed and used for Fall 2021 testing, it does not have to be re-installed for this year's testing.

Coming Soon

- The Nonstandard Administration Report (NAR) will be available March 14, 2022 in SSD Online.
- Preadministration and test material shipments arrive in schools March 23-25, 2022. If your school is on spring break that week, the materials will be delivered March 29-31, 2022.

REMINDERS

Training

Refer to the March 3 edition of Spotlight for information on how to access the College Board training modules.



Reminders

Test Materials Deliveries

The ACT WorkKeys Test Coordinator will receive the test materials for the April 14, 2022 test date, either in the week of March 21, 2022 or the week of March 28, 2022. Refer to the February 17, 2022 Spotlight on Student Assessment and Accountability Newsletter (www.michigan.gov/mde-spotlight) for additional information about receiving and checking in these materials, and on ordering additional test materials.

Prepare for Testing

The ACT WorkKeys Test Coordinator must select and train test day staff. Refer to the **February 24, 2022**Spotlight on Student Assessment and Accountability
Newsletter (www.michigan.gov/mde-spotlight) for additional information about staffing requirements and training.

School staff must prepare each student's answer document. Refer to the **March 3, 2022** Spotlight on Student Assessment and Accountability Newsletter (www.michigan.gov/mde-spotlight) for additional information about preparing student answer documents.

Each student must complete the demographic and address information on their own answer document. Refer to the March 3, 2022 Spotlight on Student Assessment and Accountability Newsletter (www.michigan.gov/mde-spotlight) for additional information about preparing student answer documents.

ACT WorkKeys Training Webinars

ACT hosted a training webinar on February 9, 2022 that provided an overview of how to administer the WorkKeys assessments. You may view it ondemand here (https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/3477648/4 961571337A1059B47D1ED5590E6ED55).

The same webinar was repeated on March 8, 2022. You may view it on-demand here (https://event.on24. com/wcc/r/3477662/0AAF71AC7C08AEC45DAD2A4B 8441EBB4).

Both recorded sessions are posted to the <u>ACT</u> state testing website (http://act.org/stateanddistrict/michigan) on the **WorkKeys on Paper** page.

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

- <u>ACT WorkKeys Schedule of Events</u> posted 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

Important Dates

March 2022

Alternate INSIGHT Availability Request

Now - March 18, 2022

Alternate INSIGHT Availability Request (https://forms.office.com/g/5e0tfVWDi7) for schools with regular instructional hours after 4:00 p.m. that plan to schedule M-STEP or MI-Access online test sessions extending beyond 4:00 p.m.

M-STEP and MI-Access Office Hours

March 22, 2022, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

- This is a time for you to drop in and get answers and assistance from the OEAA staff who are supporting the M-STEP and MI-Access test administrations as you prepare for the Spring 2022 testing.
 - » Office Hours link (https://zoom.us/j/92809872 55?pwd=a3pSL3VoVWJLQ2NYaTB6RHBkN0 h6dz09)

» **Meeting ID:** 928 098 7255

» Required Passcode: YUjqf7

WIDA ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Off-Site Test Administration Requests

Now - March 24, 2022

 Request off-site testing through the <u>OEAA</u> Secure Site

WIDA AMS Test Setup Window

Now - March 25, 2022

WIDA ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs

Now - March 25, 2022

 Pre-ID of students for WIDA ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs in <u>OEAA Secure Site</u> (www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure) by 5:00 p.m., Friday, March 25, 2022

WIDA ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Testing Window is Open

Now - March 25, 2022

April 2022

M-STEP and MI-Access Office Hours

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

- This is a time for you to drop in and get answers and assistance from the OEAA staff who are supporting the M-STEP and MI-Access test administrations as you prepare for the Spring 2022 testing.
 - » Office Hours link (https://zoom.us/j/92809872 55?pwd=a3pSL3VoVWJLQ2NYaTB6RHBkN0 h6dz09)

» Meeting ID: 928 098 7255

» Required Passcode: YUjqf7

ACT WorkKeys Off-Site Test Administration Requests

Now - April 24, 2022

 Request off-site testing through the <u>OEAA</u> Secure Site

Important Dates

May 2022

M-STEP Off-Site Test Administration Requests

Now - May 19, 2022

 Request off-site testing through the <u>OEAA</u> Secure Site

Pre-Identification for M-STEP (Online and Paper/Pencil Testing)

Now - May 19, 2022

Pre-ID for online and paper/pencil testing
 To receive printed barcode labels for students
 pre-identified to paper/pencil testing, pre-ID must
 be completed by 5:00 p.m. February 16;
 pre-identification remains open through each
 test window.

MI-ACCESS Off-Site Test Administration Requests

Now - May 26, 2022

 Request off-site testing through the <u>OEAA</u> Secure Site

Pre-Identification for MI-ACCESS (Online and Paper/Pencil Testing)

Now - May 26, 2022

Pre-ID for online and paper/pencil testing.
 To receive printed barcode labels for students pre-identified to paper/pencil testing; pre-ID must be completed by 5:00 p.m. February 16; pre-identification remains open through each test window.

Additional Material Order Windows (AMO) Important Dates			
Assessment	Start Date	End Date	Task/Activity (Calendar Description)
WIDAACCESS	1/28/2022	3/18/2022	AMO in WIDA AMS
WIDA Alternate ACCESS	1/28/2022	3/18/2022	AMO in WIDA AMS
ACT WorkKeys	3/22/2022	4/7/2022	AMO by 11:59 PM
PSAT 10	3/22/2022	4/7/2022	AMO by 11:59 PM
PSAT 8/9 Grade 8	3/22/2022	4/7/2022	AMO by 11:59 PM
PSAT 8/9 Grade 9	3/22/2022	4/7/2022	AMO by 11:59 PM
SAT	3/22/2022	4/7/2022	AMO by 11:59 PM
M-STEP	4/7/2022	5/3/2022	AMO (closes at noon) - All Grades
MI-Access	4/7/2022	5/24/2022	AMO (closes at noon)

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