

# Spotlight

on Student Assessment and Accountability

**June 25, 2015**

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Look for the next edition of Spotlight on July 16, 2015!

## MI-Access and M-STEP Online Preliminary Reporting

The Spring 2015 MI-Access preliminary reports for all grades are now available and provide an initial view of how students performed on their MI-Access test this year. On June 29, 2015, grades 3, 6, and high school M-STEP raw score data will be added to the Spring 2015 M-STEP preliminary reports.

### Appropriate Use of Data

The information in these reports is preliminary and only contains raw score data. Scale scores and performance levels will reflect on the final reports and are not available until additional processes have been completed. These preliminary reports should not be used for any high stakes decisions (e.g., grade or course placement, curricular decisions, teacher evaluations).

**The preliminary report data are embargoed. These reports are for internal use only, and are not to be shared or made public.**

### What's in the Reports – About the Data

- Only raw score data for **students who tested online** will be included.
- The raw score data are reported as points earned out of points possible.

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► Sign up for Spotlight at: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIMDE/subscriber/new>. Enter your email address and select Spotlight under Student Assessment.

- Scale scores and proficiency levels will be included **only** in the final reports this fall.
- Preliminary raw score data are **not** intended for use in making high-stakes decisions.
- Student tests that are flagged as Prohibited Behavior, Non-standard Accommodation, Testing Out-of-Level, or Testing Irregularity are considered invalid and will **not** be included on preliminary reports.
- Home-schooled students are **not** included in the preliminary reports.
- Non-public schools will **not** appear on the district reports.
- **MI-Access Only:**
  - ▶ Expressing Ideas for FI will **only** appear in the final reports this fall.
  - ▶ The preliminary reports will **NOT** include students who have not been flagged as “Special Education” in MSDS.

Changes to student demographics, and/or class group codes made on the Secure Site and MSDS after June 18, 2015 will not be reflected in these reports.

*Summary statistics are suppressed for groups of students fewer than 10 due to the instability or lack of reliable statistics based on low sample sizes.*

## Where are the Reports?

Preliminary reports are available through the Secure Site at <https://baa.state.mi.us/BAASecure/>. Secure Site access is only available to district and school employees who require the information contained on the site as a part of their user role and permissions. You must have a MEIS login in order to access the Secure Site. For instructions on how to obtain a MEIS login, go to <http://www.mi.gov/secsuresitetraining> and click “How do I obtain access to the Secure Site?”

For information on accessing the preliminary report data, please see the *Preliminary Report Data* document on the M-STEP web page at [www.michigan.gov/mstep](http://www.michigan.gov/mstep) under *What’s New*, or click on the following link: [http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Preliminary\\_Report\\_Information\\_491149\\_7.pdf?20150625101902](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Preliminary_Report_Information_491149_7.pdf?20150625101902).

## College Entrance and Work Skills Data Files

The ACT and Work Keys Student Data Files are expected to be posted on the MDE Secure Site by Friday, July 3, 2015.

MDE is providing file layouts with data field information to the new Spring 2015 ACT and WorkKeys Student Data files in advance of the files' availability on the MDE Secure Site. The *ACT Spring 2015 Student Data File Format* and the *WorkKeys Spring 2015 Student Data File Format* documents are located on the MME web page at [www.michigan.gov/mme](http://www.michigan.gov/mme) under Reporting.

## Save the Date - Spring 2016 MME Testing Webinar

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) will be offering a live webinar October 5, 2015 to discuss spring 2016 MME testing. Presenters will include MDE staff and staff from College Board and ACT.



## Understanding the College Board Accommodations Process Webinar

The College Board invites you to participate in a webinar regarding the College Board Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). The goal of this webinar is to provide an overview of the accommodation request process for College Board Assessments.

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# Spotlight on Student Assessment and Accountability

The webinar will provide the information necessary for any Michigan schools participating in fall 2015 PSAT/NMSQT to complete their requests and act as a preview for the spring 2016 state-provided assessments. Come learn about the SSD Online system, understand the College Board guidelines, and get all of your questions answered by College Board experts!

We are looking to schedule the webinar in early July. Please email us if you are interested at [michiganpsat@collegeboard.org](mailto:michiganpsat@collegeboard.org) and we will send you the information to register as soon as we have it. We should have details finalized in the next few days.

## Full SAT Practice Tests Now Available

Students can simulate test day by printing and taking the official redesigned SAT practice tests. These four tests are provided as PDFs on the College Board website at: <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/practice/full-length-practice-tests>.

After students have finished a practice test, they can use an answer explanation PDF to check answers, read answer explanations, and learn from their mistakes.

Students can also take these same four SAT practice tests ONLINE on the Khan Academy website at <https://www.khanacademy.org/sat>.



## Reminders

### Administrator Survey for MI-Access Available through June 30, 2015

The spring 2015 MI-Access assessments administrator survey is still available **until 5:00 PM on Tuesday, June 30, 2015** at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/S15MI-Access>. With the completion of each testing cycle, the Michigan Department of Education solicits feedback from MI-Access assessment administrators and coordinators about their experience with the assessments. Your input is very important to us as we continue to develop Michigan's alternate assessments for the future. Thank you in advance for taking the time to complete this survey.

### KEA Summer Professional Learning

Districts interested in administering the 2015 Fall KEA should register by the dates below for the following opportunities:

#### Optional Professional Learning Opportunities

Kindergarten teachers from districts who have registered to administer the KEA this fall are eligible for a stipend of \$250/day for the learning events.

- **June 30, 2015:** Deadline for districts to register to participate in the Fall 2015 KEA in order for teachers to participate in July trainings
  - ▶ July 20/21: Taylor
  - ▶ July 23/24: Sault Ste. Marie
- **July 31, 2015:** Deadline for districts to register to participate in the Fall 2015 KEA in order for teachers to participate in August trainings
  - ▶ August 10/11: Lansing
  - ▶ August 12/13: Traverse City (overnight accommodations are limited.)

The last date to register your district for KEA participation is **August 15, 2015**. The district registration link is: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/H2DQS37>

Districts should note that although committed districts will be required to administer the KEA in the fall between September 8 – October 31, 2015, they also have the option to administer the KEA an additional two times throughout the year in order to best show growth across the KEA Widely Held Expectations.



## Reminders



### Register Now

Registration is open for the 2015 DAS Fall Conferences for Assessment and Accountability. Come and join us for a day of presentations from DAS staff covering essential topics such as 2015 Accountability updates, Online Reporting, 2016 Assessments, Preparing for the SAT, and much more.

The conferences will be held on 4 different dates at 4 locations throughout the state. Please register for one of the following:

- **August 20, 2015** — Lansing Convention Center, Lansing, MI
- **August 25, 2015** — Crystal Mountain Resort, Thompsonville, MI
- **August 27, 2015** — Northern Michigan University, Marquette, MI
- **September 1, 2015** — Eagle Crest Resort, Ypsilanti, MI

After registering for one of the conferences, you will have the opportunity to indicate which breakout sessions you may want to attend by completing a short survey. This doesn't "lock" you into attending a specific breakout session, but gives us an idea of participant interest in a session topic, so that we may schedule the sessions appropriately.

For a complete list of sessions offered and to register for the conferences, please go to <http://www.gomiem.org/news/das-fall-conferences-assessment-and-accountability>. For more information, contact MIEM at 1-517-327-9261.

### Testing Schedules for Next Year!

We are working to get information out as soon as possible regarding next year's testing windows. We would like to provide as much planning time as possible for districts and schools to prepare next year's calendar. We are working with educators around the state over the next several weeks through our surveys and focus groups to gather feedback on how test administration within this year's test window structure went. We hope to use that feedback to create an even better experience for schools next year, and will have detailed test window guidance published in the Spotlight in August.

Today, however, we want to provide some key information that can begin all of our planning for a great assessment in 2016.

- Our online testing windows will not open prior to April 11, 2016, and will end by May 27, 2016. Guidance around when grade levels or content areas will assess within that larger window will be provided later this summer.
- Our statewide SAT date is April 12, 2016.
- Our statewide WorkKeys date is April 13, 2016.

With the added benefit of the April administration date of the SAT, the College Board will be able to release items and item level information in the reports that educators, students, and parents will be able to see. This will be the first time we will be able to provide this valuable benefit from the college entrance exam portion of the Michigan Merit Exam.

With the recent addition of the PSAT for 9th and 10th graders, we are still working out details around administration dates for those exams and will provide those as soon as possible.

Thanks for your patience as we work through all the great feedback we're receiving around testing windows and schedules. We will get detailed information out later this summer.

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## Reminders

Thanks again for all the very hard work that led to a very successful administration of the M-STEP this year. We look forward to another great year!

### WIDA ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Score Release Preparation

Scores for the WIDA ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs are expected to be available in late June. At that time, districts will have access to the Student Data File through the MDE Secure Site. Paper reports will be shipped to schools in July.

To prepare for receipt of student scores, schools are encouraged to do the following:

- Review the *Interpretive Guide for Score Reports* at [www.wida.us](http://www.wida.us) under the Assessments, ACCESS for ELLs page, Scores & Reports section.
- Watch the 2015 ACCESS Score Reports Webinar (under Downloads & Products on the ACCESS for ELLs page)
- Review the *Alternate ACCESS Interpretive Guide for Score Reports* at [www.wida.us](http://www.wida.us) under the Assessments, Alternate ACCESS for ELLs page, Scores & Reports section.
- Watch the 2015 Alternate ACCESS Score Reports Webinar (under Downloads & Products on the Alternate ACCESS page).

Districts should also review the recently revised [Entrance and Exit Protocol](#) (EEP) to learn how to make exiting decisions for students identified as English Learners (ELs). For further questions and clarifications on the EEP, please contact Shereen Tabrizi at [OFSSpecialPops@michigan.gov](mailto:OFSSpecialPops@michigan.gov).

### Participation At-Risk Notice

The Michigan Department of Education has released a list of schools that received a red overall Scorecard result for 2013–14 due to low assessment participation rates. The schools on this list are at-risk for being subjected to supports and interventions for not meeting the required 95% participation rate on state assessments for two consecutive years. Reviewing the *M-STEP/ MI-Access Verification of Not Tested* window in the Secure Site could prevent your school from being identified as noncompliant for assessment participation. It is important that you submit issues for students not tested for possible exemption while the *M-STEP/ MI-Access Verification of Not Tested* window is available. Please be sure to review the reports provided in the *Verification of Not Tested* window.

For more information on being at-risk for assessment participation noncompliance and to review the list, please visit: [http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/List\\_of\\_Schools\\_At-Risk\\_for\\_Participation\\_Noncompliance\\_491463\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/List_of_Schools_At-Risk_for_Participation_Noncompliance_491463_7.pdf).

## SAT Corner

*Information provided by the College Board*

### Preparing for Summer Break

The Michigan Department of Education and the College Board will be working throughout the summer preparing for the spring PSAT 8/9, PSAT 10, and SAT assessments that will be administered in spring 2016. When school returns in the fall, we'll continue to share resources

to ensure you will be ready for the spring assessments, including information about setting your school up for testing, ordering process and deadlines, accommodation request deadlines, and trainings. In the meantime, here are a few resources to take with you on break:

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## Stock up on summer reading

Become more familiar with the suite of assessments and how they work together. You can read the test specifications, learn about how the PSAT 8/9 and PSAT 10 are aligned with the SAT, familiarize yourself with the score structure, and more:

- PSAT 8/9  
<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-8-9>
- PSAT 10  
<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/test-design>
- SAT  
<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/test-design>

## Check out our resources for educators

Access information, resources, and tools available to support educators in preparing their students for the redesigned SAT, PSAT/NMSQT, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9:

- K-12 Educators  
<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/educators/k-12>
- Implementation Guide  
<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/educators/k-12/teacher-implementation-guide>
- Connect with your ISD or RESA to find out about local workshops

## Be prepared with the access you will need

Get a jump start on the fall, by creating key accounts:

- Create a College Board Professional Account at <https://account.collegeboard.org/professional/viewCreateAccountAction>. College Board Professional accounts are required to gain access to our SSD Online system as well as our K–12 reporting portal.
- Create a Khan Academy account and explore the new practice tools at <https://www.khanacademy.org/sat>.

## Register for training workshops

Hit the ground running and register for the workshops below to hear more about the latest implementation information just in time for fall:

- College Board Counselor Workshops  
<http://counselorworkshops.collegeboard.org/>
- DAS Fall Conference  
<http://www.gomiem.org/news/das-fall-conferences-assessment-and-accountability>

## Stay connected with Spotlight

We'll continue to provide the latest information in future Spotlights.

Along with the Spotlights, the College Board will continue to update information about the spring implementation on our Michigan website at <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/state-partnerships/michigan?excmid=MTG308-AL-1-mat>. Thank you for your efforts to prepare students for success in colleg and career readiness. Have a great summer!

## Important Dates

### Approaching Deadlines!

#### MI-Access

##### June 30, 2015

- Deadline for submitting 1% MI-Access Proficiency Cap Exception applications. Applications are completely electronic and are available through the Secure Site. Districts that already have an approved 1% exception application from the 2012–2013 or 2013–2014 school years need not re-apply.
- Deadline for filling out a short feedback survey for MI-Access Test Administrators and Coordinators. The survey can be accessed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/S15MI-Access>.

### June

#### WIDA

- **Now – August 15, 2015:** The Pre-K Cycle for the WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT) is now open in the MDE Secure Site. This cycle is reserved for students who are enrolling in Kindergarten for the 2015–2016 school year. Pre-K students only need the Speaking and Listening domains administered.

Scores for all students taking the W-APT must be entered into the MDE Secure Site regardless of how well they score. *Please see the article on page 5 of the [May 28, 2015 Spotlight on the Student Assessment web page](#) at [www.michigan.gov/baa](http://www.michigan.gov/baa) for more information.*

### July 2015

#### M-STEP / MI-Access

- **Now – July 8, 2015:** Submit issues for students not tested for possible exemption. *Verification of Not Tested* window is now open.

### August 2015

#### WIDA

- **Now – August 15, 2015:** The Pre-K Cycle for the WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT) is now open in the MDE Secure Site. This cycle is reserved for students who are enrolling in Kindergarten for the 2015–2016 school year. Pre-K students only need the Speaking and Listening domains administered.

Scores for all students taking the W-APT must be entered into the MDE Secure Site regardless of how well they score. *Please see the article on page 5 of the [May 28, 2015 Spotlight on the Student Assessment web page](#) at [www.michigan.gov/baa](http://www.michigan.gov/baa) for more information.*

► To access previous Spotlight editions, go to [http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-22709\\_31168-280911--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-22709_31168-280911--,00.html)

#### Have Other Questions?

For assessment questions, please email [BAA@michigan.gov](mailto:BAA@michigan.gov).

For accountability questions, please email [MDE-Accountability@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-Accountability@michigan.gov).

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