

Spotlight



on Student Assessment and Accountability

September 24, 2015

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Online Testing Waivers

For Spring 2016, the M-STEP, MI-Access Functional Independence, and WIDA ACCESS 2.0 assessments will be administered online. All schools will be automatically defaulted to test online for these assessments. However, paper/pencil versions will be available for schools not yet ready to make the transition to online assessments. Starting in late October, the Division of Accountability Services (DAS) will provide an online waiver process in the MDE Secure Site, where districts can submit requests for their schools to administer paper/pencil versions of these assessments. Additional information about the online waiver process will be forthcoming in future editions of the Spotlight.

Before the online waiver process begins, here are some important things to consider:

- With the exception of WIDA ACCESS 2.0, schools that administered online assessments in 2015 will be expected to administer online assessments in 2016.
- Districts asking for online waivers will need to submit separate online waiver requests for each assessment. For example, a waiver request for M-STEP will not automatically carry over to MI-ACCESS Functional Independence.
- WIDA ACCESS 2.0 will use DRC online assessment technology very similar to that used for M-STEP and MI-Access, but which will require a microphone to record speaking responses.
- Schools that are administering online but have individual students who need to use a paper/pencil form due to a disability or for another reason will not need to request an online waiver. These individual student requests will be handled separately, through a materials ordering process.
- Information about [tech readiness](#) can be found at: <http://22itrig.org/>.

Key:



information Tech Coordinators also need to know

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2016 MME Test Administration Live Webcast

Are you looking for up-to-date information on administering the 2015–2016 MME? Then, you don't want to miss this important event!

Join the MDE, College Board, and ACT staff for a full-day live training presentation on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM. This streamed presentation is only available online and will cover an overview of the MME, administration of the M-STEP, WorkKeys, SAT, and PSAT, as well as a short discussion of the Secure Site and Test Accommodations. The webcast will be broadcast from Wayne Regional Education Service Agency and aired live via [MI Streamnet](http://mistreamnet.org/videos/3504/michigan-merit-examination-mme-administration) (<http://mistreamnet.org/videos/3504/michigan-merit-examination-mme-administration>).

Can't make the live webcast? Don't worry! Approximately 1-2 business days after the live training, the presentation will be posted in chapters on the MI-Streamnet site. Look for details on accessing the recorded presentation in the October 8 Spotlight.

ELA Crosswalks: Claims, Targets, and Standards

Attendees to the 2015 DAS Fall Conferences were introduced to the [ELA Crosswalks: Claims, Targets, and Standards](#), which were produced in cooperation with the Office of Standards and Assessment and the Office of Education Improvement and Innovation. The *ELA Crosswalks* are handy documents that provide alignment between the Claims, Targets, and Standards. The Claims and Targets can be used to design classroom lessons and district assessments. In addition, the documents serve as a guide in understanding the final M-STEP reports that will be available later this year.

The *ELA Crosswalks* can be found on the [M-STEP web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/mstep) listed under the heading **Content Specific Information**.

Window for Providing Input on Essential Elements Closes September 30, 2015

The window for educators to review and provide input on the draft alternate content standards for English language arts and mathematics closes on September 30, 2015. The draft standards form the basis of instruction and assessment of students with significant cognitive impairments. Students receiving classroom instruction in alternate content standards are assessed with Michigan's alternate state assessment, MI-Access.

The draft alternate content standards are referred to as Essential Elements, and are aligned with Michigan's K-12 English language arts and mathematics standards. The Essential Elements were developed by the Dynamic Learning Maps consortium with help from Michigan educators.

Michigan educators have also created "Range of Complexity" descriptions for each state-assessable Essential Element. The range of complexity serves to provide guidance on possible milestones leading up to the target Essential Element. Students will be at varying places along the range of complexity while working toward the target Essential Element.

Michigan seeks input on the Essential Elements, and in particular, the range of complexity for each of the state-assessable Essential Elements. The Essential Elements illustrating ranges of complexity are found on the [MI-Access web site](#) (www.michigan.gov/mi-access). Once on the web site, click on the link [ELA and Mathematics Essential Elements](#) (http://www.mi.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-22709_28463-18034--,00.html) in the **What's New** section.

Once on that page, you will find links to the Draft Alternate Standards for English Language Arts and the Draft Alternate Standards for Mathematics. The **Public Comment** section contains links to the surveys by content area and grade. Please review the Draft Alternate Standards for each content area and grade, and then complete the corresponding content- and grade-specific survey.

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Your feedback is an important step to ensure the Essential Elements and its ranges of complexity are appropriate for the student population served and show suitable levels of student progression. The

surveys will remain open through September 30, 2015. An alternate way to provide input: send your comments by email to BAA@michigan.gov using the subject line 'Essential Elements Feedback'.

SAT Corner

Information provided by the College Board

SAT Test Date Updates

The SAT administration is **April 12, 2016**.

- All students testing in the standard room are required to test on this date. This includes students testing without accommodations and any students testing with accommodations that do not impact timing. For example, students using large print test books will test in the standard room.
- Accommodated students who test with school-based accommodations will have **April 12, 2016 through April 15, 2016** to complete their testing. These accommodations include Braille, reader script, assistive technology compatible, MP3 audio, and students testing over two days (100% extended time). Please note that students who test over multiple days must test on consecutive days. For more information about accommodations, please see the [Services for Students with Disabilities section](#) on our website (www.collegeboard.org/michigan).

The SAT makeup administration is **April 26, 2016**.

- The College Board and the MDE are reviewing the test dates for students testing with 50% extended time. More information will be shared via Spotlight and the MME Webinar, once available.

PSAT 8/9 and PSAT 10 Test Date Updates

All participating Michigan 9th and 10th graders testing in a standard room are required to test on either **April 12, 2016 or April 13, 2016**. The makeup administration for these students is **April 26, 2016 or April 27, 2016**.

The following guidelines apply to both the initial administration and the makeup administration.

- Schools can elect to administer the test to 9th graders on one day, 10th graders on the other day, or test students from both grades on the same day.
- All students in the same grade must be tested on the same day. Schools can choose which date—**April 12 or April 13**—works best for them.
- Students with school-based accommodations that require separate rooms can test **April 12, 2016 – April 27, 2016**. These accommodations include Braille, reader script, assistive technology compatible, MP3 audio, and students testing over two days (100% extended time). There is no makeup date for students testing with school-based

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accommodations because they can test anytime within the testing window.

- **All testing must be completed by April 27, 2016.** For students testing over two days, their testing must begin by April 26 in order for all testing to be completed by April 27, 2016.

When planning for test day, we encourage you to first determine if you will test PSAT 8/9 and PSAT 10 on the same day with SAT or a different day. Using the total number of students, you can determine an estimate for rooms and test day staff required. Then, estimate the number of students for each assessment that will require testing in separate rooms. We recommend prioritizing the students testing with school-based accommodations for SAT first, because testing must be completed by April 15, 2016. Going through these steps will help you identify the maximum number of test day staff and rooms you will need. Please refer to prior Spotlight articles, found on the DAS Student Assessment web page, for more information about [Seating Requirements](#) (September 3, 2015) and [Staffing Requirements](#) (August 27, 2015).

Implementation Workshops Added!

Due to the overwhelming demand, we are currently working with several ISDs to add implementation workshops. Details are still being finalized, but as soon as they are available we will provide updates

in the Spotlight. We have added more seats to the Kalamazoo Implementation workshop. To register click on the link below.

- [Western Michigan University- Kalamazoo](#) September 28, 2015, 1 – 4 PM

In addition, we've added a webinar version of the implementation workshop for those who are able to participate virtually. If you would like to participate in the online sessions, please select one of the sessions and register using the links below. The webinars will be recorded and posted to our website for viewing after the scheduled sessions as well.

- **October 20, 2015, 3 – 6 PM**
To register, [click here](https://collegeboardtraining.webex.com/collegeboardtraining/onstage/g.php?d=632763515&t=a) (https://collegeboardtraining.webex.com/collegeboardtraining/onstage/g.php?d=632763515&t=a)
- **October 21, 2015, 9 AM – Noon**
To register, [click here](https://collegeboardtraining.webex.com/collegeboardtraining/onstage/g.php?d=634739061&t=a) (https://collegeboardtraining.webex.com/collegeboardtraining/onstage/g.php?d=634739061&t=a)

Along with the Spotlight, the College Board will continue to update information about the spring implementation on our [Michigan website](#) (www.collegeboard.org/michigan).

Important Dates

Approaching Deadlines!

KEA

- **October 1, 2015, 4 – 5 PM:** The second of four bi-weekly webinars for KEA participants to dialogue with OSA staff and each other regarding the success and challenges of KEA implementation.

- **October 29, 2015, 4 – 5 PM:** The final bi-weekly webinar for KEA participants to dialogue with OSA staff and each other regarding the success and challenges of KEA implementation.

- ▶ Access previous [Spotlight editions](http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-22709_70117-280911--,00.html), (http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-22709_70117-280911--,00.html)

October

KEA

- **October 6, 2015, 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM:** MME Test Administration Live Webcast. The webcast will be broadcast from Wayne Regional Education Service Agency and aired live via [MI Streamnet](http://mistreamnet.org/videos/3504/michigan-merit-examination-mme-administration) (<http://mistreamnet.org/videos/3504/michigan-merit-examination-mme-administration>).
- **October 15, 2015, 4 – 5 PM:** The third of four bi-weekly webinars for KEA participants to dialogue with OSA staff and each other regarding the success and challenges of KEA implementation.

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.