

The Assist

Helping Students Access and Make Progress in the General Curriculum

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Fall OEAA Conferences are Fast Approaching!

Late this fall, two-day conferences will be held across the state to inform educators about important topics related to all the programs housed within the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability (OEAA). Combining the conferences last year was a successful venture because it allowed people who serve as both MEAP and MI-Access Coordinators to attend all sessions in one location. In addition, it enabled the OEAA staff to jointly address the growing number of issues related to accountability and participation that cut across the state's assessments.

The first day of each conference will be primarily devoted to the MEAP, the English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA), the Michigan Merit Exam (MME), and accountability. The second day will be dedicated to issues related to assessing students with disabilities, using MI-Access as well as the other state assessments. Attendees may sign up for one or both days of the conferences, depending on their roles and interests. At the end of this article there is information on when and where the conferences will be held.

Topics for the joint, two-day conferences tentatively include updates on procedures, such as student pre-identification and using the OEAA Secure Site; the use of Michigan's grade level content expectations (GLCEs) and extended grade level content expectations (EGLCEs); and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and Education Yes! school performance indicators. In addition, important new information, which should be of interest to all participants, will be shared on how the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) plans to address federal requirements for reporting the progress of individual students as they participate in state assessment from year-to-year. Presentations covering these topics, as well as many others, will provide valuable information for educators to use in planning school improvement efforts, and improving student performance and participation on all state assessments.

Fall 2006 OEAA Conferences	
<i>Dates</i>	<i>Locations</i>
November 28 & 29	Marquette - Northern Michigan University
November 30 & December 1	Grayling - Holiday Inn
December 4 & 5	Grand Rapids - Crowne Plaza on 28th Street
December 7 & 8	Novi - Sheraton Detroit Novi
December 11 & 12	Lansing - Lansing Center
December 13 & 14	Sterling Heights - Sterling Inn