

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
State Board of Education Agenda Items
April 21, 2016

OFFICE OF STUDENT ASSESSMENT

17. Information: Mississippi Assessment Program-Alternate (MAP-A) test design for School Year 2015-2016 and School Year 2016-2017 for English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science [Goal 1 – MBE Strategic Plan]

Background Information: The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Section 300.160.C and Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and the Code of Federal Regulations 34 CFR 200.1(d) require an alternate assessment be provided based on alternate achievement standards for students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities (SCDs) who, by nature of their disability, cannot access the general education standards. Through a subcontract with Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM), Questar Assessment, Inc., administers Alternate Assessments for English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics for Grades 3-8, Science for Grades 5 and 8, and High School Algebra I, English II, and Biology I for students with SCD.

Questar, at our direction, has agreed to develop customized tasks that will be field tested during the Spring 2016 window. Mississippi intends that Questar develop these tasks for use in the Mississippi Assessment Program-Alternate beginning with the 2016-2017 assessment cycle. All customized tasks must be initially reviewed by Mississippi teachers before administration of future alternate assessments. The customized tasks will be initially reviewed by teachers so as to ensure that the assessment tasks are age-grade appropriate, aligned to the standards, ranged in complexity, and give the student the best opportunity to demonstrate their level of understanding and application of the alternate achievement standards. Participating teachers should have a successful history of working with this population.

This item references Goal 1 of the *Mississippi Board of Education 2016-2020 Strategic Plan*.

Information Only

Back-up material attached



Mississippi Assessment Program-Alternate Assessment (MAP-A)

Assessment Design

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State Board of Education

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Purpose Statement

The MAP-A is an assessment being custom developed to measure the extended, MS College and Career Ready Alternate Achievement Standards (MSCCR-AAS). This assessment is administered to students with the most significant cognitive disabilities in a manner that provide information about: (a) an individual student's understanding of the MSCCR-AAS, (b) supports needed to improve learning outcomes, and (c) effective instructional practices. The MAP-A program specifically addresses Mississippi's State Board of Education's (SBE) Goal #1, which states: All students proficient and showing growth in all assessed areas.

Design Statement

The MAP-A will be an assessment designed for the expressed purpose of measuring the MSCCR-AAS in English-language arts, mathematics, and science. The assessment's overall design will afford numerous "access" points for students to participate in a meaningful way, while considering the vast diversity of SCD test-takers. Mississippi educators shall be involved at all stages of development in a manner that promotes transparency, best practices, and input from stakeholders, in particular teachers and parents.

Design Framework

A performance event is a collection of performance tasks used to measure approximately 1/3 of the MSCCR-AAS in a given year. Each performance task (PT) is an on-demand measure consisting of a scripted format and supports designed to measure the targeted content standards. Performance tasks are administered individually to students in planned sessions and responses are scored by trained teachers and/or test proctors. PT scores are entered into a web-based

scoring tool that combines all tasks into an overall performance event score. Scores are then calibrated and transformed onto the same scale used in the MAP assessments.

Task Development and Field Test

Given the decision to move from the Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) to an alternate assessment designed, developed, administered, and partially scored by Mississippi educators, the MDE is planning on conducting task development workshops, task review, and limited, field testing beginning in late July thru September 2016. The tentative milestone targets below are being considered for school year 2016-17.



Administration

The MAP-A will be administered in the spring testing window (extended) to ensure sufficient time for the administration of the performance event's tasks. The window will generally consist of a sixty-day (60) collection period in March and April. Teachers will be trained in the procedural steps during the summer and fall prior to the administration of the assessment. This is conducted through a combination of initial, on-site training followed by an on-line "retraining and practice" version prior to administering the MAP-A.

The MAP-A testing conditions should be established both consistent with a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) and the guidelines development in the test administrator's guidelines. The MAP-A is administered to only those individuals with significant, cognitive disabilities, all other students are ineligible for this assessment and should participate in the MAP.