

M-STEP and Mi-Access

The Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP) is given to students online in grades 3-7 to measure their knowledge of state standards in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics. The PSAT 8/9 will measure ELA and mathematics in grade 8. Student knowledge of science and social studies standards are measured by M-STEP in grades 5, 8, and 11.

The M-STEP is given during the months of April-May. In general, students are tested online. However, if your child has specific learning needs, documented through the 504 or IEP process, that require a paper-pencil administration of the test, this format will be provided. The M-STEP assessments provide a snapshot of student achievement at a state, district and building-level along with information to inform parents, teachers, and students about their academic achievement and growth over time. These results should be used as part of a broader perspective regarding student performance, benchmark assessments, social and emotional well-being.

The state of Michigan also utilizes the Mi-Access assessment. Mi-Access is a group of tests, specifically designed to allow students who have, or function as if they have, significant cognitive impairments to participate in state-wide assessments. Students are eligible to take MI-Access when the IEP team has determined that general assessments, even with accommodations, are not appropriate for the student.

Results of the M-STEP and Mi-Access are typically distributed to parents/guardians by early October. To help you better understand your child's scores, we have included the state of Michigan's Parent Guides (see attachments). These guides provide an in-depth understanding of your child's results. The state has also developed the Starting Smarter website: <https://mi.startingsmarter.org/>. The Starting Smarter website provides a more concise overview of the M-STEP along with some helpful M-STEP and learning resources.