

# Michigan Merit Examination (MME): MME and ACT Accommodations

*Attention! Attention! Attention!*

Parents of students who are entering the 9<sup>th</sup> grade: Please keep in mind that when your student is in 11<sup>th</sup> grade they will need to take the ACT test as part of the Michigan Merit Examination (MME).

Important facts parents and students need to know:

- ✓ No Child Left Behind (NCLB) is federal legislation that requires the Michigan Department of Education to assess all students enrolled in Grade 11 based on high school content standards.
- ✓ The state high school assessment is the Michigan Merit Examination (MME). It is administered in March to all students enrolled in Grade 11. The MME consists of three major components: the ACT Plus Writing® college entrance examination; the WorkKeys® job skills assessments in reading, mathematics, and locating information; and Michigan-developed assessments in mathematics, science, and social studies.
- ✓ The ACT is one part of the MME. The ACT provides test accommodations in accordance with **Title III** of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Schools provide accommodations under additional different regulations. Thus, having a diagnosis and receiving accommodations in school **does not** guarantee ACT approval of those accommodations.
- ✓ In the event your student needs accommodations, you will need to **specifically ask**.
- ✓ You will need to work closely with the school MME Test Accommodations Coordinator (TAC) in **Spring of Grade 10 or Fall of Grade 11**.
  - The Director of Special Education or a member of your student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) team can help you get in contact with the TAC.
  - The school counselor is another resource person.
- ✓ **There are two types of accommodations available for the ACT component of the Michigan Merit Examination:**
  - ACT-Approved accommodations which **will** result in college reportable ACT scores; and
  - State-Allowed accommodations that **will not** result in college reportable ACT scores, but will count toward the Michigan Merit Examination subject scores.
- ✓ You will need to work with the Test Accommodations Coordinator (TAC) to complete a Request for ACT-Approved Test Accommodations for students with diagnosed disabilities who are receiving special education services described in a current IEP or Section 504 Plan. ACT must receive the forms by early December for the Spring ACT test. You will need to begin work with the TAC in the Fall.

- ✓ There are two requirements for the ACT-Approved Accommodations:
  - **The student’s disability must have been professionally diagnosed by a qualified professional, or team of professionals, whose credentials are appropriate to the disability; and**
  - **All accommodations requested on the ACT must be provided during regular instruction and must be documented in the student’s current IEP or 504 Plan.**
- ✓ Students who do not meet the above eligibility requirements, or whose request for ACT-Approved accommodations are denied, may apply for the State-Allowed accommodations by submitting an Application for State—Allowed Accommodations. You will need to work with the TAC.

The Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability (OEAA) is a division within the Michigan Department of Education (MDE). The primary function of OEAA is to establish, develop, and conduct a state assessment system that fairly and accurately reflects the State’s content standards. Please visit the OEAA web site at [www.michigan.gov/oeaa](http://www.michigan.gov/oeaa). For additional information on the Michigan Merit Examination, please visit the MME web page at [www.michigan.gov/mme](http://www.michigan.gov/mme).

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