

ACT[®]

MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM



INFORMATION

BAY CITY WESTERN HIGH SCHOOL

500 West Midland Road

Auburn, MI 48611

ACT[®]

MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

- **A BRIEF HISTORY LESSON...**
 - Federal “No Child Left Behind” Act
 - Re-Authorized on January 8, 2002.
 - www.ed.gov/nclb

ED.gov

U.S. Department of Education
Promoting educational excellence for all Americans.



**No Child
LEFT BEHINDSM**





MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

- **WHAT ARE SOME “NCLB” REQUIREMENTS?**
 - School accountability through assessment.
 - Of all students tested: 100% proficient in Math & ELA by 2016.
 - Required testing at all grade levels.
 - Currently Grades 3-9 are assessed (MEAP).
 - 11th grade: MME March 2007.



U.S. Department of Education
Promoting educational excellence for all Americans.



**No Child
LEFT BEHINDSM**

ACT[®]

MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

- **WHAT ARE MICHIGAN'S REQUIREMENTS UNDER "NCLB?"**
 - State high school accountability standard under "NCLB" is Michigan's *Education YES!*
 - www.state.mi.us/ayp/



Department of
Education



Michigan.gov

An Official State of Michigan Web Site



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

■ HOW ARE MICHIGAN'S ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS MEASURED UNDER "EDUCATION YES!?"

- Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)
 - % of student daily attendance (90%).
 - WHS: 96%
 - % of all students assessed (95%).
 - Subgroups (WHS: 30+ Free & Reduced Lunch).
 - % of students proficient in Math & ELA.
 - Subgroups Included
 - % of student graduates.
 - School Improvement Framework Assessment.



Department of
Education



Michigan.gov

An Official State of Michigan Web Site

ACT[®]

MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

- What was Western High School's "*Education YES!*" Grade for 07/08?

B



Department of
Education



Michigan.gov

An Official State of Michigan Web Site



ACT[®]

MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

■ WHAT IS THE MICHIGAN MERIT CURRICULUM?

- Governor Jennifer Granholm, April 2006.
- Goals:
 - To help students transition from high school to post secondary educational opportunities.
 - To promote a highly educated work force.



Department of
Education



Michigan.gov

An Official State of Michigan Web Site





MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

■ WHAT WILL THE MICHIGAN MERIT CURRICULUM LOOK LIKE?

- Three R's:
 - *RIGOR - RELEVANCE - RELATIONSHIPS*
- Class of 2011:
 - ✓ 4 credits of English Language Arts.
 - ✓ 4 credits of Mathematics.
 - ✓ 3 credits of Science.
 - ✓ 3 credits of Social Studies.
 - ✓ 1 credit of Visual & Performing Arts.
 - ✓ 1 credit of Physical Education & Health.
 - ✓ On-line experience.
- Class of 2016:
 - ✓ 2 credits of any language other than English.



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

■ HOW IS THE MICHIGAN MERIT CURRICULUM ASSESSED?

- Michigan Merit Exam.
 - ACT College Entrance Exam, WorkKeys, (an ACT work skills assessment), plus several Michigan components developed to assess Michigan curriculum that is not assessed by the ACT.
 - ACT / MME scores are college acceptable scores.
- The MME Assessment complies with the Federal “*No Child Left Behind*” Act.



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

■ WHO IS ASSESSED?

- Students with Junior / 11th Grade Status (BCPS)
 - Monday, January, 19, 2009.
- Special Needs Students with IEP specific accommodations will have an extended testing window or through March 26, 2009.
- Home Schooled Students will be permitted to test at a Public School testing site.



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

DAY #1 SCHEDULE

- **Tuesday,
March 10, 2009**
 - **7:00a.m.**
Breakfast
(Free to all Students)
 - **7:30a.m. – 12:30p.m.**
ACT Tests
ACT Writing Test
 - Transportation Home
(Individual Arrangement)



ACT[®]

MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

ACT[®]

- **American College Testing Program**
 - Contains multiple choice tests in four areas:
 - 1) English
 - 2) Mathematics
 - 3) Reading
 - 4) Science
 - ACT Writing Test



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

■ WHAT DOES THE ACT ENGLISH TEST COVER?

- 75 questions / 45 minutes.
- Measures student understanding of conventions of standard written English.
- Elements of effective writing include:
 - Punctuation 13%
 - Grammar 16%
 - Sentence Structure 24%
 - Strategy 16%
 - Organization 15%
 - Style 16%



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

■ WHAT DOES THE ACT MATHEMATICS TEST COVER?

- 60 questions / 60 minutes.
- Assess the mathematical skills students have typically acquired in courses taken up to the beginning of 12th grade.
- Students will need to use reasoning skills to solve practical problems.
- Content areas included in Mathematics Test:
 - Pre-Algebra 23%
 - Elementary Algebra 17%
 - Intermediate Algebra 15%
 - Coordinate Geometry 15%
 - Plane Geometry 23%
 - Trigonometry 7%



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

■ MORE ACT MATHEMATICS TEST INFORMATION...

- Use of ACT APPROVED calculators is permitted on portions of the ACT / MME.
- **Prohibited** Calculators:
 - Texas Instruments: TI-89 & TI-92.
 - Hewlett Packard: hp40G, hp 48GII, hp 49G & hp50G.
 - Casio: Algebra fx 2.0, ClassPad 300 & CFX-9970G.
 - Pocket organizers.
 - Hand held or laptop computers.
 - Electronic writing pads or pen input devices.
 - Calculators built into cell phones or other electronic communication devices.
 - Calculators with a typewriter keypad (keys in QWERTY format).
 - Calculators with built-in computer algebra systems.



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

■ MORE ACT MATHEMATICS TEST INFORMATION...

– Permitted Calculators:

- Calculators with paper tape. Tape must be removed.
- Calculators that make noise. Turn off the sound.
- Calculators that can communicate wirelessly with other calculators. Completely cover the infrared data port, (Hewlett Packard: hp 38G & hp 48G).
- Calculators that have power cords. Remove the power cord.
- Sharp EL 9600.
- Calculators with letter keys not in QWERTY format.



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

- **WHAT DOES THE ACT READING TEST COVER?**
 - 40 questions / 35 minutes.
 - Asks students to derive meaning from several texts by:
 - ✓ Referring to what is explicitly stated.
 - ✓ Reasoning to determine implicit meanings.



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

- **MORE ACT READING TEST INFORMATION...**
 - Meaningful reading practices should include:
 - Main ideas.
 - Locate and interpret significant details.
 - Understanding sequences of events.
 - Make comparisons.
 - Comprehend cause – effect relationships.
 - Determine the meaning of context-dependent words, phrases and statements.
 - Draw generalizations.
 - Analyze the author’s or narrator’s voice and method.



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

■ MORE ACT READING TEST INFORMATION...

- Based on 4 types of reading selections:
 1. Social Studies 25%
 2. Natural Sciences 25%
 3. Prose Fiction 25%
 4. Humanities 25%



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

- **WHAT DOES THE ACT SCIENCE TEST COVER?**
 - 40 questions / 35 minutes.
 - Measures the interpretation, analysis, evaluation, reasoning and problem-solving skills required in natural sciences.
 - ✓ Questions require students to recognize and understand the basic features of and concepts related to the provided information.
 - Examine critically the relationship between the information provided and the conclusions drawn or hypothesis developed.
 - Generalize from given information to gain new information, draw conclusions, or make predictions.



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

- **MORE ACT SCIENCE TEST INFORMATION...**
 - ✓ Presents seven sets of scientific information conveyed through three different formats:
 1. Data representation (graphs, tables).
 2. Research summaries (descriptions of experiments).
 3. Conflicting viewpoints (inconsistent hypothesis).
 - Content included in the Science Test:
 - Biology
 - Chemistry
 - Physics
 - Earth & Space Sciences



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

- **MORE ACT SCIENCE TEST INFORMATION...**
 - Emphasizes scientific reasoning over recall of scientific content, skill in mathematics or reading ability in the following formats:
 - Data Representation 38%
 - Research Summaries 45%
 - Conflicting Viewpoints 17%



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

- **WHAT DOES THE ACT WRITING TEST COVER?**
 - 30 minutes / 1 writing prompt
 - Prompt will define an issue and two points of view on the issue.
 - Students write a response taking a position on the issue described by:
 - Adopting one or the other view points.
 - Presenting a different point of view.



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

- **MORE ABOUT THE ACT WRITING TEST...**
 - Evaluation of evidence will include:
 - ✓ Express judgments by taking position on the issue.
 - ✓ Maintain a focus on the topic
 - ✓ Developing a position by using logical reasoning and supporting ideas.
 - ✓ Organizing ideas in a logical way.
 - ✓ Using language clearly and effectively according to conventions of standard written English.



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

DAY #2 SCHEDULE

- **Wednesday,
March 11, 2009**
 - **7:00a.m.**
Breakfast
(Free to all Students)
 - **7:30a.m. – 11:30a.m.**
ACT Workkeys Tests
 - Transportation Home
(Individual Arrangement)



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

■ WHAT IS THE ACT WORKKEYS?

- A measurement of employability skills.
 - Applied Mathematics.
 - Reading for Information.
 - Locating Information.
- Scores will be calculated and leveled.
 - Range score from 3-7.
 - Score of 5+ represents employability skills.
- Results will be published in the Parent Report.
- National Career Readiness Certificate.



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

DAY #3 SCHEDULE

- **Thursday,
March 12, 2009**
 - **7:00a.m.**
Breakfast
(Free to all Students)
 - **7:30a.m. – 11:30a.m.**
*Michigan Test
Components*
 - Transportation Home
(Individual Arrangement)



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

- **WHY ARE THERE ADDITIONAL MICHIGAN TEST COMPONENTS ON THE MME?**
 - Michigan Mathematics / 40 minutes
 - ACT tested but not comprehensive enough to meet Michigan's standards.
 - Michigan Science / 40 minutes
 - ACT tested but not comprehensive enough to meet Michigan's standards.
 - Not required under the No Child Left Behind Act, but is required under the Michigan Merit Curriculum.
 - Social Studies / 40 minutes total
 - Not ACT tested and not required under the No Child Left Behind Act, but is required under the Michigan Merit Curriculum.



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

- **WHAT WILL THE TESTING ENVIRONMENT BE LIKE?**
 - BCPS High Schools closed on 3/10 - 3/12/09.
 - 1st & 2nd Floor HS Core Classrooms Closed / Testing Wing.
 - 25 students per room with one Test Proctor.
 - Male / Female Testing Rooms.
 - Standardized testing conditions required.
 - Students will be seated 3 feet apart from each other (shoulder to shoulder, head to head), and in rows (front to back).



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

- **MORE ABOUT THE TESTING ENVIRONMENT...**
 - No food or beverages are allowed in the testing room for students, test supervisors or proctors.
 - No books, magazines, electronic devices (cell phones), are allowed in the testing room for students, test supervisors or proctors.
 - Cell phones will be collected.
 - Periodic bathroom and refreshment breaks.



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

■ WHAT ACCOMMODATIONS ARE AVAILABLE FOR SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS?

- Assessment accommodations will be provided for students with disabilities, 504 plan, and English language learners.
 - Extended time.
 - Audio DVD.
- Accommodations must be written into a Special Education Individualized Education Plan.
- ACT and MME accommodations are not interconnected.
 - ACT approved accommodations (college reportable).
 - State approved accommodations (not college reportable).



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

■ ARE THERE COSTS OR DISTRICT REQUIREMENTS?

- State and BCPS cover the cost for the ACT / MME assessment.
 - Students are no longer permitted to re-test once they have taken the MME.
- Michigan Merit Requirement & BCPS Graduation Requirement.



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

■ IS THERE A MAKE-UP TEST SCHEDULE?

– ACT Determines Date.

– Tuesday, March 24 – Thursday, March 26, 2009.

- Students who are absent from the initial *MME* test dates will have the opportunity to make-up the test.
- Students who begin a test and become ill cannot receive additional time or make-up the portion of the *MME* test missed at another time.
- Make-up session will be held at the Bay City Public School's Administration Building, Bay City. Students will be bussed to the BCPS Administration Building from WHS.



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

- **WHEN WILL THE TEST RESULTS BE KNOWN?**
 - June 2009 ACT Report mailed home.
 - August 2009 Comprehensive MME Parent Report mailed home.
 - ACT scores will be ranked with Illinois and Colorado only.



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

■ WHAT IS THE MICHIGAN PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP?

- Michigan Promise Scholarship.
 - \$4,000.00
 - Receive Rank Score of 1 or 2 on all assessed areas.
\$2,000.00 before start of college.
 - Receive Rank Score other than 1 or 2 (3 – 4).
2 years and 2.5 GPA.
- www.michigan.gov/promise



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

- **HOW CAN MY CHILD PREPARE FOR THE ACT / MME?**
 - Practice tests provided by ACT and academic review will be made available to all Junior students through Thursday, February 19, 2009.
 - Demographic information will be collected prior to the test.
 - Select 4 Universities of interest.
 - Other resources are available on-line:
 - www.actstudent.org
 - www.mel.org

ACT[®]

MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM



Questions?

BAY CITY WESTERN HIGH SCHOOL

500 West Midland Road

Auburn, MI 48611