

## Kindergarten Teachers and Students Needed

Michigan Department of Education's Division of Accountability Services (DAS) is pleased to announce the Fall 2014 Field Test of the Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA). Michigan is using Teaching Strategies GOLD for the field test. It is an online, observational survey administered the first 55 days of school. Michigan kindergarten teachers will play a critical role in helping DAS develop an operational KEA for Michigan's teachers, students, and families. In the process, they will gain valuable information about their students that they can use to provide individualized instruction, they will earn 12 State Continuing Education Clock Hours (SCECHs) for participating in the online professional development course required before KEA administration, and they will become familiar with Michigan's newest assessment designed to help teachers and the parents of their students learn more about the educational needs of each student entering kindergarten.

### **What is the purpose of the Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA)?**

Provide teachers and parents with important criterion-based information about a child's learning and development at the beginning of kindergarten so that teachers can inform individual instruction and parents can provide learning opportunities beyond the school day.

### **Who can participate?**

Kindergarten teachers and Developmental Kindergarten teachers can participate.

### **What training is required for participation?**

Teachers who participate in the pilot must attend a two-day online training course prior to participating in the field test. Teachers will be able to access the training sessions about a week after they are enrolled in the study beginning April 1, 2014 and up to the assessment window beginning date, September 2, 2014. More information about the training sessions will be provided to those participating as they are enrolled. *Teachers can apply for 12 SCECHs after completion of the training course.*

### **When will the field test take place?**

The field test window is September 2 through October 31, 2014.

### **What are the system requirements for participation?**

Teaching Strategies GOLD online works on any PC (Windows XP SP2 or later) or Mac (OS X 10.4 or later) with a high-speed Internet connection (at least 300 kbps per user). The system works with the following web browsers:

- Apple Safari 5 and above
- Google Chrome 8 and above
- Microsoft Internet Explorer 7 or 8 (IE 9.0 is not supported at this time)
- Mozilla Firefox 3.6 and above

### **How are students enrolled in the assessment?**

Students are enrolled in the assessment by the district's MSDS person, or personnel, by entering each student in to the MSDS system and submitting the student information by using Early Roster before the end of the third week of school.

### **How can you help?**

Districts and Schools can help by identifying kindergarten teachers who may want to participate and by completing the interest survey for the field test.

[Interest Survey for KEA Field Test Fall 2014](https://baameap.wufoo.com/forms/interest-survey-for-kea-field-test-fall-2014/)

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### **What information is required to complete the interest survey?**

All information gathered for participation in the field test should be accurate and reflect the full names of districts, schools, and personnel participating. Following is a list of the required information:

District name:

District address:

District phone number:

District Code:

District administrator name:

District administrator email address:

Complete the site/school information for as many sites/schools as there are participating.

School name:

School address:

School phone number:

School Code:

Site administrator name:

Site administrator email address:

Complete the classes/teacher information for as many classes/teachers as there are participating.

Teacher name:

Teacher email address:

**To obtain additional information, please visit the KEA webpage at [www.michigan.gov/kea](http://www.michigan.gov/kea) or contact Jeff Beal in the Office of Standards and Assessment at 517-335-0433 or [bealj1@michigan.gov](mailto:bealj1@michigan.gov).**