STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

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STATE SUPERINTENDENT

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Dear Parent or Guardian,

Your child has the opportunity to earn a national work readiness credential in grade 11 by participating in the work skills assessment component of the Michigan Merit Examination (www.michigan.gov/mme). The work skills assessment represents a low-risk, high-value opportunity that supports college and career readiness.

What Is the Work Skills Assessment?

The assessment measures important foundational workplace skills in math, reading, and data that employers across industries consistently value. Participating students may earn a **National Work Readiness Credential – Academic Skills**, a portable and nationally recognized credential endorsed by the National Work Readiness Council (www.nwrc.org).



More information about the WIN Work Readiness Assessment—the current work skills assessment available to students—is available at Michigan WIN Work Readiness Assessment Page (https://www.winlearning.com/About/State-Partnerships/MI/win-work-readiness-assessments).

Why Should Your Student Participate in the Work Skills Assessment?

Participation in the work skills assessment keeps future career opportunities open for your child. Many students do not discover interest in hands-on, high-skill careers until late in high school or even after graduation. The work skills assessment serves as an early indicator of readiness and helps students pursue career opportunities.

Participation in the work skills assessment:

- strengthens applications for competitive internships and jobs during college that often lead to successful careers outside of the degree path
- provides meaningful advantages for students who pursue registered apprenticeships and/or technical training
- offers outstanding opportunities in technical careers, including construction, advanced manufacturing, and other technical fields, including access to:
  - ✓ "Earn-while-you-learn" programs combining paid, hands-on experience with education
  - ✓ clear advancement pathways and long-term career stability
  - ✓ strong wages, benefits, and statewide demand with lifelong skill development that adapts across industries

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