

<b>Enhance academic assessments</b>	<b>Agency/Program #:</b> 3501-09
	<b>Division:</b> Local Education Activities
	<b>Program:</b>

<b>Agency Name:</b>	Office of Public Instruction	
<b>Agency Contact:</b>	Madelyn Quinlan	444-3168
<b>LFC Contact:</b>	Representative Hiner, Representative Glaser	
<b>LFD Liaison:</b>	Kris Wilkinson	444-2722
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**Program or Project Description:**

The statewide student assessment includes the administration of a criterion-referenced test in Reading and Mathematics to students in grades 3-8 and 10 and in Science in grades 4, 8, and 10. The USED, through a peer review process, has approved Montana's CRT and CRT-Alternate for Reading and Math. Approval of the CRT for Science is pending with USED.

Appropriation, Expenditure and Source					
Fund Name:	2010		2011		Approp & Expenditure numbers are as of April 15, 2010
	Approp.	Expended	Approp.	Expended	
General Fund					
State Special					
Federal Funds					
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	

**Goal(s):**

Enhance academic assessments

**Performance Measures :**

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**2011 Biennium Significant Milestones:**

		Completion Dates	
		Target	Actual
1	Submitted evidence of the Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT) and the Criterion-Referenced Test-Alternative(CRT-ALT) to the USED for the Science assessment		
2			
3			
4			
5			

**Performance Report:**

- April 2009: Submitted evidence of the Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT) and the Criterion-Referenced Test -Alternate (CRT-Alt) to the USED for the Science assessment in Grades 4, 8, and 10. Approval is pending.
  - o June 2010: Two issues remain outstanding. 1) Completion of a study of the appropriate use of accommodations for the Science assessment and 2) Completion of an alignment study on the extended benchmarks for the CRT-Alt.
  
- Provide professional development on the use of test results, Response to Intervention (RTI) and formative assessment through online classes, online learning communities, an annual assessment conference, and numerous presentations.
 

Target: On-going Actual: On-going
  
- OPI contracted for and hosted a 15-week, on-line course FAME, Formative Assessment for Montana Educators. The course was created and conducted by Dr. Margaret Heritage, UCLA's Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards and Student Testing. Course was offered in August – December 2009.
  
- Conducted pilot tests of four online writing assessment programs to determine their potential in statewide use.
  - o June 2010: Pilots are completed and recommendations are being compiled.
  - o July 2010: Recommendations will be made to the Board of Public Education
  - o September 2010: Implementation Plan
  - o November 2010: Prepare funding proposal
  
- Participate as a member state in the SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium, a group of 32 State Education Agencies competing for a grant of up to \$150 million for "comprehensive assessment systems." The grants run for four years. The application is due June 23, and money will be awarded in September. The comprehensive assessment systems developed with the federal money must be able to yield data that can be used to gauge the effectiveness of instruction.
 

Target: June 2010 Actual: Grant application is due June 23, 2010

**LFD Narrative:**

LFD Narrative: Progress Report Needed

Data Relevance: OPI has provided action steps for the goal of enhancing the quality of academic assessments but has not included the methodology to measure the success of the program

Appropriation Status: Appropriations for this program include a federal assessment grant, OPI did not include either appropriation or expenditure information in its report

Comments/Issues: OPI has not included measurements to determine the success of its efforts to improve the quality of academic assessments. The legislature may wish to know the impact of the professional development on formative assessment that was completed in the beginning of FY 2010, how many of the teachers attending the class have incorporated the techniques into their classrooms? Did the student achievement improve in those classes where teachers incorporated formative assessments? If so by how much? How many students qualify for the CRT-Alternate in math and reading?

Options: Change the LFD Assessment  
 Request OPI develop measures for the success of its efforts in improving statewide student assessments  
 Release from reporting

Version	Date	Author

Change Description