

Vermont Alternate Assessment Portfolio Alignment

As part of the final federal approval process for the Statewide Assessment System, Vermont is required to complete a comprehensive alignment study for the Vermont Alternate Assessment Portfolio (VTAAP). The purpose of the study is to establish the strength of the relationship between the content and performance expectations of the state standards (Grade Expectations) and the VTAAP entry points and assessment performance tasks. The entry points are research-based extensions of the GEs developed to provide students with significant cognitive disabilities meaningful access to grade-level academic content in reading, math, and science.

THE WORK

The study will involve a total of twenty-seven general and special education teachers. Over two consecutive day-long sessions, content area teams comprised of two general educators and one special educator at each grade cluster (elementary, middle, high) will consider the following alignment questions:

- To what degree do the VTAAP Entry Points align (or link) to the VT Grade Expectations (GEs)?
- To what extent do the VTAAP Entry Points articulate a learning progression of gradually increasing complexity?
- To what degree do the VTAAP tasks align to the Entry Points they were intended to measure?

DATES

Applicants must commit to participating for the entirety of both sessions. Please note that session dates are content specific.

- ▶ Science: Tuesday, March 8 and Wednesday March 9
- ▶ Math: Wednesday, March 9 and Thursday, March 10
- ▶ Reading: Thursday, March 10 and Friday, March 11

LOCATION

All sessions will be conducted at the Department of Education building on the Barre-Montpelier Rd. (1311 US Rte. 302, Barre, VT 05641).

STIPEND

All selected panelists will receive a \$100/day stipend to cover preview of materials, planning for a substitute and participation in the alignment study.

In addition, panelists will be reimbursed for mileage and schools reimbursed for substitutes upon request.

APPLICATION

Applications are due by fax (828-6563) or e-mail rose.wheeler@state.vt.us no later than Friday, February 18. Lunch will be provided. If there are any questions, please contact Mary Ann Minardo at 802-828-5410 or by email maryann.minardo@state.vt.us.

Application for the VT Alternate Assessment Portfolio Alignment Study

Please read the letter on previous page before filling out the application.

Name: _____

School: _____

Home mailing address: _____

Email: _____

Phone numbers: School: _____ Cell: _____

Phone # to call in case of weather cancellation: _____

Your role (check one): General Educator Special Educator Other _____

Content (check one): Reading Math Science

GE (check one): What is your level of familiarity with the GEs related to content you have identified? Very familiar Familiar Not familiar

Grade level (check one): Elementary Middle School High School

Dates of the alignment study:

Hours each day: 8:30 to 3:45

- ▶ Science: Tuesday, March 8 and Wednesday March 9
- ▶ Math: Wednesday, March 9 and Thursday, March 10
- ▶ Reading: Thursday, March 10 and Friday, March 11

Location: Directions to the Department of Education building on the Barre-Montpelier Road (1311 US Route 302, Barre, VT 05641):

- Take exit 7 from I-89 to merge onto VT-62E toward US-302 Berlin/Barre
- Take the exit toward US-2/US-302 toward Montpelier
- At the end of the exit, take a right at the light, onto US-302 E/Barre-Montpelier Road
- Turn right at the 2nd light right after Burger King. Take immediate left into parking lot. Department of Education is halfway down.

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