

NECAP *Online* Writing Pilot – Coming in March 2011

The VT Department of Education is pleased to announce an opportunity for schools to participate in the NECAP Online Writing Pilot at grades 8 and 11. By moving toward online testing we hope to provide greater fidelity between writing in the classroom and writing for assessment. The pilot test will be comprised of Writing Released Items, and will be used to confirm your school’s ability to participate in future NECAP Operational Online Writing assessments. The primary purpose of the pilot is to test your school’s ability to administer an online assessment, therefore scores from student work will not be returned.

The table below outlines the plan for the number of schools piloting the test each year, as well as the number of schools able to qualify for operational testing the following year. While it is our intent to bring more schools online operationally each year, this will be impacted both by schools’ ability to participate successfully during piloting, and by state funding considerations.

	2011	2012	2013
Pilot Test in Spring	70 schools* selected to administer online writing pilot	125 additional schools (20 at grade 8, 15 at grade 11) selected to administer online writing pilot	125 additional schools (20 at grade 8, 15 at grade 11) selected to administer online writing pilot
Operational Assessment in Fall	Schools that successfully administered the online writing pilot in Spring of 2011 may give test operationally	Schools that successfully administered the online writing pilot in Spring of 2011 or 2012 may give test operationally	Schools that successfully administered the online writing pilot in Spring of 2011, 2012 or 2013 may give test operationally

* Please note: Only 10 schools per state will be selected by VT, NH, ME and RI to participate in this first Online Writing Pilot. At grade 8, a total of 40 schools will be chosen. At grade 11, a total of 30 schools will be chosen. (ME does not participate in the Online Writing Pilot at grade 11.)

If you are interested in having your school participate in the Online Writing Pilot, please review the following “NECAP Online Writing Pilot: Checklist for Selecting Participating Schools” as well as the “Technical Requirements for School-based Technology” document. There are certain technical requirements that must be met in order to be considered for participation. The documents mentioned above include details about the same.

If after reading the requirements, you believe your school would be eligible for inclusion in the pilot, please forward the following information via email to MaryAnn.Minardo@state.vt.us by Friday, Nov. 12.

- Principal and School Name
- Technology Coordinator Name
- Contact Information

Thank you for your interest in taking this exciting next step with NECAP!

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