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MEMORANDUM

TO: Home Study Families
FROM: Alicia Hanrahan, Education Programs Manager
SUBJECT: State Testing
DATE: 2/8/17

The Agency of Education recently received an inquiry from a family interested in knowing more about how their children could participate in statewide assessments. Students who are enrolled in Home Study Programs are invited to participate in taking Vermont statewide assessments. During the last 3 months of each school year, schools administer the Smarter Balanced Assessment (English Language Arts and Mathematics) for students in grades 3-8 and grade 11 and the NECAP Science Test for students in grades 4, 8 and 11.

Students enrolled in Home Study Programs would test at the same school they would attend if not already enrolled in a home study program. It is expected that your students would take the assessments at the same time as their age or grade level peers in the school.

Additionally, between January 17 and March 10, 2017, students may also access the ACCESS for ELLS, English Language Proficiency Test.

Why have your students take the tests? Your family would receive a report of how well your child achieved relative to state standards. This may be useful if your children are considering participating in public school classes (full or part time) or if they are considering becoming dually enrolled. Keep in mind, the scores that your children receive would not be included in any public school's reporting.

If you are interesting in learning more about the state testing, or if you are interested in having your children take the tests, please contact your public school principal to learn more about the testing schedule, the expectations and to make arrangements to have your student participate.

For more information on dual enrollment, the Smarter Balanced Assessment or NECAP, please visit the Agency of Education website at: <http://education.vermont.gov/>.