**Phase B Assessment Window** **Highlights**

* The Phase B assessment window is **November 10 - December 19, 2014**. This phase of assessment will include non-field test items and field test items.
* Continued inclusion of field test items in assessments will provide the following:
* Demo testlets for use on future assessments
* Collect data that will be used to continue statistical modeling of the learning map
* Garner teacher feedback on testlets and on accessibility
* Click for [Educator Resources, Phase B](http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/content/erp_im)
* Testlet Information Pages (TIPs) are now available. These PDF documents provide the test administrator with important information about each testlet.
* Retrieve each testlet’s TIP in the Instructional Tools Interface (ITI) on the confirmation screen, after having confirmed each test assignment; download and print.
* When you are ready to test, match the test name on the TIP with the test you choose in KITE.
* All tests are selected through the Instructional Tools Interface (ITI) in Educator Portal.
* The following DLM manuals are available for reference during Phase B testing:

[Test Administration Manual](http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/sites/default/files/test_administration_manual_im_2014-15.pdf) & [**Test Administration Manual Updates**](http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/sites/default/files/TAM_2014-15_Release%20_Notes_IM.pdf) **,** [Accessibility Manual](http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/sites/default/files/accessiblity_manual.pdf) , [Data Steward Manual](http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/sites/default/files/data_steward_manual.pdf) & [Data Steward Manual Updates](http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/sites/default/files/ds_manual_%202014-15_release_notes.pdf) , [Assessment Coordinator Manual](http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/sites/default/files/assessment_coordinator_manual_im_2014-15.pdf) , [Technical Liaison Manual](http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/sites/default/files/technical_liaison_manual_0.pdf)

**Content Assessed**

* A comprehensive list of available Phase B Essential Elements can be found [here](http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/sites/default/files/documents/ERP/ees_available_phaseb_im.pdf)
* Please be aware that the majority of Phase B available testlets will be accessible on the DLM system after November 17, 2014.

**English Language Arts, Grades 3-11**

* In all grades, Essential Elements in Reading Literature (RL) and Reading Informational Text (RI) will be available for testing.
* In grades 4, 8, and 11, testlets that assess writing and language Essential Elements, will also be available for assessment. Writing testlets include both emergent and conventional versions of writing. The codes will begin with “EE.EW” or “EE.CW” in ITI. The type of testlet assigned depends on the student’s data entered in the *First Contact Survey*. FAQs and resources which support writing assessment can be found at [Writing Resources](http://www.dynamiclearningmaps.org/sites/default/files/documents/ERP/dlm_writing_testlet_faq.pdf)
* Alternate test forms for students with blindness/visual impairments will be available where appropriate in grades 3 and 7. For students who are blind or who have visual impairments:
	+ Braille field tests will be delivered in **Phase C** (January 2015).
	+ Most DLM testlets are designed to be accessible to students who are blind or who have visual impairments. In some cases, alternate forms of testlets would be *more appropriate.* To receive those forms, the student’s PNP (“Access” column) must have “alternate form – visual impairment” checked on the “other supports” tab (see screen shot).

**Mathematics, Grades 3-11**

* In all grades, testlets which cover the Essential Elements in the Blueprint will be tested.
* Alternate forms for students with blindness/visual impairments will be available when appropriate in grades 3, 7, and 11. See “Test Delivery and Administration” for more details.

 & [Data Steward Manual Updates](http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/sites/default/files/ds_manual_%202014-15_release_notes.pdf) , [Assessment Coordinator Manual](http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/sites/default/files/assessment_coordinator_manual_im_2014-15.pdf) , [Technical Liaison Manual](http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/sites/default/files/technical_liaison_manual_0.pdf)



**During Phase B, How Do I Decide Which Essential Elements To Test?**

* Consider the full Blueprint and the Essential Elements you will choose for the student for the entire year.
* Review the list of EEs available in Phase B, which can be found [here](http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/sites/default/files/documents/ERP/ees_available_phaseb_im.pdf)
* Try to select between ¼ and 1/3 of the EEs for the student’s entire assessment year. For example, if you need to choose 9 Essential Elements for the student this year, and 6 of those available EEs are on the student’s list, try to assess 2-3 of them so you can focus on the others during Phase C. If you need to assess 8 EEs, and only 3 from your student’s list are available, try assessing only 2 or 3. Testing up to 1/3 of the EEs in phase B will help balance the test administration time required between Phases B and C.
* When given the choice, select the EEs about which the student has already received instruction and is ready for assessment. Remember that all Phase B EEs will also be available during Phase C.

**How Do I Decide Which Linkage Levels To Test In Phase B?**

* The DLM system will allow choice between Initial Precursor, Distal Precursor, Proximal Precursor, and Target levels, based upon the data provided by First Contact Surveys (FCS). Choose a level where the student has received instruction and would thus be capable of showing whether or not s/he has mastered the skills.
* You may accept the recommendation provided by the System, or you may override this recommendation and choose a different level. Use the mini-maps and node descriptions to identify the best EE level for each student. During the 2014-2015 assessment year, instruction will be limited to mini-maps and nodes at each linkage level, for each EE.
* You will **not** be able to choose Successor level testlets yourself. However, if you choose the Target level, you may receive a Successor level field test testlet.
* Please see pages 59-60 in the DLM [Test Administration Manual](http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/sites/default/files/test_administration_manual_im_2014-15.pdf) for more information

**The Instructional Tools Interface (ITI) in Phase B**

* \*Only the Essential Elements available for Phase B testing will be found in the ITI. Steps for using ITI in Phase B are as follows:
	1. Create one plan for each EE selected for each student.
	2. Save the plan and deliver instruction.
	3. Confirm the plan, assign the test.
	4. Retrieve the assigned test’s Testlet Information Page (TIP).
	5. Retrieve the student’s username and password from the instructional plan history.
	6. Administer the assessment.
	7. Please see “Use the Instructional Tools Interface” on page 107 of the DLM.

[Test Administration Manual](http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/sites/default/files/test_administration_manual_im_2014-15.pdf) and [Test Administration Manual Updates](http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/sites/default/files/TAM_2014-15_Release%20_Notes_IM.pdf) for more information

\*Testlets at different linkage levels within the available EEs will be released on a rolling basis through November 17. As soon as they become available, you may select them in the ITI. If you choose a linkage level for an available EE and receive an error message, check back again on or after November 17.

**Preparing for the Tests**

* In preparation for the assessment, please see Vermont’s DLM webpage located [here](http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/content/erp_im)
* The following steps can ensure a smoother test experience:
	+ Utilize [Practice Activities and Testlets](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cpattishane%5CDropbox%5CDLM%5C%E2%80%A2%09http%3A%5Cdynamiclearningmaps.org%5Csites%5Cdefault%5Cfiles%5Cdlm_guide_practice_activities_released_testlets_2014-15.pdf) for the 2014 – 2015 year to familiarize students with the assessment’s appearance and process.
	+ Data Stewards should review Educator Portal user accounts for new users to ensure accuracy.
	+ Technical Liaisons or Test Administrators should upload the KITE Client on any device that will be used by a student for testing.
	+ Test administrators may adjust student roster information, PNPs and FCSs information, if the need arises.
	+ Test administrators who have students taking ELA assessments in grades 4, 8, and 11, should review resources related to the DLM writing assessment, which are located on the DLM [Writing Resources](http://www.dynamiclearningmaps.org/sites/default/files/documents/ERP/dlm_writing_testlet_faq.pdf) page.

**Accessibility Notes**

* Most Phase B testlets will be delivered **without** text to speech capability, for those students who might require this need. Educators should use the human read aloud option to read testlets aloud to students, when the synthetic read aloud is not available.
* Braille field tests will be delivered during **Phase C** (January 2015).
* Most DLM testlets are designed to be accessible to students who are blind or who have visual impairments. In some cases, alternate forms of testlets would be more appropriate. To receive those forms when they are deemed appropriate, the student’s PNP (“Access” column) must have “alternate form – visual impairment” checked on the “other supports” tab (see screen shot).
* The test administrator should look for testlets with “BVI” in the name, especially when there are two testlets with very similar names, e.g. BVI FT ELA L.3.5.a DP & FT ELA L.3.5.a DP 5604

**Test Administration**

* Individual testlets will be assigned upon confirmation of the selected EE and linkage level in the ITI, with the exception of alternate forms of testlets, which were described previously.
* Each EE may be assessed once across phases B and C. Please do not attempt to repeat assessments.
* Testlets may be administered one at a time, or more than one at a time in a single session; administrators should follow the procedures for teacher-administered and computer-delivered testlets described in the DLM [Test Administration Manual](http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/sites/default/files/test_administration_manual_im_2014-15.pdf)

**At the End of Phase B**

* Delete or shred each TIP for every student.
* If one or more of your students received a writing testlet (grades 4, 8, or 11), please go to <http://tinyurl.com/dlm-b-writing> to complete a short survey about that experience.
* If you have feedback about accessibility of testlets for certain students, please go to <http://tinyurl.com/dlm-b-access> to complete a short survey about that experience.

Phase B Tests



