



# ABCA-ISD/ESA Cohort Frequently Asked Questions

## Achieving Balance in Classroom Assessment ISD/ESA Cohort I

*We're so glad you asked!*

[Link to glossary of terms used in the ABCA program](#)

### 1. What is the purpose of the ABCA for ISD/RESA consultants?

The purpose of ABCA is to increase ISD/RESA consultant knowledge about the ways that effective classroom assessment practices can increase student achievement, and to prepare consultants to support local districts in developing such practices.

ISD/RESA consultants will deepen their understanding of classroom assessment--both the formative assessment process (assessment for learning) and summative assessments (assessments of learning). In addition, they will explore ways to integrate their new knowledge within their current ISD roles. The ABCA program includes structured learning sessions, facilitation consultation, and high-quality resources.

### 2. What should a ISD participant expect to gain from this learning opportunity?

Participants will gain a deepened understanding of:

- facilitation skills to deliver meaningful learning opportunities and support implementation of balanced assessment in the classroom for constituent districts beginning in Year 2 of ABCA;
- how assessment for learning (the formative assessment process) and assessment of learning (summative assessments) work together to enhance student learning and increase student achievement;
- using the formative assessment process to plan, deliver, and reflect on instruction;
- using interim assessments periodically to monitor or verify student learning;
- selecting/developing and using other quality summative and formative evidence-gathering tools within a classroom setting;
- recognizing what assessment literate educators know, do, and believe as they work to improve the balance of assessment at the classroom level;
- Integrating assessment practices and strategies mentioned above into current ISD/RESA related responsibilities;
- successful use of evidence gathered through a balanced assessment system to support the continuous improvement process of a local school district through MICIP.

### 3. Who should become an ABCA ISD/RESA participant?

Individual ISD/RESA consultants or teams of consultants, who have some responsibility for assessment related topics and/or who integrate assessment-related concepts and practices within the focus of their content related positions.

For Instance:

- Assessment Consultants
- Content-Area Consultants i.e., ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies
- Curriculum and Instruction Consultants
- Data Consultants
- Instructional Technology Consultants
- Continuous Improvement Consultants

- Special Education Consultants

**4. What is the commitment for Year 1?**

In Year 1, structured learning sessions will be offered that will cover topics such as:

- Selecting and Assessing Priority Standards
- Assessment Literacy for Educators and the Role of Assessment in Continuous Improvement
- Balanced Assessment Systems – Part 1
- Balanced Assessment Systems – Part 2
- Exploring and Using Interim Assessment – Part 1
- Exploring and Using Interim Assessment – Part 2
- Assessment Literacy Improvement Plan/Continuous Improvement Plan
- Formative Assessment Process – Part 1
- Formative Assessment Process – Part 2
- Preparing for Year 2

Each session will connect content to application and provide facilitation ideas for future use.

**5. What is the expectation for the entire duration of the program?**

With support from the MAC, ISD/RESA ABCA participants will develop plans for using the information and resources provided during Year 1 to work with one or more constituent school districts in their service area. The goal is to provide ISD participants with tools and resources to support their constituent districts to become more effective in the use of school and classroom student assessment to substantially improve student learning. This may look different from one ISD/RESA consultant/team to another and therefore will be individualized accordingly.

The following chart provides a general overview of ISD/RESA and Constituent District work.

Year	ISD/RESA Activities	Constituent Local District(s)
0	ABCA Boot Camp (for ISD/ESA consultants only)  ISD/RESA participate in the ABCA structured learning sessions.	No formal ABCA activity
1	Assign an ISD/RESA staff member/team to facilitate ABCA work within constituent local district(s).	LEA team participates in 9 ABCA structured learning sessions. ISD/RESA staff member(s) provides support for the team. ISD/RESA staff member(s) will also assist LEA site coordinator and team to develop an Assessment Learning and Implementation Plan, (ALIP) by the end of year 1.
2	ISD/RESA continues to deepen understanding and knowledge about student assessment and the role of assessment to support the continuous improvement process, including	LEA begins to implement their ALIP. ISD/RESA staff member(s) provide support to LEA site coordinator and team.

Year	ISD/RESA Activities	Constituent Local District(s)
	components needed for successful implementation.	
3	ISD/RESA continues to deepen understanding and knowledge about student assessment and the role of assessment to support the continuous improvement process, including components needed for successful implementation.	LEA continues to implement their ALIP; ISD/RESA staff member(s) continue to provide support to LEA site coordinator and team.

**6. What support/resources will participants have access to?**

Participants will have full access to all the resources that have been developed for this program, including three Learning Maps, MICIP Strategy Implementation Guides and Planning Tools to support implementation, the Michigan Assessment Consortium Website and Resources, and the expertise from the MAC program management team.

**7. Is there a cost for our ISD/RESA to participate in the ABCA ISD/RESA Program?**

There is no cost to register

**8. How do I register?**

Register here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/B3LJXLS>

Once you have registered, you will be invited to a Welcome Meeting where next steps will be explained and discussed.

**9. Who might I contact to get more information?**

Questions about the ABCA ISD/RESA Professional Learning Program opportunity can be directed to:

Ed Roeber at (517) 614-4877 [roeber@msu.edu](mailto:roeber@msu.edu)

Ellen Vorenkamp at (810) 923-0327 or [vorenke83@gmail.com](mailto:vorenke83@gmail.com)

**SEE PROGRAM SCHEDULE ON NEXT PAGE.**

*Get started today!*

Visit <https://bit.ly/MAC-ABCA-ISD> to learn more and apply.

Achieving Balance in Classroom Assessment Years 1-2 (2022-2024)	
<b>Year 1</b>	
<p><b>September 2022 through May 2023</b></p> <p><b>Meeting Times: 9 am – noon</b></p>	<p>Site teams will engage in nine virtual learning sessions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>September 15: Introduction &amp; Program Overview; Developing a Guaranteed Viable Curriculum; Selecting &amp; Assessing Priority Standards</li> <li>October 13: Assessment Literacy for Educators and the Role of Assessment in Continuous Improvement</li> <li>November 17: Balanced Assessment Systems Part I</li> <li>December 8: Balanced Assessment Systems Part II</li> <li>January 12: Exploring and Using Interim Assessment Part I</li> <li>February 9: Exploring and Using Interim Assessment Part II</li> <li>March 16: Preparing Continuous Improvement Plan and Consolidated Grant Application using the ALIP</li> <li>April 20: Formative Assessment Process Part I</li> <li>May 11: Formative Assessment Process Part II Moving forward</li> </ul>
<p>Participants may meet between structured learning sessions to discuss and plan how to put the learning into practice in constituent districts at the beginning of Year II.</p>	
<b>Year 2</b>	
<p><b>Fall 2023 through Spring 2024</b></p>	<p>ABCA ISD participants will recruit a constituent district to engage in the ABCA LEA learning program. ISD consultants, with assistance from the MAC, will engage with the selected district as a Learning Facilitator over the next 3 years, following the <a href="#">ABCA LEA program</a>. The ISD consultant will assist the district during their structured learning, help them create an Assessment Learning and Implementation Plan (ALIP), and learn about how to support systems change and improved practice with the help of resources that align with the Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP).</p>