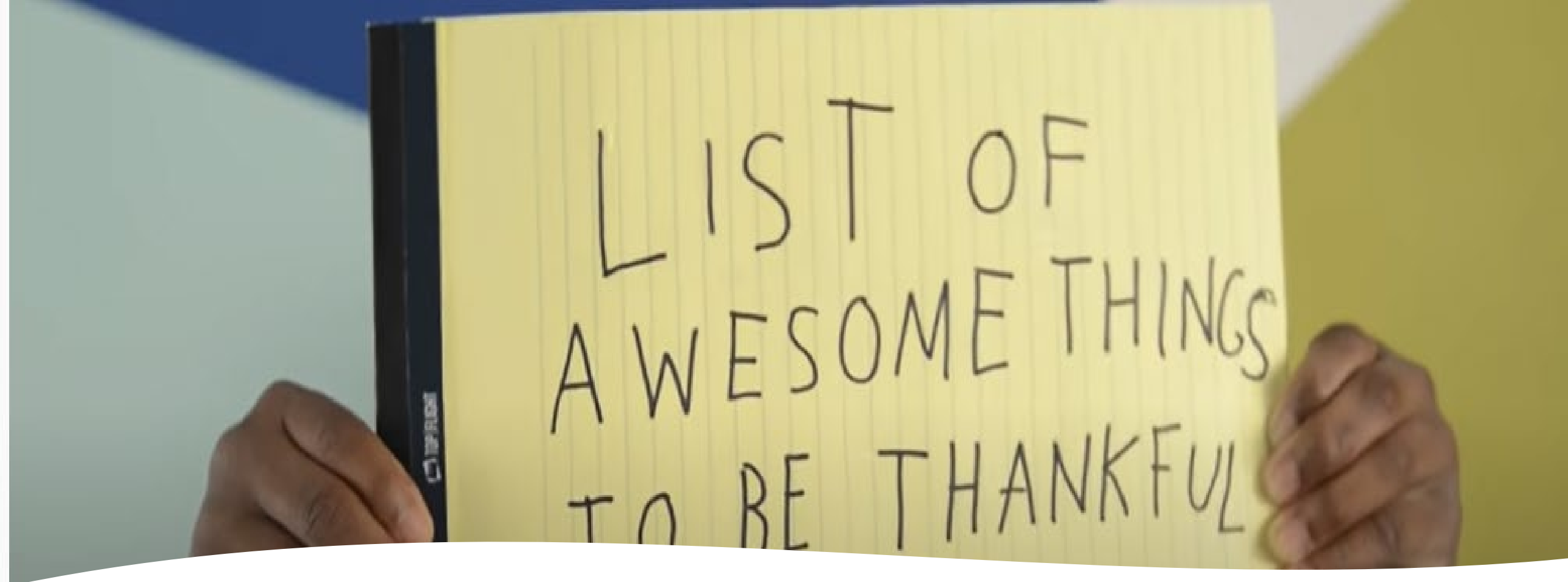


April 15, 2021

MCEC/MCASE Virtual Conference



A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a yellow sticky note. The note has handwritten text in black marker. The background is a plain wall with a blue and yellow section.

LIST OF
AWESOME THINGS
TO BE THANKFUL

Kid President's 25 Reasons To Be Thankful!

Agenda

1. School Psychology – Shawna Rader Kelly
2. Sped Advisory Panel - Jenifer Cline
3. General updates – Various OPI staff
4. Threat Assessment resources – Michele Henson



School Psychology — Shawna Rader-Kelly



**Montana
Association of
School Psychologists**

SPED ADVISORY PANEL

1. Private School Representative
2. Higher Education that Prepares Special Education and Related Services Personnel
3. Teacher of Children with Disabilities
4. State/Local Administrator
5. Vocational, Community, or Business Concerned with the Provision of Transition Services to Children with Disabilities
6. Representative From Juvenile & Adult Corrections
7. Representative of Subtitle B of Title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScFQa1tQa9BY9c1DsL3TqHD4-wpyVogmu0CnRdKLwW5012o1Q/viewform?usp=sf_link

General Updates

1. Open Positions in OPI Sped Unit
 - a. [School Improvement Unit Manager](#)
 - b. [Special Education Fiscal and Reporting Manager](#)
2. MTSS Update – Sheila Lovato
3. Hands and Voices
4. General Education Teacher Role in Sped Hub course – Jennifer Nettleton.
5. Assessment Waiver – Yvonne Field

HUB COURSE

General Education Teachers' Role in Special Education

Type: Self-paced

Audience: All Educators

OPI Renewal Units: 2 hours



Participants will review the core concepts of IDEA, gain an understanding of the special education process, and learn how the process meets the law. This will empower general educators to feel more confident in their role in the special education process, thus better able to meet the needs of their students.



Montana

Office of Public Instruction

Statewide Assessment Updates

April 15, 2021



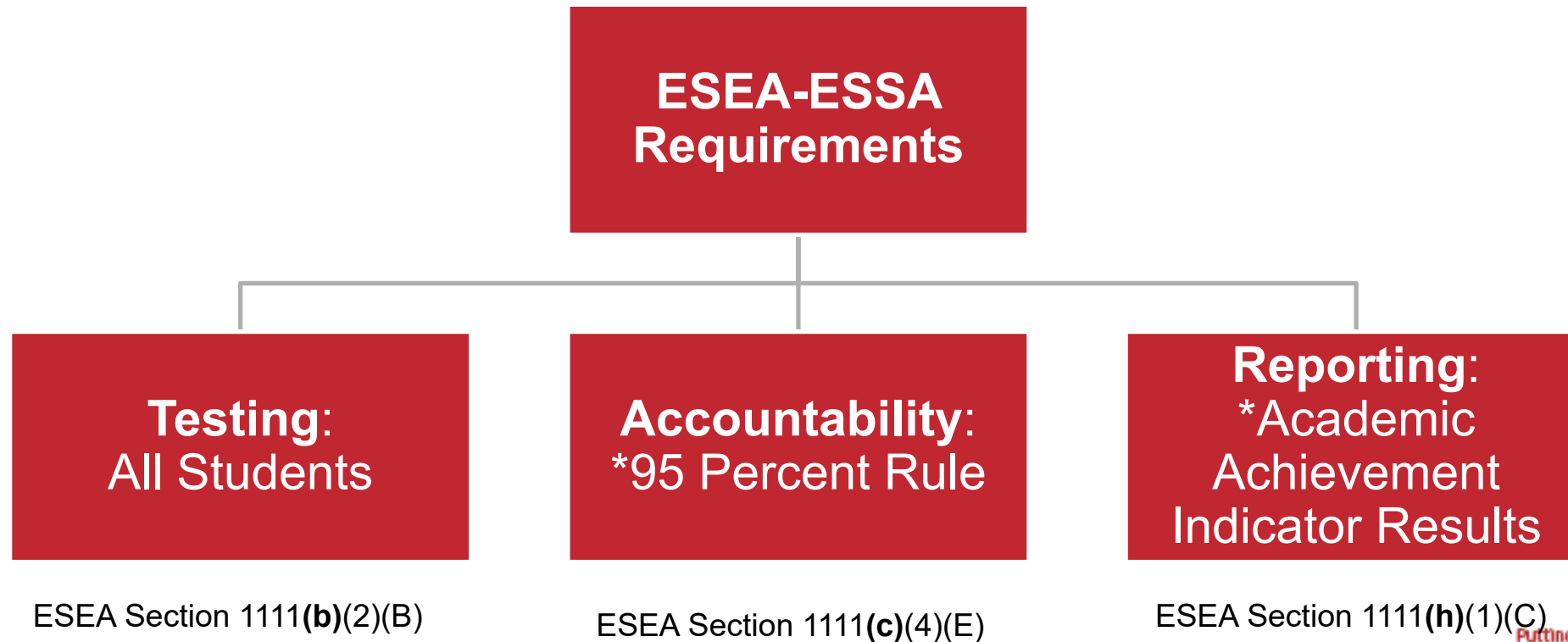
Putting Montana Students First **A+**

OPI Flexibility with State Assessments

- **Plan on delivering tests this spring when it is safe to do so.** The participation requirement to administer state assessments is required under [federal](#) and [state law](#).
- **NEW - April 6:** The [Department denied](#) the OPI's strategic waiver requests for testing, accountability, and reporting. The OPI had proposed the option to the Department to allow local assessments (e.g., interims) and other measures of student learning and progress; however, the Department indicated the OPI had not demonstrated the specific circumstances that would warrant granting a waiver of the testing requirements and, specifically, not administering state assessments at all.
- The [Montana Pre-Testing Checklist](#) provides tasks that should be completed before the planned testing day for Smarter Balanced, Montana Science Assessment (MSA), and Alternate MSA to ensure a smooth testing experience for students.
- **No remote proctoring (at-home testing) service for remote learners.** School districts wishing to afford the opportunity for remote-only learners to participate in state assessments this spring can use the OPI's [Sample Family Letter](#). Other sample parent letters for state assessments can be found on the [OPI's Statewide Testing Parent Corner Page](#).

What Does the 95 Percent Waiver Mean?

The “Academic Achievement Indicator” flexibility grants school districts relief from the participation rate calculation on the 95 percent requirement within the State’s accountability process. However, with this calculation waiver, schools must continue to provide the assessment opportunity to all students when it is safe to do so. **The asterisk (*)** indicates this ESEA-ESSA section has had a full or partial waiver granted from March 26th with the Department’s invited accountability and reporting waiver template.



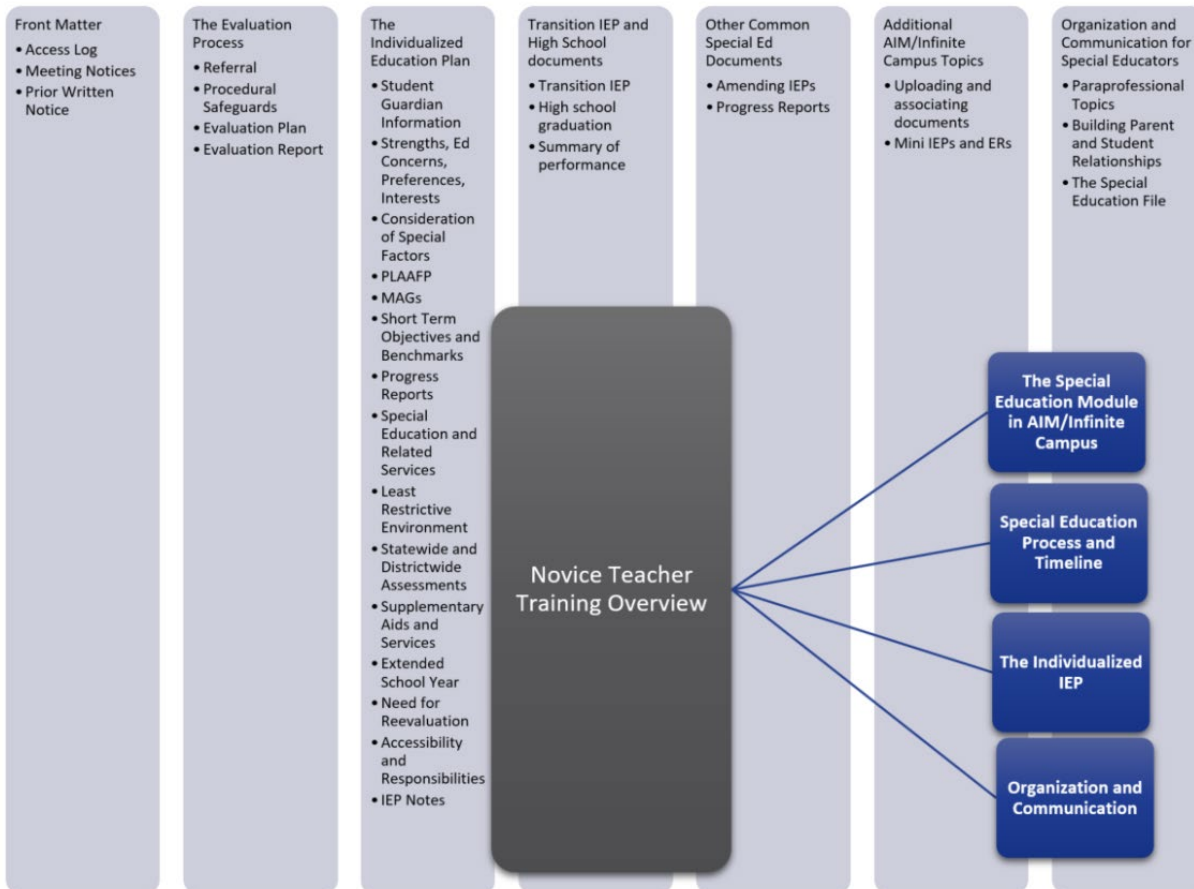
NOVICE TEACHER TRAINING LAUNCH!

When: June 28-August 22

Registration: Starts June 7

Where: [The Teacher Learning Hub](#)

Who: This training is primarily intended for educators who are new to using AIM and/or are new to the special education processes in Montana. It may also be helpful to others who want to update their knowledge.



Additional 2021-2022 Offerings:
 September 27-November 14, 2021
 March 28-May 22, 2022