



VENTURA COUNTY SPECIAL EDUCATION LOCAL PLAN AREA

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To: Operations Cabinet, Program and Personnel Development and Small Schools

From: Fran Arner-Costello, Director, Programs and Services and Mary Samples, Assistant Superintendent

Subject: California Modified Assessment (CMA) Updates for 2011 testing

This is an update regarding Special Education students taking CMA this year. The only thing that is new from last year is the **ELA now goes up to 11th grade**. Please be sure your Testing Coordinator is aware of all the specifics as well.

The CMA is available to all students with IEPs. The student must have taken the CST in a previous year in that area and scored Below or Far Below Basic. See the SELPA website under Special Education and Survival Guide/Pre-IEP for a decision making chart about CAPA and CMA.

For 2011, the CMA test will be available as follows:

- ELA is for grades 3-11 (including writing for grades 4 and 7)
- Math is for grades 3- 7
- Algebra is for grades 7- 11 to be taken by those who complete Algebra 1 this school year
- Geometry is for grades 8-11 to be taken by those who complete geometry this school year
- Science is for grades 5 and 8. Science can now be taken as a “stand alone” in CMA, without having to take it in another area as well.
- Life science will be taken by all 10th graders (CMA or CST)

As in the past, if a student will be taking the CMA for a particular subject area, there will need to be a grade level Annual Goal in that area. The standard can be unpacked (a portion of the standard used as the stem of the goal) or the goal can be written with enhanced supports in the “given” section of the goal. It is acceptable to also have a “backward mapped” goal in the same area, which teaches a prerequisite skill toward attainment of the grade level goal.

Please make sure the IEPs are marked accordingly. If you are making a revision to the IEP involving participation in the STAR program, it would be acceptable to make the change using the Administrative Amendment form, which requires signature of one representative from the district and the parent only.