

State of California

Department of Education

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 19, 2004

TO: MEMBERS, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: Geno Flores, Deputy Superintendent
Assessment and Accountability Branch

SUBJECT: Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program: Approval of
2004-2005 Contract for the Spanish Assessment of Basic Education
(SABE/2) with CTB/McGraw-Hill

At its May 2004 meeting, the State Board of Education (SBE) voted to extend use of the SABE/2 as the designated primary-language test for one more year through to be used during the Spring 2005 testing session. The SABE/2, which has been the primary language test in the STAR Program since 1999, is published by CTB/McGraw-Hill. Since the SABE/2 contract is renewed annually, SBE members will be asked to approve the 2004-2005 contract at the September 2004 meeting. The draft Scope of Work is essentially unchanged from 2003-2004. CTB is currently finalizing the cost section of the document. SBE will receive a copy of the revised Scope of Work with the actual 2004-2005 costs prior to the September 2004 meeting.

Currently, English learners who have been enrolled less than twelve months at the time of testing are required to take the SABE/2, as well as the California Standards Tests (CSTs) and the California Achievement Tests, Sixth Edition Survey (CAT/6 Survey). Districts have the option of administering the SABE/2 to Spanish-speaking English learners who are enrolled twelve months or more.

Legislation authorizing primary language testing sunsets in 2005. Pending legislation, however, would authorize the development or adoption of new primary language assessments aligned to California's English-language arts and mathematics content standards for limited-English proficient students in grades 2 through 11. As the new tests are developed, the SABE/2 or its designated successor will be replaced.

Attachment 1: Scope of Work SABE/2 STAR 2004 (31 Pages)