FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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TO: District School Superintendents

FROM: Pam Stewart

DATE: May 1, 2012

SUBJECT: **Local Educational Agency (LEA) Premethod and Postmethod Request for Supplemental Educational Services**

The 2011 Legislature amended Section 1008.331(5)(f), Florida Statutes; the subsection now reads:

> *"By September 1, 2011, the department shall approve and a district may select acceptable premethods and postmethods for measuring student learning gains, including standardized assessments, diagnostic assessments, criterion-referenced and skills-based assessments, or other applicable methods appropriate for each grade level, for use by supplemental educational services providers and local school districts in determining student learning gains. Each method must be able to measure student progress toward mastering the benchmarks or access points set forth in the Sunshine State Standards and the student's supplemental educational services plan. The use of a diagnostic and assessment instrument, which is aligned to a provider's curriculum, is an acceptable premethod and postmethod if the provider can demonstrate that the assessment meets the requirements of this paragraph and is not deemed unreliable or invalid by the department."*

If your district would like to select premethods and postmethods for measuring student learning gains for students participating in supplemental educational services, you must notify the Department of Education (Department) no later than May 25, 2012, using the attached *Request for Premethods and Postmethods* form. Pursuant to Section 1008.331, Florida Statutes, the assessments must be capable of identifying a student's deficiencies in mastering the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards Benchmarks and Access Points (premethod) and measure what a student has accomplished with that same set of Next Generation Sunshine State Standards Benchmarks and Access Points (postmethod). The Department will notify participating districts by September 1, 2012, of their approval status. Any district that wishes to select premethods and postmethods must annually notify the Department, regardless of previous approval.

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Attachment