Summer Item Writers Needed for the Dynamic Learning Maps Project

| Position Overview | The Center for Educational Testing and Evaluation (CETE) at the University of Kansas is hiring temporary full-time staff to assist in the development of English language arts (ELA) and mathematics assessment items for Dynamic Learning Maps, an assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities. The position begins June 3, 2013 and continues through July 26, 2013, with the potential to work an additional two weeks based on availability and performance. Staff are expected to work 40 hours a week during this time period, with the exception of July 4-5. The work location will be Southwest Middle School in Lawrence, KS. Current and former classroom teachers and university students with an in-depth knowledge of English language arts, mathematics or students with significant cognitive disabilities are especially encouraged to apply. Staff who complete the entire term of service (June 3-July 26) may be eligible to receive continuing education credits. Staff who demonstrate excellence may be eligible to continue working on the learning maps project beyond August 16, 2013. Alternately, project management reserves the option to terminate employment if the position is not a good match for the employee. The staff hired for this position will work with experienced test developers, special education experts, experts in Universal Design for Learning, and technology experts to develop the banks of items and tasks that will be used in the DLM assessment system. Staff will receive training in item development best practices and will have opportunities to become familiar with the population to be assessed through videos and online training. Prior experience with item writing or assessment development is not required, as on-the-job training will be provided. A major project in CETE is the Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment System (DLM-AAS). The DLM project is a 14-state consortium that is developing large-scale online assessments for students with significant cognitive disabilities. The DLM assessment system includes various types of assessments (assessments embedded in day-to-day instruction and end-of-year assessments), each providing a view of student achievement from different perspectives to inform instructional, programmatic, and policy level decision making. Information regarding the project can be found at: http://dynamiclearningmaps.org |

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<th>Job Duties</th>
<th>60% Work in teams to write items for English language arts or mathematics and use the online authoring system for item development.</th>
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<td>10% Become familiar with the Common Core Standards and the Essential Elements, learning targets appropriate for students with significant cognitive disabilities.</td>
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<td>10% Become familiar with the ELA or mathematics learning map and the progression of skills necessary to meet learning targets.</td>
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<td>10% Understand and generate appropriate documentation for item development.</td>
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<td>10% Participate in peer review of items using established item writing practices and standards.</td>
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### Required Qualifications
- Experience with English language arts or mathematics academic content
- Attention to detail in written work as evidenced by application materials
- Excellent oral and written communication in English as evidenced by application materials
- Evidence of self-direction with assigned work tasks based on current or previous work experience
- Ability to commute daily to work site in the Lawrence KS area

### Preferred Qualifications
- Knowledge of how individuals develop and learn
- Time management skills
- Proficiency with basic technology skills, i.e. MS Word, MS Excel, email, Skype) and ability to learn specialized proprietary testing software.
- Teaching experience in English language arts or mathematics
- Experience in working with or instructing students with significant cognitive disabilities
- Experience with or knowledge of large-scale assessments, item development, state testing, and/or state standards

### % Travel Time
Daily commute to Lawrence (M-F)

### Salary Range
$20/hour starting – increasing to $25/hour after completion of 6 full weeks of satisfactory work.

### Application Instructions
Applicants should submit a cover letter and resume highlighting pertinent experience with and knowledge of students with significant cognitive disabilities and/or academic content standards. Please apply online and include a cover letter indicating you are available for the full time period of June 3-July 26 and indicate your area of expertise, ELA or Math. Review of applications will begin April 22, with the application deadline being May 3. We will complete hiring decisions by May 31, 2013. To apply, go to [http://employment.ku.edu/jobs/2439](http://employment.ku.edu/jobs/2439). EOE M/F/D/V

### Start Date
June 3, 2013

### Contact
Please email Ronda Consolver, rcon@ku.edu, with any questions.