

Getting Started

The Continuous Improvement & Monitoring System (CIMS) is a Web-based application used for completing the Service Provider Self-Review (SPSR) for the Michigan Department of Education (MDE). CIMS is compatible with all commonly used Web browsers such as Microsoft Internet Explorer, Netscape Navigator, and Mozilla Firefox. For purposes of this user manual, the screenshots and examples are provided using Microsoft Internet Explorer.

The **Getting Started** section will assist you with the following:

Gaining System Access

Logging In

Changing Your Password

Resetting a Forgotten Password

Creating a New User Account

Assigning System Security

Assigning Workbook Security

Working with Menus

Using the Start Menu

Opening a Workbook

Using the Workbook Menu

Opening Forms in a Workbook



Logging In

A CIMS workbook has been created for each participating service area. Initially, only the CIMS coordinator and MDE authorized official will be assigned a CIMS username and password. If you do not have one of these roles, please visit the **Creating a New User Account** section of this manual for instructions on how to create a username and gain access to the workbook.

If you have been assigned a password, go to the CIMS website (www.cimsmichigan.org) and enter your (temporary) username and password (Figure 1). Select CIMS Part C from the system drop-down menu and click **Log in**. It is recommended that you change your password the first time you log in to CIMS.



Figure 1



Changing Your Password

If you were assigned a password, it is recommended that you change your password the first time you log in to CIMS. To do so, click **Edit Your Contact Information** in the **Quick Links** menu on the right (Figure 2). Click the **Change Password** link (Figure 3), and enter the password you were assigned and a new password that you have selected. Click **Save** to save the changes.

To protect your privacy, select a password that will be easy for you to remember, but not easily determined by others. The password may contain up to 20 characters (letters and/or numbers).

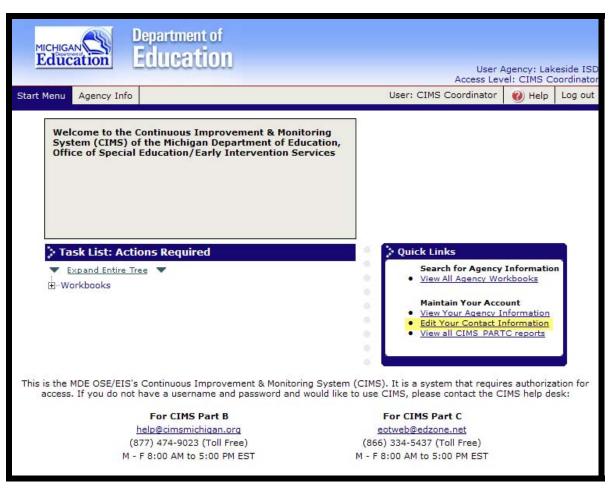


Figure 2



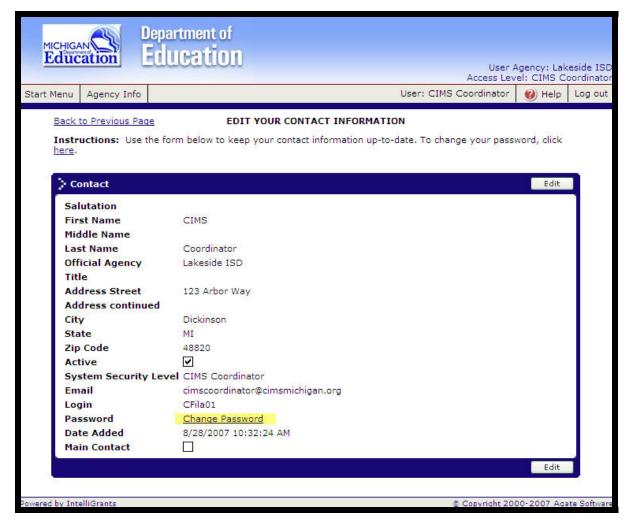


Figure 3



Resetting a Forgotten Password

If you have forgotten your password, use the following steps to obtain a new password:

1. Click the **Forgot Your Password?** link on the **Log in** box (Figure 4).



Figure 4

2. Provide your first name, last name, and e-mail address in the **Request User Name and Password** form and click **Send** (Figure 5).

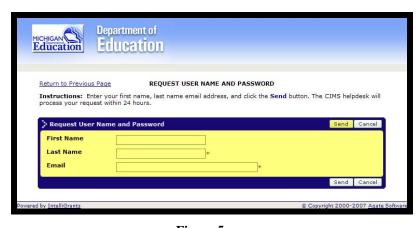


Figure 5

- 3. Check your e-mail for a message from the CIMS helpdesk with a new (temporary) password. *You should receive a new password within 24 hours*.
- 4. Log in using the password provided by the helpdesk e-mail. Click **Edit Your Contact Information** in the **Quick Links** menu on the right (Figure 2). Click the **Change Password** link (Figure 3), enter the password provided by the



helpdesk, and a new password that you have selected. Click **Save** to save the changes.

To protect your privacy, select a password that will be easy for you to remember, but not easily determined by others. The password may contain up to 20 characters (letters and/or numbers).



Creating a New User Account

Not all users will have an account automatically created for them. Follow the steps given for each screen if you were **not** provided with a CIMS username and password.

Go to www.cimsmichigan.org and click Create a new user account (Figure 6).



Figure 6



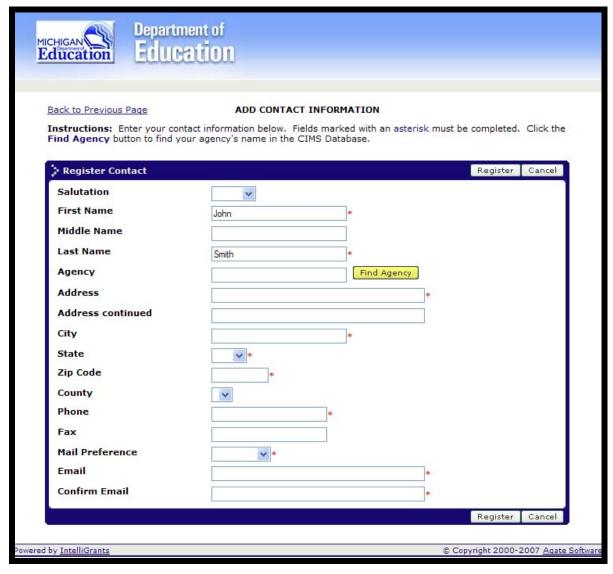


Figure 7

- Enter your first and last name on the Add Contact Information page (Figure 7).
 Note: Items marked with an asterisk are required.
- 2. Click the Find Agency button located to the right of the Agency field.



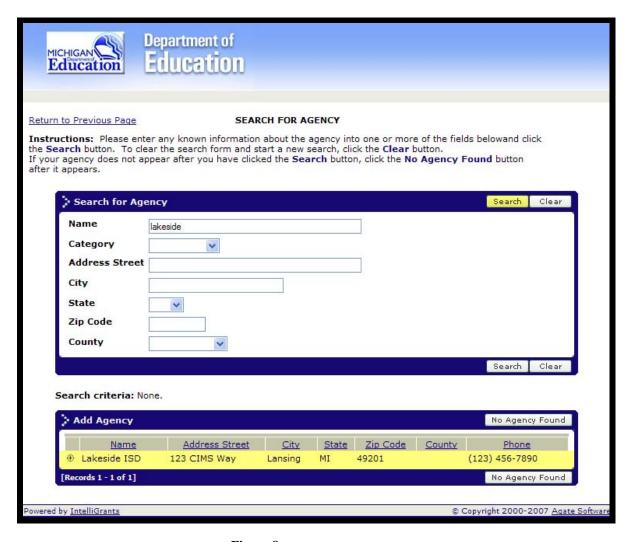


Figure 8

- 1. On the **Search for Agency** screen, type the name of the service area you are searching for in the **Name** field.
- 2. Click the **Search** button.
- 3. In the example in Figure 8, "lakeside" has been typed in the **Name** field. The search yielded the "Lakeside ISD" and its contact information, displayed under the **Add Agency** section at the bottom of the page.
- 4. To select that service area, click the **plus** (+) **sign** displayed to the left of the service area name.



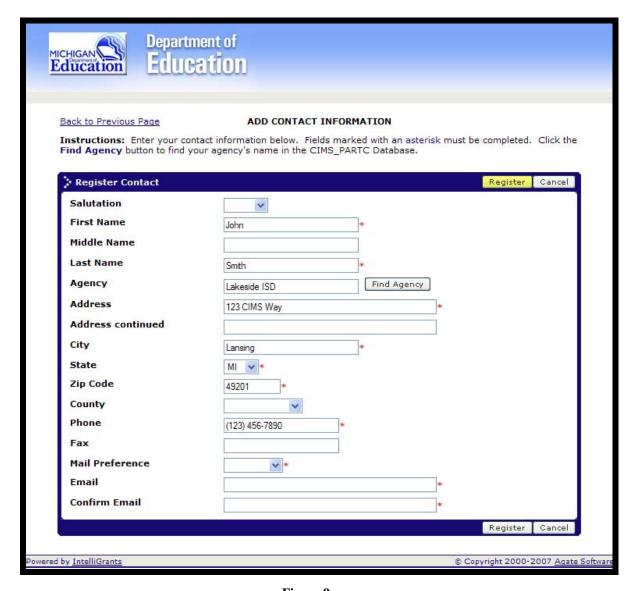


Figure 9

The **Add Contact Information** screen (Figure 9) will now display the address/telephone information for the selected service area.

- 1. Enter the contact information into the required fields.
- 2. Click the **Register** button.



CIMS may or may not assign a user name. If CIMS does not assign a username, create one on the **Confirm User Registration** screen (Figure 10). You will also need to select a password. The password may contain up to 20 characters (letters and/or numbers).

Click the **Confirm** button. A message will appear stating that confirmation information will be e-mailed to you. You will receive an e-mail message from *help@cimsmichigan.org* with instructions for activating your account.

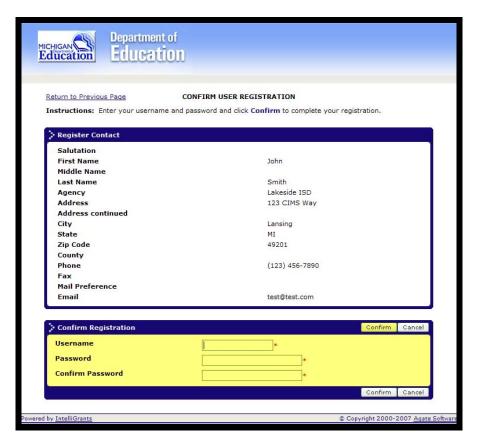


Figure 10

Note: Creating a username and password does not mean that you have full access to the system. Once a username is created, the CIMS coordinator must grant system and workbook access.



Assigning System Security

Once a new user has completed the registration process, the CIMS coordinator must assign the user a system security level.

A user's system security level controls access to the system and the ability to grant workbook access. The security levels are as follows:

CIMS coordinator. The coordinator has full access to the **Start Menu** page, and can grant access to the system and submit the workbook.

Service area staff. Service area staff members have full access to the **Start Menu** page but cannot grant access to the system or submit the workbook.

MDE authorized official. An MDE authorized official has full access to the **Start Menu** page and can accept the workbook, but cannot grant access to the system.

Unassigned. Until the CIMS coordinator grants access to the system, all users who petition for access have this status. They do not have full access to the **Start Menu** page and can only edit their contact information.

The CIMS coordinator may use these steps to assign system security:

- 1. **Log in** to the CIMS application.
- 2. Once on the **Start Menu** page, under **Quick Links**, choose **View Your Agency Information**, or click the **Agency Info** button next to the **Start Menu** button (Figure 11).



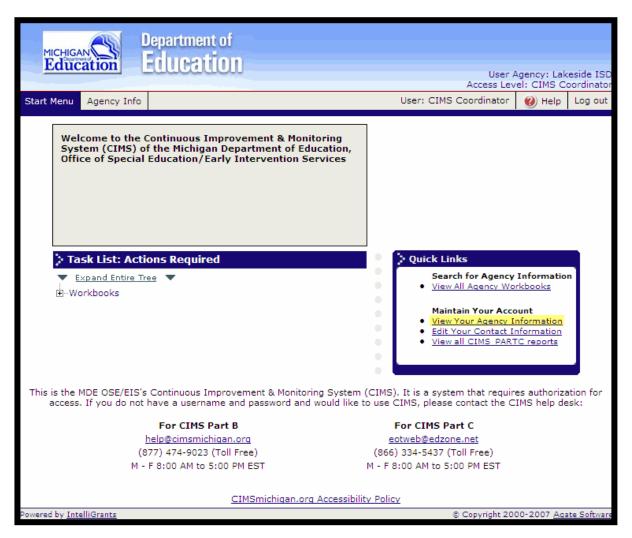


Figure 11



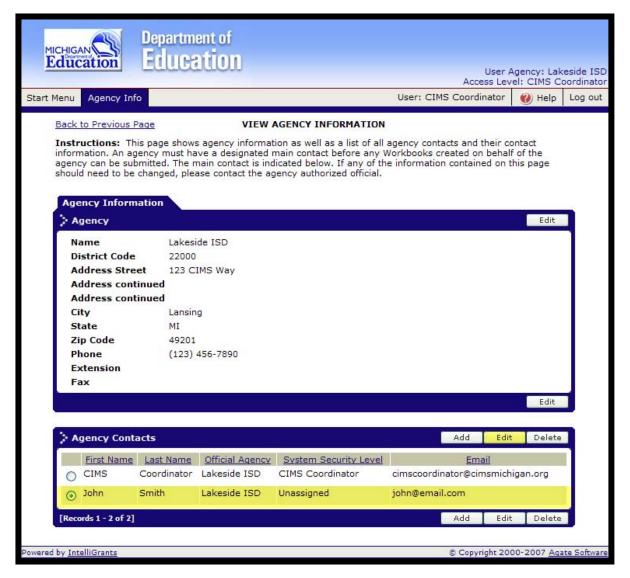


Figure 12

- 1. A list of CIMS users in your service area will appear under **Agency Contacts**. Users with an "unassigned" system security level need to be assigned system access. Click the **radio button** to the left of the name you wish to edit, and click **Edit** (Figure 12).
- 2. On the **Edit Agency Contact Information** screen, look for the **System Security Level** field. Choose **CIMS Coordinator** or **Service Area Staff** and click **Save** (Figure 13).

System security is now established. The CIMS coordinator must now assign workbook security.



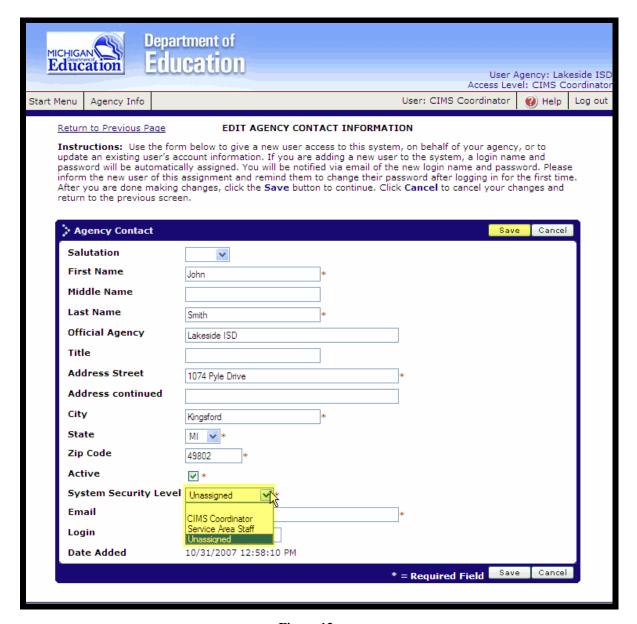


Figure 13



Assigning Workbook Security

The CIMS coordinator assigns workbook security **after** assigning system security.

Access levels give a user permission to perform tasks in the workbook. Workbook access levels are as follows:

CIMS coordinator. The CIMS coordinator is considered the operational manager of the workbook for his/her service area. The CIMS coordinator can view, edit, change, or delete all forms in the workbook. He/she is responsible for submitting the workbook for SPSR Team and MDE review.

Form writer. Users at this workbook access level can add information to forms within the workbook, as well as edit and save those forms.

Viewer. Users with this access level have view-only access to the workbook. They cannot save, edit, or delete forms.

To assign workbook security, the CIMS coordinator will use the following steps:

- 1. Click the **Start Menu** button, under **Task List: Actions Required** click **Expand Entire Tree**, and select the appropriate workbook. This will take you to the **Workbook Menu** screen.
- 2. Under the **Contacts** heading on the lower-left-hand side of the **Workbook Menu** screen, click **Control Access to Workbook** (Figure 14).
- 3. In the **Assign additional access to Workbook** field, choose the new user's name in the **Name** drop-down box (Figure 15).
- 4. For **Contact Type** choose **Agency Main Contact** for a main contact or **Agency Staff Member** for a staff member (Figure 16).
- 5. For **Level of Access**, choose **CIMS Coordinator**, **Form Writer**, or **Viewer** according to their CIMS workbook role (Figure 17).
- 6. Click the **Grant This User Access** button (Figure 17). Workbook security is now established.



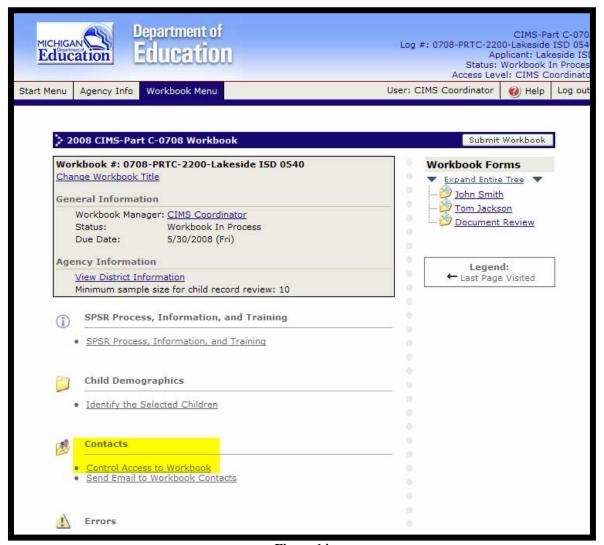


Figure 14



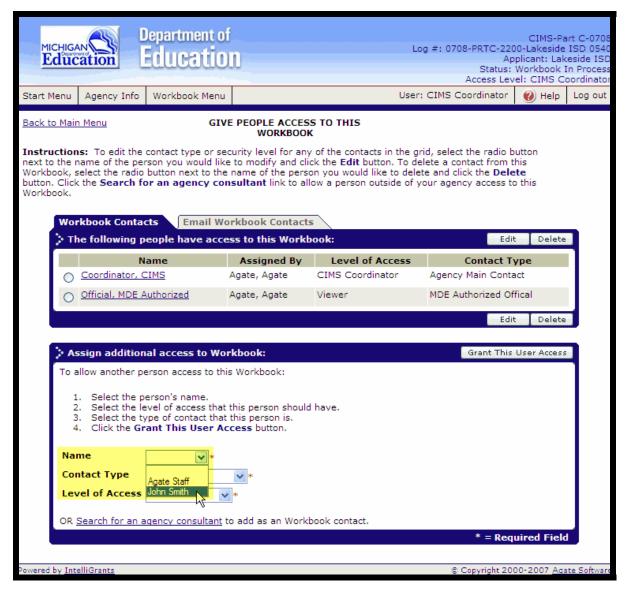


Figure 15



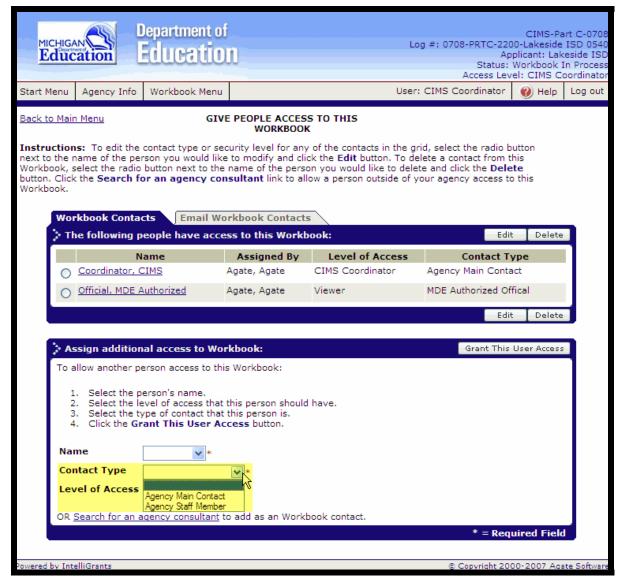


Figure 16



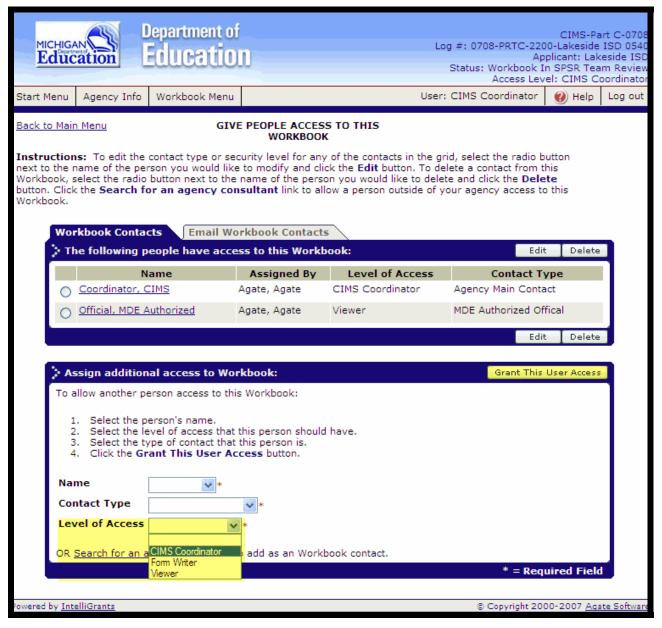


Figure 17



Using the Start Menu

The **Start Menu** page (Figure 18) is the first page you will see upon logging in to CIMS. You can easily return to the **Start Menu** from any page in the application by clicking the **Start Menu** button in the upper left corner.

There are several other helpful links at the top of each screen on the CIMS application:

Agency Info (service area info). This link will bring you to the **View Agency Information** screen, and show you information about your service area as well as a list of the **Agency Contacts** (service area contacts) assigned to your service area.

User. This link will take you to the **Edit Contact Information** screen for the user that is logged in.

Help. This will take you to the **Help** contents page and contact information for the helpdesk.

Log out. This will log you out of the system.

On the left-hand side of the **Start Menu** page is the **Task List: Actions Required** section, a list of links that correspond to tasks you must complete in CIMS. Click the **plus** (+) **sign** to expand a particular section, or click **Expand Entire Tree** to display your entire task list.

The right side of the **Start Menu** page contains a **Quick Links** section to help you navigate easily to important information.



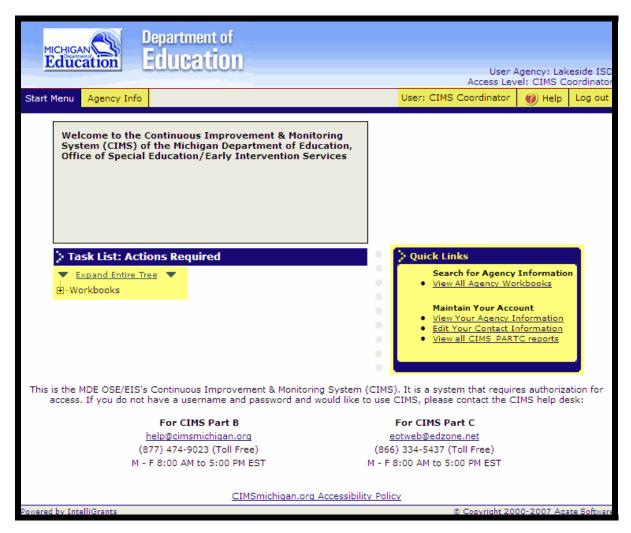


Figure 18



Opening a Workbook

From the **Start Menu**:

- 1. Click **Expand Entire Tree** under the **Task List: Actions Required**. This will display a workbook hierarchy organized by fiscal year, workbook status, and service area (Figure 19).
- 2. Click the workbook to access the **Workbook Menu** page.

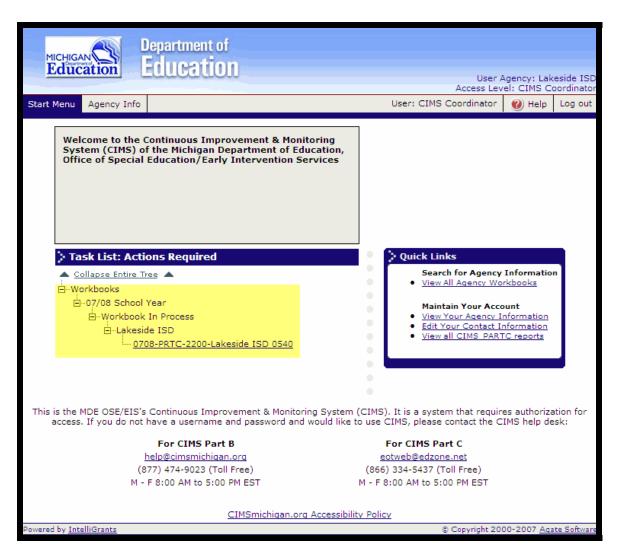


Figure 19

Note: CIMS coordinators and MDE authorized officials will be able to access Improvement Plans and Improvement Plan Progress Reports from the **Task List: Actions**



Required section of the **Start Menu**. Use the same process outlined above to expand the menu tree and view these reports. This option will not display for all users.



Using the Workbook Menu

The **Workbook Menu** page is the gateway to your workbook forms (Figure 20). Information about your service area, workbook status, and access level is displayed in the upper right corner, above the main workbook menu bar.

The left side of the page displays information about your workbook and various links categorized for ease of use. On the right side of the page, the **Workbook Forms** tree contains the forms you will use to complete the CIMS process. To expand an item, click it, then click the **plus** (+) **sign**.

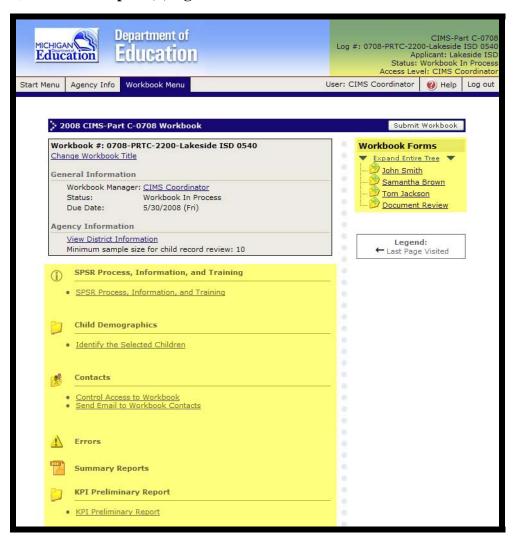


Figure 20



Opening Forms in a Workbook

Some items in the **Workbook Forms** tree are organized by child, while other items are organized by topic. For example, to view the **Child Record Review** form for a specific child, click the child's name, then click the **plus** (+) **sign** next to the name. Clicking the plus (+) sign next to a folder will display all the forms of the child's record review. Items displayed by topic (such as **Document Review**) can be viewed in a similar way. Figure 21 shows an expanded Workbook Forms tree.

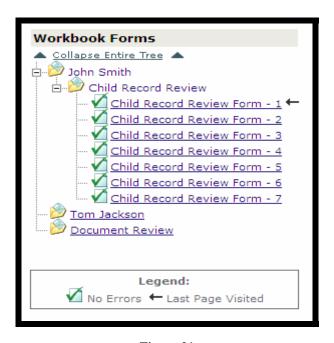


Figure 21



You can also view any form in a workbook by clicking the **Workbook Menu** button at the top of the screen. This will open the menu of all forms and is organized by topic (Figure 22).

An item with a triangular arrow to its right has a submenu. You can move the cursor to the arrow to display the submenu, and click any item to open that page.

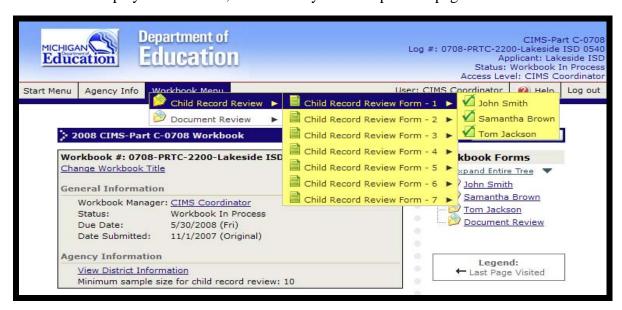


Figure 22