

Minnesota Assessment System

Overview

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Federal Requirements for Minnesota Assessment System

- **Mathematics and Reading**
 - Grades 3–8 and once in high school
 - Aligned to Minnesota Academic Standards
- **Science**
 - Once in elementary, middle, and high school
 - Aligned to Minnesota Academic Standards
- **English Learners**
 - Grades K-12
 - Assess English language proficiency in Reading, Writing, Listening, and Speaking

State Legislative Requirements for Minnesota Assessment System

- **Grade 8**
 - **Mathematics, Reading, and Writing**
 - Predictive of College Entrance Exam
 - Career Exploration elements
- **Grade 10**
 - **Mathematics, Reading, and Writing**
 - Predictive of College Entrance Exam
 - Career Exploration elements

State Legislative Requirements for Minnesota Assessment System

- **If a student is not ready for career or college based on Grade 8 and Grade 10 performance, student will be offered the College Placement Diagnostic Test**
 - Taken after receiving grade 10 Career and College Assessment score and prior to the College Entrance Exam
- **College Entrance Exam**
 - Grade 11
 - Mathematics, Reading and Writing

Minnesota Statewide Testing Program 2014-2015

Assessment	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
MCA and MTAS													
• Reading				◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆		
• Math				◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆			◆	
• Science						◆			◆			◆	
ACCESS for ELLs (English Learners only)	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Explore and Plan (Math, Reading, English & Science)									●		●		
Compass												●	
ACT												●	

- ◆ Required for federal and state accountability. Developed and administered by the state (includes MCAs and special education assessments)
- Required for English Learners for federal Title III accountability. Used as exit criterion for state funding. An alternate assessment is available for ELs with significant cognitive disabilities
- Nationally available assessment required as part of Career & College assessments

Minnesota Assessment System Snapshot (2014-2015)

- **Federal and State Accountability**
 - **Late Winter: Grades K-12 ACCESS for ELLs**
 - **Spring: Grades 3–8 and HS Math, Reading, and Science MCA/MTAS**
- **Career and College Ready Assessments (state)**
 - **Fall: Grade 8 Explore**
 - **Fall: Grade 10 Plan**
 - **Compass (not all students)**
 - **Spring: Grade 11 ACT**

MCA Timelines

- **Administration**

- **March 9 – May 8/15**

- **Reporting**

- **Preliminary results available to districts within an hour of completion**

- **May 26 – June 12: Finalize data elements**

- **June 24: Official results available for districts through MDE Secure Reports (electronically)**

- **August 3: Paper reports arrive in districts**

Accountability Calculations

- **Accountability**
 - Utilize MCA and MTAS scores
 - Calculations verified by quality control vendor
 - Early August: Preliminary AYP to districts
 - September 1: Public Release
 - Used to identify reward, focus, and priority schools

Additional Context

- **Beginning 2016, MCA grades 3-7 administration**
 - Longer test to include items from off-grade
 - Required in current legislation
- **Beginning 2016, MCA grades 3-8 and 10 administration**
 - Provide “on-track” indication for career and college
 - Required in current legislation

Advisory Committees

- **Accommodations Advisory Review Panel**
- **Assessment Advisory Committee**
- **Local Assessment and Accountability Advisory Committee**
- **Technical Advisory Committee**
- **State Assessments Technology Work Group**

Advisory Committees

Special Focus and Limited Time

- **College and Career Readiness Policy Institute (2009)**
- **Assessment and Accountability Working Group (2012)**
- **Testing Reduction Advisory Group (2014-2015)**
- **Test Policies and Procedures Committee (2014-2015)**

Assessment Survey Results

- **Minnesota Districts Invited to Complete Survey**
 - Objective to provide more complete picture of assessments offered across Minnesota
- **254 districts/schools represented**
 - ~500 districts/schools in Minnesota
- **Assessments specifically included in survey: AIMSWeb, ASVAB, CogAT, DRA, NWEA-MAP, OLPA Mathematics, OLPA Reading, and Performance Series Achievement**
- **~98% reported giving additional assessments to students in grades 3-12**

Reporting Overview

- **MDE Secure Reports**

- Provides historical information with tools to analyze data
 - Access provided by district staff
 - Rostering by teacher not available

- **MDE Data Center**

- Provides historical information with tools to analyze data
 - Public website

Reporting Overview

- **On-Demand Reporting System**
 - Through vendor's system
 - Provides preliminary results to district staff within an hour of student completing the test
- **Longitudinal Reporting System**
 - Through vendor's system
 - Provides historical information with tools to analyze data

Planned Reporting Enhancements

- **MDE is working to redesign 2015-2016 MCA student reports**
 - Include trajectory to CCR
 - Include off-grade level information
 - Focus Groups for redesign
- **MDE would like to develop improved interpretive materials and systems related to MCA**
 - Benchmark Reports for Math and Reading
 - Interactive Interpretive Guide
 - Additional information for OLPA
 - Sample Items at Score Points
 - Parent portal

Administration Mode

- **Paper to Online**
 - Comparability studies conducted
 - New item types
 - Reformat
- **Online to Adaptive**
 - Requires large item pool
- **Online to Mobile Devices**
 - Pilot Study
 - Reformat
 - Possible loss of items/passages

Costs for 2014-2015 School Year

- **Pearson Contract:**
 - Explore and Plan: ~1.6 million
 - MCA, MTAS, OLPA, GRAD, and everything else: ~19.5 million
- **ACT: ~6.5 million**
- **ACCESS for ELLs: ~1.8 million**
- **HumRRO: ~300,000**

Updates/Specific Follow-up from 1/29

- **OLPA administration counts**
- **Perspective usage**
- **Additional student groups available for analysis in Report Card**