

Existing policy with suggested revision based on P.A. 17-14.

Instruction

Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations

Each student enrolled in the grades three through eight inclusive, shall take a mastery examination or examinations that measures essential and grade appropriate skills in reading, writing and mathematics. Students enrolled in grade eleven shall annually take a nationally recognized college readiness assessment approved by the State Board of Education that measures essential and grade appropriate skills in reading, writing and mathematics. Each student enrolled in grade five, eight and ten (Grade 11, in lieu of Grade 10 beginning in the 2018-2019 school year) shall, annually, in March or April, take a state-wide mastery examination that measures essential and grade appropriate skills in science. The State Board of Education shall approve the provision and administration of all mastery examinations. All examinations shall take place during the regular school day.

Student scores on each component of the statewide eleventh grade mastery test shall be included on the permanent record. Students who meet or exceed the statewide mastery goal level on any component of such mastery examination, shall have a certification of such mastery made on the permanent record and be provided a certificate of mastery for each such component.

The school district may not require achievement of a satisfactory score on mastery examination, or any subsequent retest on a component of such examinations as the sole criterion of promotion or graduation.

Special education students shall participate in mastery testing except in the rare case when their Planning and Placement Team determines that participation would be inappropriate and recommends the use of an alternative assessment as specified by the State Board of Education.

All English learners (ELs) including recently arrived, defined as those students whose initial entry date in a U.S. school is less than two years (24 months) prior to test administration are required to participate in all content areas of the state summative assessment.

All students identified as English Learners (EL) regardless of how long they have been enrolled in school shall take the mastery examination in all content areas (reading/language arts, mathematics, science). Scores on each component of the mastery examination for English learners who have been enrolled in school in this state or another state for fewer than twenty (20) school months shall not be used for the purposes of calculating the school performance accountability index as defined in C.G.S. 10-223e.

Scores from year 1 is ready to serve as a baseline for academic growth in Year 2. In year 3, the scores of recently arrived ELs will be included toward academic achievement and academic growth indicators in Connecticut's accountability system.

Limited English proficient students eligible for special education due to significant cognitive impairment must be tested on the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist, regardless of the one school year exemption option.

Instruction

Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations (continued)

Students with significant cognitive disabilities in grades three through eight and eleven shall be assessed with the Connecticut Alternate Assessment.

Target goals for the participation in the state mastery testing programs of students shall be in compliance with state and federal special education laws.

(cf. 5121 - Examination/Grading/Rating)
(cf. 5125 - Student Records; Confidentiality)
(cf. 6146 - Graduation Requirements)
(cf. 6162.31 - Test Exclusion)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-14n Statewide mastery examination. Conditions for reexamination. Limitation on use of test results. (as amended by PA 03-174, PA 03-168, PA 13-207, Section 115 of PA 14-217, PA 15-238 and PA 17-14)

10-14o Compensatory education grant. Financial statement of expenditures.

10-14p Reports by local and regional boards re instructional improvement and student progress.

10-14q Exceptions (as amended by PA 01-205)

PA 15-238 An Act Concerning Students Assessments

PL 107-110 – Title I, 34 CFR Part 200

Policy adopted: January 20, 2005
Policy revised: November 21, 2013
Policy revised: April 21, 2015
Policy revised: December 17, 2015
Policy revised:

NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Fairfield, Connecticut