

Instruction

Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations

Unless exempted according to state criteria, each student enrolled in grades three through six inclusive shall annually take a mastery examination in reading, writing and mathematics. Each student enrolled in grade five shall annually 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.

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.

Limited English proficient (LEP) students, including those also identified as requiring special education, who are in their first year of enrollment in a U.S. school and have been in attendance for one school year or less may be permitted to be exempt from on administration of the reading/language arts portion of the mastery examination. These students must take the Language Assessment Scales (LSS-Links). No such exemption is permitted, based on federal guidelines, from the mathematics and science assessments of the CMT. Accommodations as provided in classroom instruction may be used.

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

Any alternate assessment, including the CMT Skills Checklist, of students enrolled in special education, shall be available only to those students with significant cognitive disabilities. Students with significant cognitive disabilities in grades 3 through 6 shall be assessed with the Connecticut Alternate Assessment. In compliance with federal law, out-of-level testing is not an option for students enrolled in special education.

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

(cf. 5121 - Examination/Grading/Rating)
(cf.6162.31 Test Exclusion)

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Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-14n Statewide mastery (as amended by PA 03-174 and PA 03-168, PA 13-207 and Section 115 of PA 14-217 and PA 15-238)

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

34 CFR, Part 200 regulations appearing in Federal Register, 9/13/06

Policy adopted: April 26, 2001
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MARLBOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Marlborough, Connecticut