

Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations

Each student enrolled in grades seven and eight inclusive and grade ten or eleven shall take a statewide mastery examination (measuring whether or not a student has mastered essential grade level skills in reading, writing, and mathematics). Each student enrolled in grade eight, ten or eleven shall annually take a state approved mastery examination in science. The mastery examination shall be provided by and administered under the supervision of the State Board of Education.

Student scores on each component of the statewide tenth or eleventh grade state assessment may be included on the permanent record and transcripts of students. Students who meet or exceed the statewide mastery goal on any component of the statewide mastery examination, shall have a certification of such mastery made on the permanent record and transcript and be provided a certificate of mastery for each such component. Each tenth or eleventh grade student who has not met the mastery goal level on each component of the mastery examination may annually take or retake each such component at its regular administration until the student scores at or above each goal level or until the student graduates or turns twenty-one (21).

The school district does not require achievement of a satisfactory score on the statewide proficiency examination or statewide 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.

Any state approved alternate assessment of students enrolled in special education, shall be available only to those students with significant cognitive disabilities. Students with significant cognitive disabilities in grades seven and eight inclusive and grade ten or eleven shall be assessed with the Connecticut Alternative Assessment in English/language arts and mathematics. In science, eligible students with significant cognitive disabilities shall be assessed with the state approved alternative assessment in grades eight and ten or eleven. In compliance with federal law, out-of-level testing is not an option for students enrolled in special education.

The participation goal will be in compliance with the federal legislation standard for the total school population, as well as for each subgroup (e.g. race/ethnicity, gender, special education, bilingual/ESL, eligibility for free and reduced lunch).

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

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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 and PA 03-168)

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

PL 107-110 – Title I, 34 CFR Part 200