

**Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations**

Each student enrolled in grades three (3) through six (6) inclusive shall annually take a mastery examination that measures essential and grade-appropriate skills in reading, language arts, and mathematics during a time period specified by the State Department of Education. The State Board of Education (SBE) shall approve the provision and administration of all mastery examinations. All examinations shall take place during the regular school day.

The Bethany Public School District may not require achievement of a satisfactory score on a 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 SBE.

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 ELs will take the LAS Links Assessment. Scores on each component of the mastery examination for ELs 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 index as defined in Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-223e.

Scores from year 1 are 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.

Any alternate assessment, including the Connecticut 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 three (3) through six (6) shall be assessed with the Connecticut Alternate Assessment in language arts and mathematics. In science, eligible students with significant cognitive disabilities will be assessed with the Connecticut Alternate Science Assessment in grade five (5).

In compliance with federal law, out-of-level testing is not an option for students enrolled in special education.

The Bethany Board of Education (Board) recognizes that federal law requires full participation of all students on the state summative assessments, with a minimum standard for the participation rate of at least 95 percent of all students and all student groups for each subject. Further, the Board realizes there are consequences for the District not meeting this participation role threshold on these state summative assessments.

# INSTRUCTION

**6146.2(b)**

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes § 10-14n, as amended  
Connecticut General Statutes § 10-14o  
Connecticut General Statutes § 10-14p  
Connecticut General Statutes § 10-14q  
Connecticut General Statutes § 10-223e  
Public Act 15-238  
Public Law § 107-110  
Title I, 34 CFR, Part 200  
34 CFR, Part 200

Policy adopted: September 9, 1991  
Policy revised: February 11, 2015  
Policy revised: May 10, 2017  
Policy revised: April 7, 2021

Source: CABE