NSCAS NEBRASKA STUDENT-CENTERED ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

# Comparison of MAP Growth and NSCAS Summative

MAP Growth and the NSCAS Summative are different assessments with distinct purposes. This document outlines the differences and similarities of these two assessments.

| | **MAP Growth** | **NSCAS Summative** |
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| **Description** | MAP Growth is a *norm referenced* computer adaptive interim assessment created by NWEA that can be administered to students up to four times per year (fall/winter/spring/summer). | NSCAS Summative is a *criterion referenced* computer adaptive summative assessment created by the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) in partnership with NWEA. Students in grades 3-8 take the assessment in the spring. |
| **Adaptability** | MAP Growth adapts *across grade levels*, adjusting to each student's performance—whether a student performs on, above, or below grade level. | NSCAS Summative measures student performance in relation to Nebraska's grade level standards; it adapts *within grade level*. Student are only presented with items aligned to their grade level. |
| **Purpose** | MAP Growth is an interim assessment used to measure a student's performance level at different times of the school year, measuring each student's academic growth both within the year and across multiple years. It also reveals what each student knows and is ready to learn next so teachers can adjust their instruction to meet the learning needs of each student. | NSCAS Summative assessments are developed to satisfy state and federal requirements in determining school performance. These assessments are specifically for Nebraska to provide teachers, students, and parents with an assessment of student progress in college and career-ready skills based on Nebraska's Academic Standards in English language arts and mathematics, as well as basic skills based on Nebraska's Legacy Standards in science. It provides information about the student performance relative to grade level standards. Data can also be used to help educators evaluate the effectiveness of programs and curriculum. |

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| **Participation** | Optional | Required |
| **Content Areas** | Reading - Grades 3-8<br>Language - Grades 3-8<br>Mathematics - Grades 3-8<br>Science - Grades 3-8<br>MAP Growth is available at other grade levels. The grade levels and content areas listed above are part of the NDE state contract. | English Language Arts (ELA) - Grades 3-8<br>Mathematics - Grades 3-8<br>Science - Grades 5 and 8 |
| **Accessibility Terminology** | In the MAP Growth user interface, the following terms are used to organize accessibility features: Universal Tools, Designated Supports, and Accommodations. | In NSCAS Summative, the following terms are used to organize accessibility features: Universal Tools, Linguistic Supports, and Accommodations. |
| **Universal Tools** | Students taking MAP Growth have these embedded universal features in their toolbar: zoom, highlighter, line reader, notepad, and eliminate answer choice. Click here to watch a video demonstrating the new toolbar. There is no different between the MAP Growth and Summative universal features toolbar.<br>  | Students taking NSCAS Summative have these embedded universal features in their toolbar: zoom, highlighter, line reader, notepad, and eliminate answer choice. Click here to watch a student tutorial demonstrating these tools. There is no different between the MAP Growth and Summative universal features toolbar.<br>  |
| **Accommodations -** Features that are available | **Text-to-Speech (TTS) –** Text-to-Speech can be enabled on all tests. Proctors are able to select which parts of a question are read aloud. | **Text-to-Speech (TTS) -** District or School Assessment Coordinators are able to assign TTS to students. All text is read aloud except for reading passages measuring reading |

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| in accordance with a student's 504 or IEP plan | Here are the options for TTS that MAP Growth proctors can assign:<br>• Question directions<br>• Assets such as reading passages<br>• Questions/prompts<br>• Answer choices<br><br>TTS Toolbar<br>  <br><br>**Braille -** MAP Growth uses refreshable Braille. Paper forms of MAP Growth are not available.<br><br>**Large Print -** MAP Growth uses the Zoom tool to provide enlarged font. Paper forms of MAP Growth are not available.<br><br>**Spanish -** MAP Growth is available as a Spanish math assessment; it is aligned to the Common Core. Contact your Account Manager for more information. | comprehension on ELA. Spanish read aloud is not permitted for the Summative, Spanish audio files will be made available for Spanish paper/pencil assessments.<br><br>TTS Toolbar<br>  <br><br>**Braille –** NSCAS Summative is available in a paper Braille form.<br><br>**Large Print –** NSCAS Summative is available in a large print paper form.<br><br>**Spanish –** NSCAS Summative is available in Spanish as an online test and a paper form. |
| **Results** | MAP Growth test results are delivered in the form of a 3-digit RIT score. The RIT (Rasch Unit) scale is a stable, equal-interval scale. Equal-interval means that a change of 10 RIT points indicates the same thing regardless of whether a student is at the top, bottom, or middle of the scale, and a RIT score has the same meaning regardless of grade level or age of the student. You can compare scores over time to tell how much academic growth a student has made. NWEA reports also contain normative data | NSCAS Summative assessment results are delivered with a scale score and achievement level descriptor. In ELA and Mathematics, the scale score is a 4-digit number. In Science the scale score is a three-digit number. Each content area is scaled separately; therefore, the scale scores for one content area cannot be compared to another content area.<br><br>Individual student results on ELA and Mathematics tests are placed into one of the following three achievement levels: |

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| | from our norms study. You can find the percentile ranking for a particular RIT score on most reports, allowing you to compare a student's RIT score with other students in the same grade and subject. | • Developing<br>• On Track<br>• College and Career Ready (CCR) Benchmark<br><br>Individual student results on Science tests are placed into one of the following three achievement levels:<br><br>• Below the Standards<br>• Meets the Standards<br>• Exceeds the Standards |
| **Alignment** | **Reading –** 2014 Nebraska's College and Career Ready Standards for English Language Arts<br><br>**Language –** 2014 Nebraska's College and Career Ready Standards for English Language Arts<br><br>**Mathematics** – 2015 Nebraska's College and Career Ready Standards for Mathematics<br><br>**Science** –2017 Nebraska's College and Career Ready Standards for Science | **ELA –** 2014 Nebraska's College and Career Ready Standards for English Language Arts<br><br>**Mathematics** – 2015 Nebraska's College and Career Ready Standards for Mathematics<br><br>**Science** – 2010 Nebraska Legacy Standards. In Spring of 2020, Science will be aligned to the 2017 Nebraska's College and Career Ready Standards for Science |
| **Practice Test** | Practice Tests for MAP Growth<br><br>**User Name:** Grow<br>**Password:** Grow | Item Sampler for NSCAS Summative<br><br>**User Name:** ne<br>**Password:** Practice<br><br>The Item Sampler for NSCAS Summative will be updated in winter 2019 to add several new items. |