

# MCA Individual Student Report (ISR) Quick Guide for Science

Individual Student Reports (or ISRs) are generated for every student who is expected to take a statewide assessment. The ISR provides information about your student's performance and learning of the Minnesota Academic Standards.

The Science MCA-IV is administered to students in grades 5 and 8 and in the year of high school life science coursework completion.

Beginning in 2024–25, each subject and test appears on a separate ISR.

If your student did not participate, the ISR shows why results are not included (for example, absent or not completed).

**1** Alfred A. Dixon  
School One  
District Three  
Spring 2025  
Grade 5

These are Alfred's results from the Science Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA-IV) taken in the spring of 2025.

Scan the QR code to access a video about the new science assessments. For more information, go to the [MDE Students and Families Statewide Testing Assessment Results](https://education.mn.gov) website (education.mn.gov > Students and Families > Programs and Initiatives > Statewide Testing > Assessment Results).

**3** **Science: Alfred's Overall MCA-IV Results**

Alfred's score of 572 shows evidence of learning at the **Advanced** level for grade-level expectations in science. The Science MCA measures learning of the Minnesota Academic Standards in Science.

**4**

501 Beginning 540 Intermediate 550 Meets 570 Advanced 590

Scores in the **Meets** and **Advanced** performance levels demonstrate proficiency in grade level standards.

**5** **Percent of Grade 5 Students Showing Proficiency in Grade-Level Standards on the 2025 Science MCA-IV**

What percentage of grade 5 students demonstrated proficiency on the Science MCA-IV?

Level	Percentage
School	28%
District	27%
State	59%

education.mn.gov MARSS/SSID:0001000169766 Local Use#:10077 Page 1 of 2  
06132025-20000001-4162-07-10-0000001

1. Student Information—Student Name, Grade, School, District, Date, and Assessment.
2. Overview of the New Science Assessments—An overview video can be accessed by scanning the QR code printed on the report or contacting your student's school for a link. The video may also be available in a home language based on student enrollment data, if specified.
3. Overall Results—A description of your student's score and performance level based on the grade-level expectations of the Minnesota Academic Standards.
4. Performance Level—The bar graph shows your student's overall score in the range of performance levels. There are four performance levels: Beginning, Intermediate, Meets, and Advanced.
5. School, District, and State Proficiency—Percentage of students showing proficiency in grade-level standards on that year's MCA-IV at the school, district, and state levels.



Information for students and families is available on the [MDE Statewide Testing Students and Families Assessment Results](https://education.mn.gov) website (education.mn.gov > Students and Families > Programs and Initiatives > Statewide Testing > Assessment Results).

### Your Student's Overall Performance

Alfred's score of 572 shows evidence of learning at the **Advanced** level for grade-level expectations in science. The Science MCA measures learning of the Minnesota Academic Standards in Science.

A grade 5 student with a score at the Advanced level shows evidence of being able to:

- Explain phenomena and design solutions to problems by thoroughly integrating science practices and concepts.
- Refine questions, evaluate investigations, revise models, and apply advanced mathematics to analyze data.
- Develop claims from evidence and redesign solutions to a problem.

6

### Performance in Grade 5 Practices in Science

Alfred's performance is also reported for three areas of the Minnesota Academic Standards in Science.

#### Additional Performance Details

<p>Practices in Earth and Space Science</p> <p>Your student's performance:</p> <p><b>7</b></p> <p><b>Above Expectations</b></p>	<p>Students with performance <b>above expectations for Practices in Earth and Space Science</b> typically show evidence of being able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate data to explain how Earth's rotation and the Earth/Moon/Sun system influence seasonal daylight patterns.</li> <li>• Analyze how Minnesota American Indian Tribes and other cultures interpret star patterns to make predictions and plan.</li> <li>• Evaluate models to understand how Earth's systems interact with each other.</li> <li>• Design solutions to lessen the effects of weathering, erosion, and Earth processes.</li> <li>• Collect and interpret data on how Earth's surface has changed over time.</li> <li>• Use evidence to evaluate human impacts on natural resources emphasizing sustainable resource use.</li> <li>• Compare multiple technologies that minimize environmental effects on humans.</li> </ul>
<p>Practices in Life Science</p> <p>Your student's performance:</p> <p><b>Above Expectations</b></p>	<p>Students with performance <b>above expectations for Practices in Life Science</b> typically show evidence of being able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construct evidence-based explanations showing how variations in inherited traits provide survival advantages, making them more common.</li> <li>• Develop solutions to address environmental changes that threaten the survival of organisms.</li> <li>• Argue that traits vary among group members and are influenced by the environment.</li> <li>• Use media sources to explain inheritance patterns in organisms.</li> <li>• Refine models of matter and energy movement in ecosystems and diverse organism life cycles.</li> <li>• Analyze how resources affect populations and how animal groups use complex communication strategies to survive interdependently.</li> <li>• Use evidence to argue that plant and animal structures support survival in various ways.</li> <li>• Refine an investigation showing how plants produce food from sunlight, air, and water.</li> </ul>
<p>Practices in Physical Science</p> <p>Your student's performance:</p> <p><b>Above Expectations</b></p>	<p>Students with performance <b>above expectations for Practices in Physical Science</b> typically show evidence of being able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refine investigations to identify substances by their properties before and after they are combined to determine if a chemical reaction has occurred.</li> <li>• Evaluate models demonstrating that matter has observable effects even if it is too small to be seen.</li> <li>• Predict answers to testable questions about electric or magnetic interactions between objects.</li> <li>• Use evidence to predict relationships between speed, energy, and other forces.</li> <li>• Interpret data showing how energy can be stored, released, and transferred.</li> <li>• Compare experiments predicting how light interacts with different materials.</li> <li>• Create models to show how light properties affect visibility and how light reflects to enter the eye.</li> </ul>

8

#### How to request this report in a translated language or an alternative format:

If your home language has been reported to your student's school, a QR code may be included on page 1 to a video with translated audio and/or captions. This ISR report format may also be made available in another translated language or an alternative format, such as large print, braille, or as an audio file. Contact MDE by email at [mde.testing@state.mn.us](mailto:mde.testing@state.mn.us), by phone 651-582-8674 or by fax 651-582-8874. TTY users may call the Minnesota Relay Service at 711.

- Overall Performance—A description of your student's overall performance with additional details from the Minnesota Academic Standards in Science.
- Content Area Performance Details—Performance within each content area is reported as below expectations, at or near expectations, or above expectations. Grades 5 and 8 include three content areas and high school includes four content areas of the Minnesota Academic Standards in Science.
- Contact Information—To request the report in an alternative format or translated language, please contact the Minnesota Department of Education.