Instruction

Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations (Statewide Summative Assessments)

I. General Assessment Requirements Annually, unless exempted according to federal and/or state criteria, each student enrolled in grades three through eight, inclusive, shall take a statewide mastery examination that measures essential and grade-appropriate skills in reading, writing, and mathematics during the time period specified by the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE).

Students enrolled in grade eleven shall annually take a nationally recognized college readiness assessment approved by the State Board of Education measuring essential and grade-appropriate skills in reading, writing, and mathematics (Connecticut SAT School Day).

Each student enrolled in grades five, eight, and eleven shall annually take a statewide mastery examination measuring essential and grade-appropriate skills in science (Next Generation Science Standards Assessment).

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.

II. Student Records and Graduation Student scores on each component of the statewide eleventh-grade assessment [may/shall] be included on the permanent record and transcripts for eleventh-grade students. For each eleventh-grade student who meets or exceeds the statewide mastery goal level on any component of the mastery examination, a certification of such mastery shall be made on the student's permanent record and transcript, and the student shall be provided a certificate of mastery for each such component.

The Board of Education shall not require achievement of a satisfactory score on a mastery examination, or any subsequent retest on a component of such examination, as the sole criterion of promotion or graduation.

III. Students with Disabilities Students receiving special education and related services shall participate in statewide mastery testing. Out-of-level testing is not permitted under federal law.

Participation in alternate assessments is available only to students with significant cognitive disabilities whose Planning and Placement Team (PPT) determines that standard participation, even with accommodations, is inappropriate:

1. Students with significant cognitive disabilities in grades three through eight and grade eleven shall be assessed with the Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CT-AA) in English Language Arts and Mathematics.
2. Students with significant cognitive disabilities in grades five, eight, and eleven shall be assessed with the Connecticut Alternate Science (CT-AS) Assessment.

Instruction

Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations (Statewide Summative Assessments) (continued)

IV. English Learners/Multilingual Learners (ELs/MLs) All identified English Learners/Multilingual Learners (ELs/MLs), regardless of the length of time enrolled in school, shall participate in all content area statewide summative assessments (reading/language arts, mathematics, and science). ELs/MLs are entitled to CSDE-designated accommodations and supports.

All students identified as ELs/MLs shall annually take the state-designated English language proficiency assessment (LAS Links).

In accordance with federal regulations and C.G.S. 10-223e:

- Scores on each component of the mastery examination for ELs/MLs who have been enrolled in a school in the United States for fewer than twenty (20) school months shall not be used for calculating the school performance or accountability index.
- Year 1 results serve as a baseline for academic growth in Year 2.
- In Year 3 of enrollment, scores of recently arrived ELs/MLs will be fully included in both academic achievement and academic growth indicators within Connecticut's accountability system.

V. ` Federal Participation Standards The Board of Education recognizes that federal law requires full participation of all enrolled students in state summative assessments, establishing a minimum participation rate threshold of 95 percent for all students and for each subgroup of students in each subject area. The Board acknowledges that failure to meet these participation thresholds may result in state accountability sanctions and impacts on district performance ratings.

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

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-14n Statewide mastery examination. Conditions for reexamination. Limitation on use of test results.

10-14o Compensatory education grant.

10-14p Reports by local and regional boards re instructional improvement and student progress.

10-14q Exceptions.

10-223e Statewide education accountability plan. Performance track framework.

Instruction

Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations (Statewide Summative Assessments)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

Federal Law & Regulations

20 U.S.C. § 6311 Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) / Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), Title I, Part A.

34 C.F.R. Part 200 Title I — Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged (Statewide Assessment Requirements and Participation Rates).

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REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 14
Bethlehem and Woodbury, Connecticut