

Minnesota Assessment Update

2011 Assessments

- 2011 Mathematics assessments in grades 3-8 aligned to 2007 Minnesota Academic Standards
 - Inaugural administration
- The MCA-Modified allows more students receiving Special Education services to demonstrate what they know and can do
- 2011 Reading and Science assessments continue to be aligned to 2003 Minnesota Academic Standards
- Results electronically available Monday, September 12
- Paper reports arrive in districts no later than Friday, October 14

- Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA)
 - Mathematics MCA-III Grades 3-8 {paper and online}
 - Online window opens February 6
 - Mathematics MCA-II Grade 11 {paper}
 - Reading MCA-II Grades 3-8 and 10 {paper}
 - Science MCA-III Grades 5, 8, and HS {online}
- Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments-Modified (MCA-M)
 - Mathematics Grades 5-8 {online}
 - Mathematics Grade 11 {paper}
 - Reading Grades 5-8 and 10 {paper}
- Minnesota Test of Academic Skills (MTAS) for students with Special Needs
- Graduation-Required Assessment for Diploma (GRAD)
- ACCESS for ELLs

- Reading online field test February 6 – March 2
 - Aligned to 2010 MN Academic Standards
 - Allows for Reading to have the same administration options in 2013-2014 as Math in 2012-2013
- Science Standard Setting summer 2012

Resource Tools

- Item Samplers Status
- Learning Point Navigator
- New MDE Web Data Tools

How can you become involved?

Assessment Advisory Panels

Division of Assessment & Testing

An Invitation for Educators: Assessment Advisory Panels

http://education.state.mn.us/mde/Accountability_Programs/Assessment_and_Testing/Assessment_Advisory_Panels/index.html

The Minnesota Department of Education is pleased to invite you to serve on our Assessment Advisory Panels.

Learn more about how tests are developed in a large-scale assessment. Each test requires several panels of educators for review in order to ensure it is fair and appropriate.

- We invite participants with the goal that our panels reflect Minnesota as best as possible in ethnicity, geography and panel experience.
- Each panel is a separate entity. The panel meets for 2-4 days: accepting an invitation is not an ongoing commitment.
- During the school year, MDE will cover a district's substitute teacher. Retired teachers (or teachers participating on non-contract days) receive a \$125/day honorarium.
- In the summer months, both current and retired teachers receive the \$125/day honorarium. All participants are reimbursed according to state guidelines for travel and meals (lodging, if necessary) throughout the year.

To sign up for the Advisory Panel Register, visit

http://education.state.mn.us/mde/Accountability_Programs/Assessment_and_Testing/Assessment_Advisory_Panels/index.html

Questions? Write to

mde.panels@state.mn.us



Assessment & Testing

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Revised 8/31/05

- Unique professional development opportunity at no cost to districts
- Teachers learn how tests are built
- Teachers learn the standards intimately
- Teachers see student performance across the state

MDE Contact Information

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Mathematics Specifics

- Longer test window to allow for more scheduling choices (February 6 – May 18)
- Adaptive
- Up to three administrations per student
- Ability for students to start and stop the test during the test window
- Preliminary results by student available immediately

- Contains technology-enhanced items
- Audio available to all students
 - On-demand – controlled by the student
 - An accommodated audio option is available online
 - Vast majority of students' audio needs should be met
 - Can listen to a specific selection of word(s)

- Students must use online calculator
 - Grades 3-6 have a basic calculator available
 - Grade 7 has a scientific calculator available
 - Grade 8 has a scientific calculator available (with graphing option)
 - Calculator icon available for all items in a calculator section
 - Calculator icon will not be available for any items in a non-calculator section
 - Stand-alone calculator will be available at the beginning of October through MN Assessment Portal (through AIR)

- Scratch paper is allowed
 - Encourage students to write out their work/process/thoughts
 - Can use formula sheet and grid paper
 - Make sure to properly dispose of these secure materials

Paper

- Testing window will be April 16 – May 4, 2012
- Accommodated script and CD will continue to be available

Test Specifications

- Directly from Academic Standards
- MCA-III and Modified Combined
- Continue to work on the adaptive test design

MCA-III Support Materials

- Formula Sheets
 - Grades 5-8
 - On MDE website
- Tutorial for Online Testing
 - Gives information on online tools, procedures for navigating through the test, etc.
 - Currently working on
- Samplers
 - Online and paper versions
 - Teacher guides included in paper PDF
 - Currently working on

Item Sampler Selection Process

- Familiarize students with the overall testing experience
- **Do not** predict performance on MCA-III
- Allow students to experience full range of benchmarks

MCA-II Grade 11 Administration

- Grade 11 MCA aligned to 2003 Academic Standards
 - Grade 11 MCA-II will be operational through Spring 2013 administration
- Will continue to have GRAD embedded
- Paper administration
- High School 2011 results released May 24

- Census administration in 11th grade embedded in MCA-II
- GRAD questions are not identified on test
- If a student does not pass the math GRAD, retake opportunities via computer are available every 6 weeks after receiving score report
- Includes benchmarks assessed on the MCA-II plus additional Essential Learning (GRAD) benchmarks
 - Also from Academic Standards in grade 8
- GRAD scale is 15 to 85 with a passing score of 50 (Standard Setting has occurred)

How the Mathematics MCA-II & GRAD Work Together (2011 and beyond)

MCA-II First Administration

	NCLB		
<u>Essential</u>	<u>Common</u>	<u>MCA-II</u>	<u>Field Test</u>
GRAD Only Items (15)	GRAD & MCA-II Items (25)	MCA-II Only Items (30)	Field Test Items (15)
GRAD			

GRAD Retests

<u>Essential</u>	<u>Common</u>
GRAD Only Items (15)	GRAD & MCA-II Items (25)
GRAD	

GRAD and Special Circumstances

- Special Education Students
 - Individual Passing Score on GRAD
 - Individual Passing Score on MCA-Modified
 - MTAS
 - Individual Passing Score on MTAS
- EL
 - GRAD Retests
 - 4-year temporary exemption
- Students transferring from another state
 - Reciprocity
- Home School and Dual Enrollment
 - If receiving a MN HS Diploma must pass GRAD

High School Resources

- Test Specifications (MCA and GRAD)
- Item Sampler (MCA PDF)
 - CRs eliminated
- Tutorial (GRAD)
- Item Sampler (GRAD)
- Released items in Perspective {until February}
- Formula Sheet
- Remediation Guidance (GRAD)
- Diploma Administration Manual
- Reciprocity Guidelines for High School Graduation
- Reading and Mathematics GRAD Retest: Checklist
- Test Preparation Suggestions for Teachers and Parents: GRAD

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Reading Specifics

High School Resources

- Test Specifications (MCA and GRAD)
- Item Sampler (MCA PDF)
 - CRs eliminated
- Tutorial (GRAD)
- Item Sampler (GRAD)
- Released items in Perspective {until February}
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Reading MCA-III Plans

- Computer-adaptive tests (CAT)
- Technology-based items (computer scored) assess higher-order thinking skills
- Flexible assessment window allows for convenient administration during the school year
- Computer-scored exams provide usable information during the school year
- Computer-adaptive assessment provides more precise information about students' knowledge and skills

- Field Test to assess online item types and to increase item bank (response requested by Friday, September 23)
- Aligned to 2010 Academic Standards
 - Increased rigor
 - Text Sets
 - Lexiles
- Online Administration
 - MC
 - Technology-enhanced (TE)
- On-grade level field test

2013 Spring Administration (Current plans)

- One administration per student
- Longer online test window to allow for more scheduling choices
 - Testing Window should be *at least* as long as spring 2011 Math (April and May)
- Ability for students to start and pause the test during the test window
- Spring 2013 results available after performance levels are established

Background for MCA-III

- 2010 ELA standards revisions
 - 2010 Minnesota K-12 English Language Arts (ELA) Standards Committee was established
 - Uses the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects as a base
 - The committee recommended additional standards that address state statutory requirements and best practices in the field of English Language Arts.
- Reading MCA-III Test Specifications (draft) available on website

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Science Specifics

What's Old – Science MCA-III

- Computer-based assessment (secure browser)
- Test items in scenario format
- Uses technology-enhanced items to assess both content and process skills
- Grades 5 and 8 and once in high school (year of biology course)

What's New – Science MCA-III

- Item Samplers
- Reporting data
- Test Design
- Test Specifications and cognitive levels
- Constructed Response Items

Science MCA-III Test Specifications

Science MCA-III

Strand 3—Earth and Space Science (11–13 points)

Substrand: Earth Structure and Processes
(5–7 points)

Standard: The movement of tectonic plates results from interactions among the lithosphere, mantle and core (8.3.1.1).
(2–4 points)

Benchmarks

8.3.1.1.1

Recognize that the Earth is composed of layers, and describe the properties of the layers, including the lithosphere, mantle and core.

Item Specifications

- Properties may include composition of lithosphere, mantle and core, brittle behavior of lithosphere and plastic behavior of mantle
- Layers are limited to lithosphere, mantle and core
- Items will NOT require students to distinguish between crust and lithosphere

8.3.1.1.2

Correlate the distribution of ocean trenches, mid-ocean ridges and mountain ranges to volcanic and seismic activity.

Item Specifications

- Items assessing this benchmark may also assess benchmarks 8.1.3.4.1 or 8.3.1.1.3

8.3.1.1.3

Recognize that major geological events, such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and mountain building, result from the slow movement of tectonic plates.

Item Specifications

- Items assessing this benchmark may also assess benchmarks 8.1.3.4.1 or 8.3.1.1.2
- Items will NOT require students to name tectonic plates
- Items may require students to understand the relative motions that occur at plate boundaries but not name or recognize the names of the boundary types
- Additional vocabulary may include terms such as subduction and fault

Point Distribution →

Additional Vocabulary →

GUEST, GUEST SSID: GUEST-254418

HELP

5 Reading (7 out of 20) Past/Marked Questions: 1 - 7

To build and launch a water bottle rocket, select a bottle below. Select the amount of water you want to add and the amount of air you want to pump into the bottle. Then click "Launch." The water bottle rocket will launch, and data will be recorded in the table. Repeat as necessary.

Step 1: Select a bottle.



Step 2: Add water.



Step 3: Pump air.



LAUNCH

Trial	Bottle	Water (mL)	Air (kPa)	Height (m)	Flight Time (sec.)

Clear All

Potential Nature of Science and Engineering benchmarks:

7.1.1.2.2

Plan and conduct a controlled experiment to test a hypothesis about a relationship between two variables, ensuring that one variable is systematically manipulated, the other is measured and recorded, and any other variables are kept the same (controlled).

8.1.1.2.1

Use logical reasoning and imagination to develop descriptions, explanations, predictions and models based on evidence.

6.1.2.2.1

Apply and document an engineering design process that includes identifying criteria and constraints, making representations, testing and evaluation, and refining the design as needed to construct a product or system that solves a problem.

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Feedback

Give us Feedback

- How have you used the support materials that are currently available for assessment preparation?

- What additional materials do you anticipate you will need to prepare for online testing?

Share Your Wishes

- Are there additional things you can suggest?