

## Instruction

### Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations

Annually, each student enrolled in grades three through eight inclusive shall take a mastery examination or examinations that measures essential and grade appropriate skills in reading, writing or mathematics during any month of the school year. (Currently administered during the last 12 weeks of the school year). Students enrolled in grade eleven shall annually take a nationally recognized college readiness assessment approved by the State Board of Education that measures essential and grade appropriate skills in reading, writing and mathematics. Each student enrolled in grade five, eight, and ten shall, annually, in March or April, take a state-wide mastery examination that measures essential and grade appropriate skills in science. 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.

**Note:** *Students in Connecticut participate in the Smarter Balanced Assessments in English, language arts, literacy and mathematics in grades three through eight inclusive. In science, students participate in the Science CMT in grades five and eight and the science CAPT in grade ten.*

Student scores on each component of the statewide eleventh grade state 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, shall have a certification of such mastery made on the permanent record and transcript and be provided a certificate of mastery for each such component.

The school District (excludes endowed or incorporated high schools) 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 State Board of Education.

Limited English proficient (LEP) students, including those also identified as requiring special education, who are in their first year of enrollment in a U.S. school and have been in attendance for one school year or less may be permitted to be exempt from one administration of the reading/language arts portion of the mastery examination. These students must take the Language Assessment Scales (LAS-Links). No such exemption is permitted, based on federal guidelines, from the mathematics and science assessments of the CMT and CAPT. Accommodations, as provided in classroom instruction may be used.

## Instruction

### Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations (continued)

Limited English proficient students eligible for special education due to significant cognitive impairment must be tested on the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist, regardless of the one school year exemption option.

Any alternate assessment, including the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist and 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 through eight and eleven shall be assessed with the Connecticut Alternative Assessment in English/language arts and mathematics. In science, eligible students with significant cognitive disabilities shall be assessed with the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist in grades five, eight and ten.

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

(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. (as amended by PA 03-174, PA 03-168, and PA 13-207, Section 115 of PA 14-217 and PA 15-238)

10-14o Compensatory education grant. Financial statement of expenditures.

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

10-14q Exceptions (as amended by PA 01-205)

PA 15-238 An Act Concerning Students Assessments

PL 107-110 – Title I, 34 CFR Part 200

34 CFR, Part 200 Regulations appearing in Federal Register, 9/13/06.

Policy adopted: March 21, 2016

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 14  
Bethlehem and Woodbury, Connecticut