

Instruction

Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations

Annually, each student enrolled in grades three through six inclusive shall take a mastery examination in English language arts/literacy and mathematics during any month of the school year. Each student enrolled in grade five shall annually take a state-wide mastery examination in science. The State Board of Education shall approve the provision and administration of all mastery examinations.

Annually, each student enrolled in grades three through six identified as eligible for special education services under the individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), will take a mastery examination in English language arts/literacy and mathematics during any month of the school year. The only exception shall be students identified as having a significant cognitive impairment. For those rare cases the student's Planning and Placement Team may, on an individual bases, determine that participation for the student would be inappropriate and may recommend the use of an alternate assessment as specified by the State Board of Education. Each student eligible for special education services in grades five shall annually take a state-wide mastery examination in science. The only exception shall be students identified as having a significant cognitive impairment. For those rare cases the student's Planning and Placement Team may, on an individual bases, determine that participation for the student would be inappropriate and may recommend the use of an alternative assessment or checklist for Science as specified by the State Board of Education.

Students identified as English Learners (EL), also referred to as English Language Learners (ELL), 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 year or less may be permitted to be exempt from one administration of the English language arts/literacy portion of the mastery examination. This decision shall not be made by a single individual. These students must take the Language Assessment Scales (LAS-Links). Exemptions will not be permitted, based on federal guidelines, from mathematics and science assessments as specified by the State Board of Education. All English learners (EL) shall take the math and science portions of state assessments regardless of how long they have been enrolled in Orange Public Schools. The only exception shall be English Learners also identified as requiring special education due to significant cognitive impairment. For those rare cases the student's Planning and Placement Team may, on an individual bases, determine that participation for a student would be inappropriate and may recommend the use of an alternate assessment as specified by the State Board of Education for mathematics. Each English Learner eligible for special education services in grades five shall annually take a state-wide mastery examination in science. The only exception shall be English Learners also identified as having a significant cognitive impairment. For those rare cases the student's Planning and Placement Team may, on an individual bases, determine that participation for the student would be inappropriate and may recommend the use

of an alternative assessment or checklist for science as specified by the State Board of Education. Accommodations, as provided in classroom instruction, may be used.

Any alternate assessment (including the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist and the Connecticut Alternative Assessment) used for students enrolled in special education, shall be available only to those students with significant cognitive impairments. Students with significant cognitive impairments in grades three through six shall be assessed with a State Board of Education approved alternative assessment in English language arts/literacy and mathematics. In science, eligible students with significant cognitive impairments shall be assessed with the State Board of Education approved assessment.

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

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-14n](#)

[10-14o](#)

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[10-14q](#)

PL 107-110 - Title I, 34 CFR Part 200.

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