

Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) Updates

State Board Meeting
December 2020



The New Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program

- Consists of assessments that are designed, developed and written by Maryland State educators.
- Since June of 2020, over 325 Maryland educators have been a part of writing items, reviewing items and stimuli, and developing scoring rubrics for mathematics, English language arts, science and social studies assessments for the state.



Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program

GENERAL EDUCATION

Mathematics	English Language Arts/Literacy	Science	Social Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mathematics 3-8Algebra IGeometryAlgebra II	<ul style="list-style-type: none">ELA/L 3-8, 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">MISA 5*MISA 8*HS MISA*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Social Studies 8Government

* Maryland Integrated Science Assessment



Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program

ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">M Alt Mathematics 3-8, 10M Alt English Language Arts/ Literacy 3-8, 10M Alt MISA 5, 8, 11
ENGLISH LEARNERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">M ACCESS for ELLs K-11
EARLY CHILDHOOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">M Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA)

The New Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program

- All assessments have been shortened in length from previous times and have been psychometrically supported to provide equitable information to previously provided assessment results.

Decreased Testing Times

Subject		Previous Times			MCAP		
Grades	Number of Units	Minutes per Unit	Total Test Time	Number of Units	Minutes per Unit	Total Test Time	
Math 3-5	4	60	240	4	40	160	
Math 6-8	3	80	240	4	40	160	
Math HS	3	90	270	4	40	160	
ELA/L 3	4	75	300	4	70	280	
ELA/L 4-10	4	90	360	4	70	280	
MISA 5 & 8	4	60	240	4	40	160	
MISA HS	5	40	200	4	40	160	
Social Studies 8	N/A	N/A	N/A	4	40	160	

Local School Systems have the flexibility to administer multiple units in a day.

Federal Peer Review

- Each of our state assessments used for federal accountability must go through Federal Peer Review.
- Assessment peer review is the process through which a State demonstrates the technical soundness of its assessment system.
- Success on federal assessment peer review requires that the State has taken the steps to develop and implement a technically sound State assessment system.
- Therefore, the quality of our assessment system is both developed with the help of Technical Advisors and checked for quality by the federal peer review system.

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

- The TAC is made up of national experts in assessment design and administration.
- All assessment administration and design plans have been evaluated and advised on by the TAC.
- All TAC recommendations have been reviewed, addressed and incorporated into the MCAP assessments.

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Members of our TAC

- Stephen G. Sireci, Ph.D. - Distinguished University Professor and Director of the Center for Educational Assessment in the College of Education at the University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Huynh Huynh. Ph.D. - is Emeritus Distinguished Professor of Educational Measurement and Statistics in the College of Education and Associate Editor of Psychometrika and Journal of Educational Statistics
- Steven Wise, Ph.D. - Vice President of Research at Northwest Evaluation Association and Director of the doctoral program in Assessment and Measurement at James Madison University

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Members of our TAC

- Hong Jiao, Ph.D. - Professor in Measurement, Statistics and Evaluation at University of Maryland, College Park and Director of Maryland Assessment Research Center
- Robert Lissitz, Ph.D. - Emeritus Professor at the University of Maryland and Chair of Educational Measurement and Statistics Department
- Tamika Payton, Ph.D. - Chief Executive Officer of Psychometric Solutions which provides psychometric and educational services to private and public K-12 and post-secondary institutions

Administration Dates for 2021

Assessment	Dates
HS Government/HS MISA	January 11 – February 5
MCAP ELA/Mathematics HS MISA (Spring)	February 22 – June 4
HS Government (Spring)	May 3 – June 4
MISA 5 & 8	March 8 – June 4
ELA/Mathematics 3-8	March 8 – June 4
DLM (Alternative Assessments)	March 9 – June 11
Access for English Learners	February 1 – May 28

Administration Timeline

- All of our testing windows have been adjusted and extended to accommodate the need for testing all students when in-person time in the classroom may be limited.
- Early opening of windows have also been incorporated for students who do not return until 2nd semester but need to test close to the end of their first semester course.

Remote Administration

MSDE considered remote administration of assessments for the 2020 – 2021 administrations.

However, given the extreme differences in technology resources available to students throughout the state, we could not find an equitable means for delivering these assessments remotely. We considered the following:

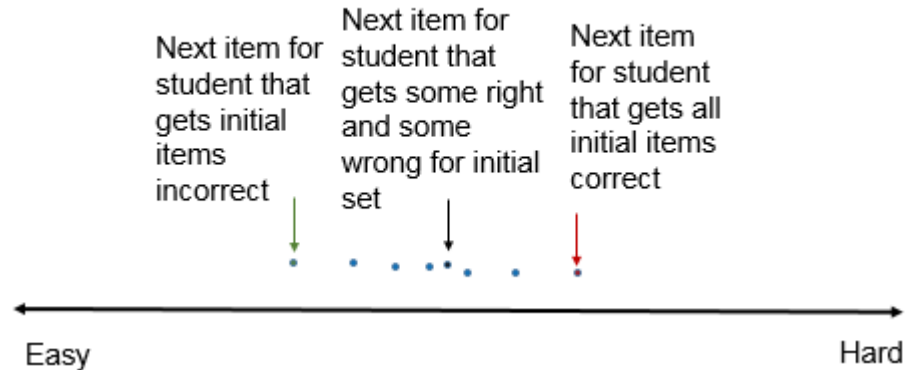
- The test would not be administered in a secure environment.
- There is no way to ensure students would not receive external assistance.
- All items administered would need to be released after - as they would no longer be secure.
- Releasing of items would be detrimental to the new MCAP item bank and would mean those items would not be available for future administrations of MCAP.

Future Plans - Computer Adaptive Testing (CAT)

- The assessments adapt to the student's performance level to give a more accurate measure of ability.
- In 2020-2021, the Mathematics and ELA assessments will be fixed form due to a limited item pool this first year.
- In subsequent years, all grades in Mathematics and ELA 3-7 and Algebra I will be computer adaptive.

Computer Adaptive Testing

- A student will be given an initial set of items.
- Depending on how the student performs on this initial set of items, this performance will determine the difficulty level of the next item or set of items.



Computer Adaptive Testing

- Students will continue to be assigned items that fall in a range of performance where they are getting some items right and some wrong to narrow in on the student's performance level.
- Every student will be given a number of items that fulfills the assessment blueprint to ensure that the tested items reflect the content for that grade and subject, as well as the emphasis of that content.

Future Plans: K-2 Assessments

- As one of the state goals for early learners, MSDE is in the beginning stages of developing K-2 assessments.
- The assessments will be in mathematics and English language arts.
- The assessments will aid in identifying students who are not on track for meeting grade level, proficient performance in 3rd grade.
- We will be working alongside assessment experts in this area to support development with our state educators.

Questions?