



**Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.**  
State Superintendent of Schools

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**TO:** Members of the State Board of Education  
**FROM:** Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.  
**DATE:** October 22, 2019  
**SUBJECT:** Algebra I Assessment – Graduation Requirement for the Class of 2024

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**PURPOSE:**

To provide the State Board with information on the Algebra I passing score required for students graduating in the Class of 2024 and beyond.

**BACKGROUND/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:**

In October 2017, the State Board determined that the Algebra I assessment passing score required for graduation would be 750 beginning with students in grade 6 and below during the 2017-2018 school year. These grade 6 students in the 2017-2018 school year are scheduled to graduate in the 2023-2024 school year. The required score for students graduating prior to the 2023-2024 school year is 725.

**SUMMARY:**

The last year for the administration of the Partnership for Assessments of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) Assessments was the 2018-2019 school year. The Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) will begin in the 2019-2020 school year. Given the transition, the Maryland State Department of Education recommends that the pass score remain at 725 for the Class of 2024 and beyond and be reevaluated after two years of implementation of MCAP.

**ACTION:**

Request action on the score required for graduation for the Algebra I assessment for the Class of 2024 and beyond.

**Attachment:**

Algebra I Assessment Graduation Requirement for the Class of 2024 Powerpoint



# Algebra I Assessment Graduation Requirement for the Class of 2024

**State Board Meeting  
October 22, 2019**



# Decision on Algebra Assessment Score required for Graduation in 2024

- Decision of the State Board - October 24, 2017
  - Students in the graduating class of 2024 (students who started 6<sup>th</sup> grade in 2017-2018) will need a 750 on the Algebra I assessment.
- This is an increase from the 725 required score for students graduating in 2023 and before.
- At the time of the decision, Maryland was administering the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) Assessments with no intention of moving away from that assessment.
- The Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) begins this school year 2019-2020 .
- Given the transition of assessments from PARCC to MCAP for students graduating in 2024, the MSDE recommends that the pass score for these students remain at 725.



# Rationale

PRESENT	
Student Group	Algebra I Graduation Requirement
Students in grades 7-12 during the 2017-2018 school year	725
Students in grade 6 and below during the 2017-2018 school year	750

RECOMMENDED	
Student Group	Algebra I Graduation Requirement
Students in grades 7-12 during the 2017-2018 school year	725
Students in grade 6 and below during the 2017-2018 school year	725

- ▶ The 2018-2019 school year was the last administration of the PARCC assessments.
- ▶ The MCAP assessment will be administered beginning in the 2019-2020 school year.
- ▶ Students who must re-take the Algebra assessment in the 2019-2020 school year and beyond, in order to achieve the 750 required score for graduation, must do so on a new assessment.

# Recommendation

- ▶ Delay the implementation of the 750 requirement and return to a required score of 725 for the graduating class of 2024 and beyond. In two years, after standard setting, reexamine the required pass score.
- ▶ This will allow the new MCAP Algebra I assessment to be fully operational.

