

Instruction

Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations

Each student enrolled in grades three through eight inclusive and grade ten shall take a statewide mastery examination (measuring whether or not a student has mastered essential grade level skills in reading, language arts, science and mathematics). The mastery examination shall be provided by and administered under the supervision of the State Board of Education.

Student scores on each component of the statewide tenth grade mastery test (CAPT) may/shall be included on the permanent record and transcripts of students. Students who meet or exceed the statewide mastery goal on any component of the statewide tenth grade 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. A student who has not met the mastery goal level on each component of the mastery examination may annually take or retake each such component at its regular administration until the student scores at or above each goal level or until the student graduates or turns twenty-one (21).

The school district may not require achievement of a satisfactory score on the statewide proficiency examination or statewide 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 Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) and the Connecticut Academic Progress Test (CAPT). These students must take the Language Assessment Scales (LSS-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.

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, of students enrolled in special education, shall be available only to those students with significant cognitive disabilities. In compliance with federal law, out-of-level testing is not an option for students enrolled in special education.

Instruction

Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations (continued)

In compliance with federal legislation, a participation standard of 95 percent of the total school population, as well as for each subgroup (e.g. race/ethnicity, gender, special education, bilingual/ESL, eligibility for free and reduced lunch), will be the participation goal.

(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 and PA 03-168)

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)

PL 107-110 – Title I, 34 CFR Part 200

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

Policy adopted: October 15, 2007

THOMASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Thomaston, Connecticut