

STATE-WIDE MASTERY EXAMINATIONS

As used in this policy, “mastery examination” means an examination or examinations, approved by the Connecticut State Board of Education, that measure essential and grade-appropriate skills in reading, writing, mathematics or science.

Each student enrolled in grades three to eight, inclusive, and grade ten or eleven shall annually take a mastery examination in reading, writing and mathematics.

Each student enrolled in grade five, eight, ten or eleven shall annually, in March or April, take a state-wide mastery examination in science.

The mastery examinations shall be provided by and administered under the supervision of the State Board of Education.

For each tenth or eleventh grade student who meets or exceeds the statewide mastery goal level on any component of the mastery examination, a certification of having met or exceeded such goal level shall be made on the student’s permanent record and transcript, and such student shall be issued a certificate of mastery for such component. Each tenth or eleventh grade 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 mastery goal level or until the student graduates or reaches age twenty-one (21).

The school district may not require achievement of a satisfactory score on a mastery examination, or any subsequent retest on a component of such examination, as the sole criterion of promotion or graduation.

Exceptions

Special education students shall participate in the 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.

The provisions on mastery testing shall not apply to any limited English proficient student, as defined in Title VII of the Improving America’s Schools Act of 1994, Public Law 103-382, enrolled in school for:

- Ten (10) school months or less, or
- More than ten (10) school months and less than twenty (20) school months who scores below the level established by the State Board of Education on the linguistic portion of the designated English mastery standard assessment administered in the month prior to the administration of the mastery examination.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes

Instruction

Policy 6146.2 (b)

STATE-WIDE MASTERY EXAMINATIONS

10-14n. Statewide mastery examination. Certification of mastery. Limitations on use of test results. Examination in accordance with federal No Child Left Behind Act; funding. Kindergarten assessment tool. (as amended by Public Act 14-217)

10-14q. Exceptions.

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