



# STATE TESTING

## Spring 2022 Assessments



**COLORADO**  
Department of Education

### Overview

Colorado's state content assessment system includes the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) and PSAT/ SAT. While these annual end-of-the-year assessments are required by both state and federal laws, more importantly, they are the only common measure of students' achievement of the Colorado Academic Standards in English language arts, math, science and social studies. They are different from school- and district-level tests because CMAS measures students' progress on our state standards and allow for important analyses across the entire state and across student groups. This year's results will provide information on the learning of Colorado's students during these past couple of years of COVID. Assessment results will be a source of information to be considered in making state and federal resource decisions.

#### PSAT/SAT Resources:

The Khan Academy offers voluntary, optional and free practice resources for the PSAT and SAT, including paper tests, a daily practice app and a partnership with the Boys & Girls Club. Additionally, students can get connections to scholarship providers, access to online college and career planning materials and feedback about rigorous coursework.

#### CMAS Science Assessments:

This spring will be the first time that students will see science items developed specifically to the revised Colorado Academic Standards. Results for this year will be based on percentile ranks.

### 2022 Assessments

Per state and federal law, Colorado's typical state assessment schedule will resume again in the spring of 2022 with students in grades three through eight taking both ELA and math tests; students in grades five, eight and 11 will take the science test; and students in grades nine through 11 will take the PSAT/SAT.

CMAS  
ELA

GRADES  
3 through 8



CMAS  
MATH

GRADES  
3 through 8



CMAS  
SCIENCE

GRADES  
5, 8 & 11



PSAT

GRADES  
9 & 10



SAT

GRADE  
11



## Why Students Take State Assessments

Statewide assessments provide valuable information for students, parents, districts, taxpayers and policy makers about overall academic performance. The assessments provide point-in-time snapshots of what students know and can do in core academic areas. The tests help students, families and educators know how students are performing compared to their peers across the state.

In addition, the statewide assessments help provide information on how well the state's education system is meeting the goals of helping every child attain academic proficiency on the Colorado Academic Standards.

## 2022 Assessment Calendar

### APRIL 11 - 29, 2022

Official CMAS ELA, math and science administration window.

Schools may begin administering online ELA and math assessments as early as March 21, 2022.

### APRIL 13, 14, or 15, 2022

PSAT administered to ninth- and 10th-grade students

### APRIL 26, 27 or 28, 2022

PSAT make-up dates (district choice)

### APRIL 13, 2022

SAT administered to 11th-grade students

### APRIL 26, 2022

SAT make-up dates

## When Will Results Be Publicly Available?

Schools and districts are scheduled to have access to their individual student level files mid-June with additional district- and school-level files and reports available throughout July. Consistent with typical years, state results are expected to be released publicly August 18th at the State Board of Education meeting.



## The Core of State Assessments The Colorado Academic Standards

### Standards

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Created by Coloradans for Colorado students, the Colorado Academic Standards provided a road map to help ensure all students are successful in college, careers and life. The standards set expectations for what students should know and be able to do across 10 subject areas, including English language arts, math, science and social studies.

They incorporate future skills and essential knowledge that students will need to be successful later in college and careers. The statewide assessments students in Colorado take every year are aligned with these standards and help determine if students have mastered grade-level expectations by the year's end.

### Key Components of the Standards

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Across all 10 content areas, the standards are created to ensure students are prepared for college and careers after high school.

#### **RIGOR**

Students use inquiry, critical thinking and creative processes to solve problems

#### **RELEVANCY**

Students engage in real world scenarios that require the application and transfer of concepts and skills

#### **DISCIPLINARY LITERACY**

Students learn to speak, think, work and argue like mathematicians, artists, scientists, authors and historians

### Assessments Align with Rigorous Standards

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CMAS assessments align with the Colorado Academic Standards to measure student mastery of these skills and expectations. The assessments gauge student progress at the end of the school year in specific subject areas. The assessments are designed to be administered online. They feature a variety of interactive questions that are aligned with 21st century teaching and learning practices. The standards were updated in 2018 to ensure their continued relevancy.