

CSAP Achievement Levels

The Colorado Student Assessment Program (CSAP) measures student performance in reading, writing, mathematics and science relative to the Colorado Model Content Standards.

The Colorado Model Content Standards articulate challenging content that Colorado students are expected to know and be able to do.

All Colorado school districts are required by law to adopt content standards which meet or exceed the Colorado Model Content Standards and develop a plan for revising curriculum and programs of instruction to align with the Colorado Model Content Standards to ensure that each student will have educational experiences needed to achieve the adopted content standards (CRS 22-7-407).

Achievement levels describe the success a student has achieved on the Colorado Model Content Standards tested on the CSAP Reading/Writing and Mathematics (grades 3-10) and Science (grades 5, 8 and 10).

Achievement Level Definitions	
Advanced (4)	A student scoring at the Advanced Level has success with the most challenging content of the Colorado Model Content Standards. These students answer most of the test questions correctly, including the most challenging questions.
Proficient (3)	A student scoring at the Proficient Level has success with the challenging content of the Colorado Model Content Standards. These students answer most of the test questions correctly, but may have only some success with questions that reflect the most challenging content.
Partially Proficient (2)	A student scoring at the Partially Proficient Level has limited success with the challenging content of the Colorado Model Content Standards. These students may demonstrate inconsistent performance, answer many of the test questions correctly but are generally less successful with questions that are most challenging.
Unsatisfactory (1)	A student scoring at the Unsatisfactory Level has little success with the challenging content of the Colorado Model Content Standards.

CSAP Reading Achievement Levels

CSAP Reading - Achievement Level Definitions	
Advanced (4)	A student scoring at the Advanced Level consistently utilizes sophisticated strategies to comprehend and interpret complex text. Students who score in this level illustrate exceptionally strong academic performance.
Proficient (3)	A student scoring at the Proficient Level routinely utilizes a variety of reading strategies to comprehend and interpret grade-level appropriate text. Students who score in this level demonstrate a solid academic performance on subject matter as reflected by the Colorado Model Content Standards for reading.
Partially Proficient (2)	A student scoring at the Partially Proficient Level generally utilizes some reading strategies to comprehend grade level text. Students who score in this level show partial understanding of the knowledge and application of the skills that are fundamental for proficient work. Some gaps in knowledge and skills are evident and may require additional instruction and remediation in order to achieve a proficient level of understanding.
Unsatisfactory (1)	A student scoring at the Unsatisfactory Level demonstrates competency with below grade-level text only and requires extensive support to comprehend and interpret written information. Students who score in this level may have significant gaps and limited knowledge and skills that are necessary to meet the state's reading standard. Students will usually require a considerable amount of additional instruction and remediation in order to achieve a proficient level of understanding.

CSAP Scale Scores

READING	Grade	Unsatisfactory	Partially Proficient	Proficient	Advanced
	3	150-465	466-525	526-655	656-795
	4	180-516	517-571	572-670	671-940
	5	220-537	538-587	588-690	691-955
	6	260-542	543-599	600-695	696-970
	7	300-566	567-619	620-715	716-980
	8	330-577	578-631	632-723	724-990
	9	350-584	585-641	642-738	739-995
	10	370-606	607-662	663-746	747-999

SPANISH READING	Grade	Unsatisfactory	Partially Proficient	Proficient	Advanced
	3	300-481	482-512	513-575	576-740
	4	300-505	506-536	537-591	592-790

CSAP Writing Achievement Levels

CSAP Writing - Achievement Level Definitions	
Advanced (4)	A student scoring at the Advanced Level consistently illustrates exceptionally strong academic performance. Students who score in this level demonstrate the ability to identify and apply good written communications by writing an exceptionally clear, focused, and interesting piece, using precise and varied words, engaging the audience and communicating a strong sense of purpose, and making few errors in conventions.
Proficient (3)	A student scoring at the Proficient Level demonstrates a solid academic performance on subject matter as reflected by the Colorado Model Content Standards for writing. Students who perform at this level are able to identify elements of good communication and demonstrate consistent awareness of writing conventions. They can organize appropriately, use a voice appropriate to the audience and purpose, make functional and effective word choice, and use correct conventions, such as proper capitalization, punctuation, spelling, grammar, and usage.
Partially Proficient (2)	A student scoring at the Partially Proficient Level demonstrates partial understanding of the knowledge and application of the skills that are fundamental for proficient work. Students who perform at this level show the ability to use some of the basic elements of written communication by demonstrating limited awareness of writing purpose or engagement of the audience, attempting to organize ideas, using basic, appropriate vocabulary, and utilizing standard English grammar with limited accuracy. Some gaps in knowledge and skills are evident and may require additional instruction and remediation in order to achieve a proficient level of understanding.
Unsatisfactory (1)	A student scoring at the Unsatisfactory Level may have significant gaps and limited knowledge and skills that are necessary to satisfactorily meet the state's writing standard. Students will usually require a considerable amount of additional instruction and remediation in order to achieve proficiency in writing skills relative to the Colorado Model Content Standards.

CSAP Scale Scores for Writing

WRITING	Grade	Unsatisfactory	Partially Proficient	Proficient	Advanced
	3	150-392	393-464	465-532	533-680
	4	190-413	414-484	485-553	554-730
	5	220-417	418-497	498-575	576-780
	6	230-422	423-512	513-599	600-840
	7	240-429	430-538	539-628	629-890
	8	250-433	434-555	556-650	651-910
	9	260-435	436-562	563-671	672-930
	10	270-458	459-577	578-689	690-950

SPANISH WRITING	Grade	Unsatisfactory	Partially Proficient	Proficient	Advanced
	3	250-447	448-498	499-574	575-750
	4	300-495	496-531	532-595	596-790

CSAP Mathematics Achievement Levels

CSAP Mathematics - Achievement Level Definitions	
Advanced (4)	A student scoring at the Advanced Level solves complex problems and demonstrates in-depth understanding of the skills, concepts and procedures contained in the six Colorado Model Content Standards for mathematics at grade level. Students who score in this level illustrate exceptionally strong academic performance.
Proficient (3)	A student scoring at the Proficient Level solves practical real-world problems and demonstrates understanding of the skills, concepts and procedures contained in the six Colorado Model Content Standards for mathematics at grade level. Students who score in this level demonstrate a solid academic performance on subject matter as reflected by the Colorado Model Content Standards.
Partially Proficient (2)	A student performing at the Partially Proficient Level solves simple or routine problems by applying skills and procedures contained in the six Colorado Model Content Standards for mathematics. Students performing at this level show a partial understanding of the knowledge and application of the skills that are fundamental to proficient work at grade level.
Unsatisfactory (1)	A student performing at the Unsatisfactory Level demonstrates limited understanding of the concepts and ineffective application of the mathematical skills contained in the six Colorado Model Content Standards for mathematics. A student performing at this level may have significant gaps and limited knowledge and skills that are necessary to satisfactorily meet the state's writing standard for mathematics. Students will usually require a considerable amount of additional instruction and remediation in order to demonstrate grade level understanding.

CSAP Scale Scores

MATHEMATICS	Grade	Unsatisfactory	Partially Proficient	Proficient	Advanced
	3	150-334	335-418	419-509	510-700
	4	180-382	383-454	455-537	538-780
	5	220-421	422-493	494-561	562-800
	6	240-453	454-519	520-588	589-830
	7	280-486	487-558	559-613	614-860
	8	310-520	521-576	577-627	628-890
	9	340-547	548-601	602-651	652-920
	10	370-561	562-626	627-691	692-950

CSAP Science Achievement Levels

CSAP Science - Achievement Level Definitions	
Advanced (4)	A student performing at the Advanced level has demonstrated performance that exceeds the standard expected at the assigned grade level. The student has shown sophisticated application of scientific knowledge and skills contained in the Colorado Model Content Standards.
Proficient (3)	A student performing at the Proficient level has demonstrated performance that meets the standard at the assigned grade level. The student has shown a thorough and effective application of scientific knowledge and skills contained in the Colorado Model Content Standards.
Partially Proficient (2)	A student performing at the Partially Proficient level has partially demonstrated fundamental knowledge and skills toward meeting the standard at the assigned grade level. The student has shown basic but inconsistent application of fundamental scientific knowledge and skills contained in the Colorado Model Content Standards.
Unsatisfactory (1)	A student performing at the Unsatisfactory level has not demonstrated the fundamental knowledge and skills needed to meeting the standard at the assigned grade level. The student has shown fragmented and inconsistent application of basic scientific knowledge and skills contained in the Colorado Model Content Standards.

CSAP Scale Scores

SCIENCE	Grade	Unsatisfactory	Partially Proficient	Proficient	Advanced
	5	300-428	429-507	508-568	569-900
	8	300-458	459-506	507-578	579-900
	10	300-468	469-506	507-580	581-900