



## Performance Levels and Policy Claims

Each Performance Level of the CoAlt assessment has a high level policy claim associated with it. This policy claims gives a general idea of what is expected of a student at each level regardless of their grade level. **The Advanced and At Target levels are ready for continuing study in the content area.** Grade level specific descriptions are included on the Student Performance Report and in the Interpretive Guide.

2014-2015 Performance Levels*	2015-2016 Performance Levels*	CoAlt Policy Claims
Novice	Advanced	Students performing at this level demonstrate a solid understanding of the concepts and skills represented by the Extended Evidence Outcomes (EEOs) of the Colorado Academic Standards (CAS). They are academically well prepared to engage in further studies in the content area with appropriate supports.
Developing	At Target	Students performing at this level demonstrate a foundational understanding of concepts and skills represented by the EEOs of the CAS. They are academically prepared to engage in further studies in the content area with appropriate supports.
Emerging	Approaching Target	Students performing at this level demonstrate a limited understanding of concepts and skills represented by the EEOs of the CAS. They will likely need moderate academic supports to engage successfully in further studies in the content area.
Exploring	Emerging	Students performing at this level demonstrate an initial understanding of concepts and skills represented by the EEOs of the CAS. They will need extensive academic supports to engage successfully in further studies in the content area.

**An Inconclusive designation is given to students who did not respond to any items on the assessment.**

## Cut Scores

### Overall Performance Level

Students taking the CoAlt Science and Social Studies assessments are given an overall scale score that ranges from 0-250. Colorado educators set cut scores on the specific content students should be able to engage with at each Performance Level. The elementary and middle school cut scores were then adopted by the State Board of Education in August 2014; the high school cut scores were approved in April 2016. The range of scale scores at each performance level is provided below.

CoAlt Performance Level Cut Scores				
Grade Level	Emerging	Approaching Target	At Target	Advanced
<b>Social Studies</b>				
Grade 4	0-142	143-162	163-187	188-250
Grade 7	0-133	134-162	163-190	191-250
<b>Science</b>				
Grade 5	0-134	135-159	160-183	184-250
Grade 8	0-127	128-163	164-189	190-250
High School	0-139	140-163	164-192	193-250

\*Performance Level names updated in 2015-2016 to be more closely aligned to CoAlt: DLM Performance Levels.