

Colorado Measures of Academic Success

Using the CMAS Score Report to Support your Student's Academic Success



COLORADO Department of Education

www.cde.state.co.us

Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) assessments in English language arts, math, science and social studies align with the Colorado Academic Standards and measure complex skills like critical thinking and problem solving. A score report is created for each student who takes a CMAS test. The reports feature information that will help parents better understand how well their child is meeting the expectations of the Colorado Academic Standards and if their child is on track for college and career after graduation.

Things to Remember

- CMAS tests are aligned to the <u>Colorado Academic Standards</u>, which are like road maps to help ensure students are prepared for college, careers and life. In spring 2018, the state academic standards were updated as required by state law. The revised Colorado Academic Standards won't go into effect until the 2020-21 school year, and state tests will be aligned to the updated standards at that time. School districts, teachers and students have another year to transition over to the new standards and state tests.
- CMAS tests are given at the end of the year, and are just one indicator that can be used along with report cards, classroom performance and teacher feedback to provide a complete picture of your student's progress.
- The tests measure the skills students need today such as the ability to think critically and solve complex problems.
- Knowing in the early grades if students are meeting grade-level expectations gives parents and teachers time to better prepare students for college and jobs after high school.

How Can I Support My Child?

- Work with your student's teacher to identify strategies to enrich your child's education where he or she is already meeting or exceeding grade-level expectations. Likewise, your student's teacher can help identify resources to improve your student's performance where needed. Tutoring, after-school programs or at-home activities may be available to help students practice their skills.
- Assure your student that test scores are only one indicator of progress.
- Determine which skills to reinforce at home. The detailed breakdowns of specific skills on your student's score report serve as a great starting point for identifying areas that need improvement.
- Access more information about the Colorado Academic Standards and aligned assessments, including a parent guide to understanding the score reports and Frequently Asked Questions at: <u>www.cde.state.co.us/communications/resourcesforparents</u>

Where can I learn more?

Colorado's rigorous academic standards were created to ensure that all Colorado students are prepared for college and career success. Colorado's assessments are aligned with the state standards, helping educators and parents know how students are performing and growing over time and how they compare to their peers across the district and state.

To learn more, visit: www.cde.state.co.us/communications/resourcesforparents