



# Colorado Measures of Academic Success

## CMAS RESULTS & EDUCATOR EVALUATIONS

How new assessments can and cannot be used in teacher evaluations



**COLORADO**  
Department of Education

*A resource for educators*

[www.cde.state.co.us](http://www.cde.state.co.us)

Colorado law requires that 50 percent of an educator's evaluation be based on student academic growth as demonstrated by various assessments or "measures of student learning," including but not limited to state assessments. However, Colorado is transitioning to new state assessments in English language arts, math, science and social studies known as Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS). During this transition, results from state assessments administered in 2014-2015 cannot be used in an educator's final evaluation rating. Results from district assessments and teacher-created assessments may be used to demonstrate student growth.

CMAS tests for 2014-15, including the PARCC-created English language arts and math assessments, can be used as a baseline for determining student growth in 2015-16 and beyond.

### Using CMAS Results from the 2014-15 School Year

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- According to H.B. 15-1323, CMAS results from the 2014-15 school year cannot be used for district accreditation ratings in 2015 or for educator evaluations. This "time out" created by the state legislature allows educators, schools and districts time to gain more experience with the standards and aligned assessments before their results are used for evaluation and accountability purposes.
- CMAS data from the 2014-15 school year may be used as baseline data for measuring student growth in 2015-16 and subsequent school years.

### Using CMAS Results for the 2015-16 School Year and Beyond

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Beginning with the 2015-16 school year, districts must use CMAS results in one of two ways for evaluations of educators. Considerations should be made for the content that teachers teach when applying CMAS results. As a reminder, the other requirements for using student growth in educator evaluations can be found [here](#).

- If CMAS results are available at least two weeks prior to the last class day of the school year, they may be used in evaluations for that year.
- If CMAS results are not available two weeks prior, districts must use CMAS results from the prior year (except for 2014-15) in educator evaluations. When districts use prior-year results, state assessment results would be the "first data point" included in an educator's evaluation.

### Where can I learn more?

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- Educator Effectiveness: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/educatoreffectiveness>
- CMAS Communication Tools: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/communications/tools>
- To view all CDE fact sheets, visit: [www.cde.state.co.us/Communications/factsheetsandfags](http://www.cde.state.co.us/Communications/factsheetsandfags)