Resource Guides have been updated!

- The Fall 2014 Resource Guides for **English Language Arts** and **Mathematics** *(including High School)* are now posted! These subjects are fully aligned with the 2011 Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks *(incorporating the Common Core State Standards)* for grades Pre-K–12.

The Fall 2014 Resource Guide for **Science and Technology/Engineering** has been revised and will be posted shortly.

Available at: [http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/alt/resources.html](http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/alt/resources.html).

The 2015 MCAS-Alt must be based on the Fall 2014 Resource Guides!

**Online Forms and Graphs**

The Online Forms and Graphs application will be available for all content areas with entry points that are acceptable as written for the creation of measurable outcomes. A link to the Forms and Graphs program will be available in early September at [www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/alt/resources.html](http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/alt/resources.html).

**2015 Educator’s Manual**

The 2015 **Educator's Manual for MCAS-Alt** is now available at [www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/alt/resources.html](http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/alt/resources.html). Please be aware of the new standards to be assessed for High school Mathematics, as well as reviewing the reminders and clarifications for avoiding scores of *Incomplete* when submitting portfolio strands in ELA and Mathematics.

Digital editions of the **Educator's Manual** and all **Resource Guides** will be distributed to participants at the MCAS-Alt training sessions in October (see below).

**Alternate Assessments in schools that will administer PARCC in 2015**

Students designated for alternate assessments in the 2014-2015 school year will continue to submit the MCAS-Alt portfolio, regardless of their school’s choice to administer either MCAS or PARCC in spring 2015.

**Apply to Become an MCAS-Alt Training Specialist**

Are you a teacher who has compiled high-quality MCAS-Alt portfolios for at least two years and could assist other teachers? If so, you may be an ideal candidate to assume a higher-profile role as an **MCAS-Alt training specialist**. Please consider applying to become a training specialist for the
2014–2015 school year. Training specialists serve as resources in their school and district, and assist the Department during fall, winter, and spring portfolio training and review sessions. Please Note: Applicants will require an administrator’s approval of their application upon submission. Apply online at www.mcas-alt.org/ts/apply deadline is 5:00 pm on Friday, September 12.

**Fall Training Opportunities**

**MCAS-Alt Fall Training Sessions for Teachers and Administrators**

Department-sponsored half-day training sessions will be conducted in September/October 2014 for teachers with and without prior MCAS-Alt experience, according to the schedule below. In addition, two-hour afternoon sessions for administrators will be available on MCAS, MCAS-Alt, and PARCC for students with disabilities. Detailed registration information will be faxed to schools and districts in early September.

**Fall Training Sessions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, September 29</td>
<td>Marlborough, Best Western</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, September 30</td>
<td>Holyoke, Log Cabin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 1</td>
<td>Taunton, Holiday Inn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 2</td>
<td>Danvers, Double Tree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, October 7</td>
<td>Randolph, Lombardo’s*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 8</td>
<td>Springfield, Marriott*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 15</td>
<td>Danvers, Double Tree*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 16</td>
<td>Taunton, Holiday Inn*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Afternoon session for Administrators available from 1:30-3:00