



Jeffrey C. Riley  
Commissioner

# Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

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Dear Parents and Guardians of Students in the Class of 2024 (high school juniors):

Enclosed are your child's results from the spring 2022 10<sup>th</sup> grade MCAS tests. The front page of the report provides a chart that shows your child's results from assessments in English language arts, mathematics, and science and technology/engineering. The results are important, because earning a Competency Determination (CD) is a graduation requirement. In addition to the CD, students must meet all local graduation requirements to earn a high school diploma.

In **English language arts (ELA) and Mathematics**, there are three possible results for your child's test. Your child may have:

- Met the MCAS graduation requirement in one or both subjects by earning a score of 472 or higher in ELA and 486 or higher in Mathematics.
- Earned a score between 455 and 471 in ELA or between 469 and 485 in mathematics, but needs to complete an Educational Proficiency Plan ([www.doe.mass.edu/assessment/epp](http://www.doe.mass.edu/assessment/epp)) in that subject area in order to graduate. Each EPP will include a review of your child's strengths and weaknesses, the courses they must take and complete in grades 11 and 12, and a description of the assessments the school will administer to determine whether your child is moving toward proficiency.
- Not met the graduation requirement, in which case your child can retake the test (several times, if necessary) in order to meet the MCAS graduation requirement. The first retest opportunities for ELA and Mathematics are scheduled for November 9–10 and November 15–16, 2022, respectively.

In **science and technology/engineering (STE)**, students in the class of 2024 will fulfill the MCAS graduation requirement either by taking the new next-generation version of the STE tests in Biology or Introductory Physics, or by taking the legacy version of the STE tests in Chemistry or Technology/Engineering. The next-generation tests have different achievement levels and scores than the previous (legacy) versions of the tests, but for the class of 2024, students must reach a score corresponding to 220 on the legacy STE tests in order to qualify for a high school diploma. In other words, **the graduation standard remains the same** as the state introduces the new assessments in Biology and Introductory Physics.

On the enclosed report, there are two possible results for your child's STE test. Your child may have:

- Met the STE graduation requirement, as follows:
  - earned a scaled score of 220 (*Needs Improvement*) or higher on the legacy Chemistry or Technology/Engineering test; or

- earned a scaled score that is comparable to a score of *Needs Improvement* or higher on the next-generation Biology or Introductory Physics test
- Not met these requirements, in which case your child can retake the test (several times, if necessary) in order to meet the MCAS graduation requirement. The first retest opportunity for Biology and Introductory Physics is scheduled for February 1–2, 2023; the next retest opportunity for Chemistry and Technology/Engineering will be June 6–7, 2023. Please note that the June 2023 tests in Chemistry and Technology/Engineering will be the last administration of these two tests.

For students who have not met the requirement in either English language arts, mathematics, or STE, the MCAS Performance Appeals Process provides another way for students to demonstrate that they possess the knowledge and skills required to meet or exceed the state’s CD standard. Additional information, including eligibility requirements, is available at [www.doe.mass.edu/mcasappeals](http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcasappeals), or you can contact the high school principal or guidance office.

Your child’s MCAS scores may also earn them a tuition credit to a Massachusetts public college or university. Students who qualify for the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship ([www.doe.mass.edu/scholarships/adams](http://www.doe.mass.edu/scholarships/adams)) will be notified automatically during their senior year. Students who are eligible for the Stanley C. Koplak Certificate of Mastery ([www.doe.mass.edu/scholarships/mastery](http://www.doe.mass.edu/scholarships/mastery)) must apply during their senior year.

For students who have not met the MCAS requirements for graduation, there are additional opportunities available at no cost to help them prepare for the future, including high school programs, community college programs, and work and learning programs. More information about these pathways and other options can be found at [www.doe.mass.edu/ccte/ccr/hqccp](http://www.doe.mass.edu/ccte/ccr/hqccp).

If you have questions about your child’s results, please contact your child’s guidance counselor. If they are not able to answer your question, please contact us at [mcas@doe.mass.edu](mailto:mcas@doe.mass.edu) or 781-338-3625.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey C. Riley  
Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education