



MCA Information for Parents

The Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCAs) and alternate assessments (Minnesota Test of Academic Skills (MTAS)) are the state tests that help districts measure student progress toward Minnesota's academic standards and also meet the requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Students take one test in each subject. Most students take the MCA, but students who receive special education services and meet eligibility requirements may take one of the alternate assessments instead.

It is very important for students to be at school during planned testing dates, districts are held accountable for ensuring that all students enrolled and eligible are assessed during the testing window. The dates below are the specific dates that buildings have scheduled testing, however the entire testing window is extended to allow for make-up tests in the event of illness or other unavoidable absences.

Staples-Motley ISD 2170 MCA Testing Dates

Reading

Building	Grade	Dates
Staples-Motley Elementary School	3	April 3-6
Motley-Staples Middle School	4-7	April 9-12
Staples-Motley High School	8, 10	April 3-6

Math

Building	Grade	Dates
Staples-Motley Elementary School	3	April 17-20
Motley-Staples Middle School	4-7	April 23-27
Staples-Motley High School	8, 11	April 23-27

Science

Building	Grade	Dates
Motley-Staples Middle School	5	May 1-3
Staples-Motley High School	10-11	May 1-3

Resources for Parents from the Minnesota Department of Education

Frequently Asked Questions: Why Statewide Test Results Matter

Minnesota's statewide tests are objective, standardized measures of student achievement on academic or proficiency standards. Students, families, teachers and administrators use statewide test results as part of a comprehensive system for evaluating learning. Answers to frequently asked questions explain the purpose for statewide testing and why it is important to ensure the integrity of test scores: [Frequently Asked Questions: Why Statewide Test Results Matter](#).

Parent Fact Sheets

Answers to frequently asked questions about the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA), Minnesota Test of Academic Skills (MTAS), and ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs, are available in a downloadable and printable Parent Fact Sheets. A test preparation fact sheet is also available. See the document list below. Translated versions of these fact sheets are available under Translated Documents, below.

[MCA Parent Fact Sheet](#)

[MTAS Parent Fact Sheet](#)

[ACCESS Parent Fact Sheet](#)

[Test Preparation Suggestions for Parents and Teachers](#)

Pearson Perspective

Click on this link and find "Enter Family Site" for learning resources and parent resources specific to your child's grade level. You may also find your child's specific "Learning Locator" number on the MCA Individual Student Report you received last fall, or ask your child's teacher and we can get that for you.

<https://mn.pearsonperspective.com/perspective/>