

## 1.0 General Information for Parents and Educators

### 1.1 Purpose of This Guide

This guide provides information on the individual student performance reports, school reports, and district reports provided for the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) and Colorado Alternate (CoAlt) assessment results. Section 2.0 outlines and explains elements of the individual student report and may be shared with parents and educators to help them understand their students' test results. Sections 3.0 through 8.0 outline and explain elements of the school and district reports.

Please note that the sample reports included in this guide are for illustration purposes only. They are provided to show the basic layout of the reports and the information they provide. Sample reports do not include actual data from any administration.

### 1.2 Background

#### 1.2.1 Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS)

The CMAS assessments are Colorado's standards-based assessments designed to measure the Colorado Academic Standards (CAS) in the content areas of mathematics, English language arts (ELA), science, and social studies. Eligible English learners in grades 3 and 4 may take the Colorado Spanish Language Arts (CSLA) assessment as an accommodation in place of ELA. A small number of students with significant cognitive disabilities who meet specific criteria may demonstrate their content knowledge on the CoAlt assessment which measures the Extended Evidence Outcomes (EEOs) of the CAS. The purpose of the CMAS assessments is to indicate the degree to which students have mastered the expectations of the CAS in each content area at the end of the tested grade level. CMAS results are intended to provide one measure of a student's academic progress relative to the CAS. Aggregated scores may be used by districts and schools to monitor their programs' effectiveness by comparing performance from year to year.

CMAS science and social studies assessments were first administered across Colorado in 2013-2014 and CMAS mathematics and ELA assessments were first administered in 2014-2015. The following table includes the content areas and grade levels that were assessed across Colorado in spring 2019.

Content Area	2019 Grades
ELA	3-8
CSLA*	3 and 4
Mathematics	3-8
Science	5, 8 and 11
Social Studies	4 and 7

\*As a requirement of Colorado School Law C.R.S. §22-7-1006.3 (4) (a) and (b), Spanish-speaking students in grades 3 and 4 who meet established eligibility criteria may take the CSLA assessment in place of the ELA assessment.

### CMAS Mathematics, ELA, Science and Social Studies

Available in online and paper format, CMAS assessments were developed by Colorado educators, the Colorado Department of Education, and the testing contractor.

### CSLA

Available in paper format, CSLA assessments are designed for students with a home language of Spanish who are enrolled in bilingual programs in grades 3 and 4. The CSLA assessments serve as accommodated versions of the CMAS ELA assessments. They are parallel and comparable to CMAS ELA in test design, item type, scoring and reporting. Therefore, separate CSLA reports are not included throughout this guide (please refer to ELA reporting information and examples).

### **1.2.2 Colorado Alternate (CoAlt)**

CoAlt is the standards-based assessment designed specifically for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities who, even with accommodations, are unable to participate in CMAS. CoAlt assesses the performance expectations of the EEOs of the CAS and students must meet participation requirements to take the assessments. CoAlt assessments are administered in a one-on-one setting between teachers and students. Teachers use CoAlt scoring rubrics to evaluate student responses before submitting performance results. For each CMAS assessment there is a corresponding CoAlt assessment; however, this guide only includes the CoAlt science and social studies assessments. The CoAlt mathematics and ELA assessments were developed by the Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) consortium and reports for those assessments are not included in this guide.

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## **1.3 Reporting Results**

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### **1.3.1 Sharing Results with Parents**

As a requirement of Colorado School Law C.R.S. §22-7-1006.3 (8) (a), personnel within the district and school must share with and explain to the parent or legal guardian of each student the student's state assessment results.

### **1.3.2 Confidentiality of Reporting Results**

The results of individual student performance on all Colorado assessments are confidential and may be released only in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. Section 1232g). When possible, aggregated student performance data representing 16 or more students is made available to the public. Additional data suppression rules are also applied to aggregated reports to protect student privacy. Aggregated reports do not contain the names of individual students or teachers.