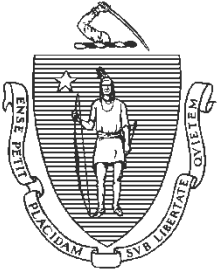


# **APPENDIX A**

## **2019 INTRODUCTORY STE FIELD TESTS**



# Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

75 Pleasant Street, Malden, Massachusetts 02148-4906

Telephone: (781) 338-3000  
TTY: N.E.T. Relay 1-800-439-2370

Jeffrey C. Riley  
Commissioner

## From the MCAS Update January 8, 2019

### Biology and Introductory Physics Field Tests

As a [reminder](#), high schools will administer computer-based field tests in Biology and Introductory Physics in spring 2019.

#### Participation

All high schools are expected to administer the field tests to **all grade 9 students taking the operational high school Biology and Introductory Physics tests**, with the exception of students who require the accommodations listed below. The participation of students in grade 10 is optional/at principals' discretion. Students in grades 11 and 12 are not eligible to participate.

The following students are not expected to participate in the field tests:

- first-year EL students
- students with disabilities who take the MCAS Alternate Assessment
- repeating grade 9 students

Since the accommodations listed below are not available on the field tests, students with disabilities and ELs who usually receive them may participate using another accommodation, or schools may exempt the student from participating in the field tests.

- A1 and EL1 – Paper-based edition
- A2 – Large-print edition (Note that onscreen text can be magnified.)
- A3.1 and A3.2 – Screen reader and Braille edition
- Unique Accommodation – Use of a compatible assistive technology device

Students who are absent are not required to participate in the field test when they return to school.

Similarly, students diagnosed with a concussion who are on a post-concussion graduated reentry plan and are not well enough to participate are not required to do so.

#### Administration

The suggested administration date is June 6. The testing window is May 28–June 14, 2019, but schools may not administer the field tests on June 3, 4, or 5 (i.e., the day prior to and the days of the operational high school STE tests).

Each subject's field test will consist of 18 questions and is expected to take 45 minutes to complete.

We recognize that the field test will create extra work for you and your staff, but it is an essential element in designing a high-quality assessment. In future years, field testing of new questions will be done within the regular MCAS test administration.

### **Resources**

Schools are encouraged to use these resources in preparing students for the field tests:

- [Practice tests](#)
- [Equation editor for the Introductory Physics field test](#)
- [Reference sheet for the Introductory Physics field test](#)