



Competency Determination Update

ELIMINATION OF MCAS AS GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

MCAS & COMPETENCY DETERMINATION

- Passing of Ballot Question #2 eliminated the state requirement of passing MCAS for graduation
- MA law (MGL C69 Sec1D) states students must satisfy the requirements of the “**Competency Determination**” and fulfill local graduation requirement in order to graduate
- Competency Determination was previously achieved by passing all 3 MCAS subjects or filing for an appeal to show competency through coursework

NEW LANGUAGE

The "competency determination" shall be based on the academic standards and curriculum frameworks for tenth graders in the areas of mathematics, science and technology, history and social science, foreign languages, and English, and shall represent a determination that a particular student has demonstrated mastery of a common core of skills, competencies and knowledge in these areas, ~~as measured by the assessment instruments described in section one i~~ by satisfactorily completing coursework that has been certified by the student's district as showing mastery of the skills, competencies, and knowledge contained in the state academic standards and curriculum frameworks **in the areas measured by the MCAS high school tests described in section one i.** administered in 2023, and in any additional areas determined by the board.

NEXT STEPS

- **Districts must approve coursework to certify Competency Determination as all MCAS tests post Jan 2025 will not satisfy this requirement**
- **Class of 2025**
 - Students who passed all 3 MCAS subjects have satisfied Competency Determination.
 - Any student who did not pass an MCAS subject can achieve Competency Determination by satisfactorily completing coursework that has been certified by the student's district as showing mastery of that subject (ELA, math or science)

RECOMMENDED GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

2025 Graduates

- Fulfill our **local graduation requirements** as outlined in the [Program of Studies](#)
- Weymouth Public Schools has rigorous graduation requirements that exceed the state Competency Determination
- The HS will present at the next School Committee meeting on the 2026 graduation requirements.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- MCAS is still required under state and federal law.
- There is no opt-out of MCAS
- DESE will continue to use MCAS data for purposes of school district accountability
- MCAS will still be used for the Adams Scholarship
- Elimination of the MCAS graduation requirement will not impact students access to our Post Grad Program

Additional Resources:

[DESE Presentation](#)

[DESE FAQ Page](#)