

## Academic Testing: A quick overview



In addition to passing classes and earning credits many tests are required for your child to earn his/her Maryland High School Diploma, this is just a quick summary of those tests and when most students take them.

Test Commonly Taken				
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	
Practice PSAT	PSAT	PSAT	SAT or ACT	
AP (course related)	AP (course related)	Mock ACT	AP (course related)	
MISA Life Science (LS)- Taken after biology typically in 9 <sup>th</sup> or 10 <sup>th</sup> grade	HSA- NSL Government,	AP (course related)	Accuplacer (MC Placement test)	
MCAP- Algebra 1 (if not taken in middle school)	MISA Life Science (LS)- Taken after biology typically in 9 <sup>th</sup> or 10 <sup>th</sup> grade	SAT or ACT or Accuplacer (mandated by CCRC)	HSA or MISA if not taken earlier	
MAP M and R (taken in fall and spring)	MCAP- Algebra 1 (if not taken in middle school)	HSA or MISA if not taken earlier	MCAP- if enrolled in Algebra 1 or English 10 or if they have not met the requirement.	
	MCAP- English 10	MCAP- if enrolled in Algebra 1 or English 10 or if they have not met the requirement.	Biliteracy Test- if not already completed	

## **Test Glossary**

Test	Description	
AP Tests	AP stands for Advanced Placement, and students are enrolled in a yearlong course, which	
Taken after completing AP course	culminates with an AP Exam. If students earn a 3 or higher on a 5 point scale they may get	
	college credit for the course.	
	Cost- Approximately \$101	
Accuplacer	One of the most commonly used placement tests at 2-year schools like Montgomery	
Typically grades 11-12	College. Also, one of the assessments used for CCRCA	
	Cost- Free	
ACT	One of two major college entrance exams. Students do not have to take both the SAT and	
Typically grades 11-12	the ACT they can chose one or the other, some students do chose to take both.	
	Cost- Approximately \$60-70	
Biliteracy	Students can earn the Maryland Seal of Biliteracy on their diploma by either taking an AP language	
Typically grades 11-12	exam and scoring a 4 or higher or taking one of the Biliteracy tests Advant Stamp or World Speaks	
	and passing.	
	Cost- if test in grade 12 free, if testing 11 <sup>th</sup> grade approximately \$20	
CCRCCA	College and Career Readiness and College Completion Act of 2013- which requires all public high	
	school students to take a college and career readiness assessment in English and mathematics by the end of Grade 11.	
	MCPS will use the SAT, ACT, and ACCUPLACER as the college and career readiness assessment under	
	CCRCCA. Currently, more than 70 percent of our students take the SAT and/or ACT, and others take	
	the ACCUPLACER by the end of Grade 11. It is required that all students at leas need to take one of	
	the assessments by the end of 11th grade. Financial assistance is offered by the companies that	
	administer these tests. The ACCUPLACER is already administered at no cost to students in MCPS.	
	Your student should work with his/her counselor to decide which test to take. In addition, your	
	child's counselor can provide guidance about the process of obtaining a waiver for the cost of taking	
	the SAT or ACT.	
	Cost –see individual test mentioned for pricing	



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skills to perform academic tasks. (It is only for international students or students who have		
lived in the US for less than 5 years.		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Cost- \$200-225		Cost- \$200-225
WIDA- Access for ELLs Students in the ELD program will take the Access for Ells to measure their English Language	WIDA- Access for ELLs	
	All EML students	
services.		services.
Cost –Free		



## Academic Testing: A quick overview

