

## SCAS (Secondary Credit Assessment System) Update

February 24, 2009  
Michigan School Testing Conference



"You're kidding? You count state assessments too?"

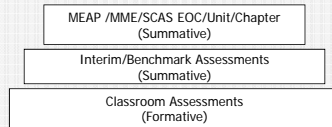


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## Comprehensive Balanced Assessment System



Aligned to State Content Standards



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## What is the Secondary Credit Assessment System (SCAS)?

- Public Acts 123 and 124 required the Michigan Department of Education to develop:
  - Course/credit content expectations in the required course/credit areas
  - Guidelines in other course/credit areas, and
  - End-of-course examinations in at least the required course/credit areas (later removed by amendment)



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## SCAS Assessments

- MDE has currently developed end-of-course exams for English 9, Algebra I, Geometry, and Biology
  - Items used in these exams written by Michigan educators summer 2007 and were pilot-tested in Michigan classrooms in January 2008
- They can be used as a standards-based end-of-course assessment



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## SCAS Assessments

- Available through the OEAA Secure Website
- <http://www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure>
- Need User ID and Password
- Under "announcements" select SCAS Assessments, scoring keys, scoring guides, and rubrics.



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Michigan Department of Education

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Welcome to the OEA Secure Site

To view important information and documents pertaining to a specific assessment, select the assessment from the dropdown menu below.

To begin working on the OEA Secure Site please click on the appropriate link from the menu at the left.

Assessment	Assessment	Task Start Date	Task End Date
SCAS	Assessments for local districts that wish to assess students' achievement in the area of Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology, and/or English 8. Test items are now available by attaching SCAS from the Assessment drop-down on this page. We ask that you not post these assessments electronically nor change them to self, parents, or students. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Also, any printed copies of the booklets should be kept in secure storage until after being used with students.	3/8/2008	5/9/2008

Assessment Descriptions

**Mathematics Spring 2008 Secondary Credit Assessments**

- Michigan 2008 Grade 1 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 1
- Michigan 2008 Grade 1 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 2
- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 1
- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 2
- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 3
- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 4
- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 5
- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 6
- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 7
- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 8
- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 9
- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 10
- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 11
- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 12
- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 13
- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 14
- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 15
- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 16
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- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 96
- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 97
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- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 99
- Michigan 2008 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 100

**English Spring 2008 Secondary Credit Assessments**

- Michigan 2008 Grade 8 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 1
- Michigan 2008 Grade 8 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 2
- Michigan 2008 Grade 8 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 3
- Michigan 2008 Grade 8 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 4
- Michigan 2008 Grade 8 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 5
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- Michigan 2008 Grade 8 Secondary Credit Assessment Part 100

## Using the SCAS Assessments

- Testing services (i.e., printing of test booklets and answer documents, assessment administration services, scoring and reporting) are not provided

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## Using the SCAS Assessments

- Districts are encouraged to print, administer and score the exams to assess students who have taken these course/credit areas and/or to help gauge the extent to which current course content is aligned with the HSCE for these courses

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## Using the SCAS Assessments

- Items are considered secure and may not be used for classroom activities
- The assessments should remain intact but may be augmented with additional items
- Items are to remain secure but may be used with content area teachers for professional development purposes

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## Using the SCAS Assessments

- The law makes it clear that the decision as to what assessment will be used is to be made by the district or public school academy, not each individual school or teacher

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## Recommended Passing Score for SCAS

- If district selects or develops a local assessment, the district is responsible for establishing the passing score
- If the state assessment is used, the state determines the passing score. The department determined that 70% correct be used

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## Using the SCAS Assessment

- District has the authority to establish policy to determine how a student may earn credit on a course s/he has taken
- If the state assessment is used as the final exam for a student taking a course (as apposed to “testing out” without having taken the class), the score on the end-of-course exam should not count for more than 20 – 25% of the student’s final grade in the class



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## Earning Credit

- In developing this legislation, the clear intent of the legislature was that students who have demonstrated proficiency will be able to receive credits that reflect their knowledge and skills in the course; those who have not shown proficiency will not receive credit.



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## SCA as a Gatekeeper?

- The MDE is currently developing guidelines in this area. If a student passes the course but fails the assessment, it is up to the district to determine if credit should be awarded



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## Gatekeeper, continued

- Similarly, if a student fails the course but passes the assessment, it is up to the district to determine if credit should be awarded
- Students who “pass out” without taking the course, however, should be awarded credit but no grade



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## To summarize, ...

- Typically, a course grade is based primarily on work done during the semester/year in which the course is taken; the SCA score would only make up part of the student’s grade for the course



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## Summary, continued

- On the other hand, a student can earn credit by taking the SCA; in that case, proficiency on the SCA would earn a student full credit for the course



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## Next Steps for SCAS

- As of this time, MDE has no dedicated funding for developing a Secondary Credit Assessment System, with full printing, distributing, scoring and reporting
- On the other hand, OEAA is using the resources it has for the state assessment program to develop additional assessments for schools to use with Michigan Merit Curriculum standards



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## More Next Steps for SCAS

- If provided by the legislature, added funding would permit MDE to begin developing more of the assessments over time



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## Proposed SCAS Development Schedule

Updated Feb 2009

Year	English	Math	Science	Social Studies
2007-08	English 9	Algebra I Geometry	Biology	
2008-09	English 10		Chemistry	US History plus Geography
2009-10	English 11	Algebra II Statistics & Probability	Physics	Civics
2010-11	English 12	Pre-Calculus	Earth Science	Economics



2011-12  
World History plus  
Geography

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## Q & A



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