

***PARCC Accommodations
and Accessibility***

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MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
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What We'll Discuss Today

- ★ PARCC Accessibility Policies – Background
- ★ What's Different from MCAS?
- ★ PARCC "Accessibility Features" for *All* Students
- ★ PARCC Accommodations for:
 - ★ Students with Disabilities
 - ★ ELLs
- ★ Personal Needs Profile
 - ★ Who, What, Why, and When?



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PARCC Policies

- ★ All member states agreed to align their accessibility and accommodations policies.
- ★ In general, states agreed to
 - ★ expand accessibility to more students;
 - ★ adopt the MA “nonstandard accommodations” (calculator and ELA read-aloud for certain students), and
 - ★ allow the use of assistive and other technologies, where possible.
- ★ MA was well-represented on PARCC working groups for Accessibility, Accommodations, and Fairness.



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PARCC Accessibility

- ★ Many accommodations on MCAS will be built into computer-based PARCC tests and be available to *all students* as **Accessibility Features**.
 - Use of keyboard, audio amplification, onscreen color contrast, highlighter, magnification, text-to-speech (Math), use of blank paper, redirect student to test, repeat/clarify instructions
- ★ **Accommodations** will be available only to *students with disabilities* and *English learners*.
- ★ The following **Test Administration Procedures** are available to *any student*, at the discretion of principal:
 - Frequent breaks, small group, separate setting, specified area or seating, adaptive/specialized equipment, furniture, or lighting



PARCC Accommodations

★ **PARCC accommodations for students with disabilities include:**

- Extended time, paper-based test, scribe, Braille, ASL, large print, assistive technology (screen reader, speech-to-text)
- Nonstandard accommodations (i.e., ELA read-aloud; calculator on all Math sessions), under same conditions as MCAS

★ **PARCC accommodations available to ELLs include:**

- Extended time, scribe for Math, word-to-word bilingual dictionary, repeat/clarify directions in English or native language

★ **PARCC accommodations do not include:**

- Untimed testing for all students (only for SWD and ELLs)
- Individualized ELA graphic organizers and Math reference sheets that are allowed for MCAS



Timed vs. Untimed Testing

MCAS	PARCC
Each session has a recommended duration, but all sessions are untimed	Each unit (session) has a designated duration that includes recommended time + about 50% additional time.
All students may use until the end of the school day to complete a session.	<p>Students with disabilities may receive the “extended time” accommodation (i.e., until end of school day to complete a session), if listed in IEP or 504 plan.</p> <p>ELLs also eligible for extended time.</p>

Student Registration File

- ★ This is the data upload to create the list of students to-be-tested on the **Performance-Based Assessment (PBA)**, due Dec. 23.
 - A second Student Registration file will need to be created for the PARCC **End-of-Year Assessment (EOY)**
- ★ The file contains pre-loaded demographic information on each student, plus information on only the following accommodations:
 - Paper test, as an accommodation
 - Human reader or human signer (for paper-based test)
 - Large print test
 - Braille test
 - **All other accessibility information will be collected on PNP.**

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Personal Needs Profile (PNP)

- ★ **What is it?** A data file indicating the testing needs and supports for individual students
- ★ **Why is the PNP needed?** Three purposes:
 - **States** will collect data on which students used which accommodations, features, and administration procedures.
 - **Schools** will be provided a summary of students who need supports during testing.
 - **Pearson** needs information to upload special test editions for schools (e.g., speech-to-text, onscreen font/background color).
- ★ **Who requires a PNP?** A PNP must be uploaded for any student who will receive an accommodation, accessibility feature, or allowable test administration procedure.

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PNP Upload Process

- ★ **When will schools upload PNP files?** In January, after uploading the Student Registration files, until the end of February (announced in January)
 - Begin to collect accommodations and accessibility information for SWDs, ELLs, and non-disabled students.
- ★ PNP file will be made available to schools with prior accommodations information pre-loaded for SWDs.
- ★ Schools **verify** or **modify** pre-loaded information, and **add new information** for students, as needed.



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
PNP File Layout

- ★ First, students must be “created” in the Student Registration Import (SRI) before uploading the PNP.
- ★ Accommodations data for each student will be pre-loaded in the PNP based on 2014 MCAS accommodations data cross-referenced with October 2014 SIMS.
 - ★ Schools **verify** or **modify**, as needed.
- ★ **PNP file layout** includes a range of:
 - Administration Considerations
 - Accessibility Features
 - Accommodations for students with disabilities
 - Accommodations for English language learners
- ★ PNP lists available student supports in a CSV (Excel) file.
 - File can be verified and uploaded for all students concurrently.
 - Refer to **PNP Field Definitions** for clarification when uploading.




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What do Field Definitions look like?

U	Color Contrast 	N	14	<p>For Computer-based Testing: The interface launches a pre-selected alternate color combination for the text (foreground) and background colors.</p> <p>This is available to ALL students testing computer-based and is available on all test forms.</p> <p>If expected value equals "black-cream", "black-blue", "black-magenta", "white-black", "blue-dblue", or "gray-green"; then the student must have Test Format populated with "0" in the student registration record or record will error.</p> <p>For Paper-based Testing: Colored overlays for background color. Font color cannot be changed.</p>	<p>black-cream = black font on cream background black-blue = black font on light blue background black-magenta = black font on light magenta background white-black = white font on black background blue-dblue = light blue font on dark blue background gray-green = Gray font on green background (low color contrast option) ColorOverlay = locally provided color overlay for the student to place over their paper test Blank</p>
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Enlarged view:

V	Text-to-Speech for Mathematics 	N	1	<p>Used to assign the form administered for computer-based testing.</p> <p>Test content will be read aloud to the student via Text-to-Speech embedded within TestNav8.</p>
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Online Resources

- ★ **PARCC Accessibility Features and Accommodations Manual** at parconline.org/parcc-accessibility-features-and-accommodations-manual
- ★ **MA Overview of PARCC Accommodations and Accessibility** at www.doe.mass.edu/news/news.aspx?id=12462
- ★ **Paper-based** accessibility features and accommodations at www.parconline.org/sites/parcc/files/appendix-a-paper-based-accessibility-11-14_1.pdf.
- ★ Generic PARCC **Math Reference Sheets** for students in grades 5-8 at www.parconline.org/assessment-administration-guidance
- ★ **General PARCC Inquiries** at parcc@doe.mass.edu
- ★ **Field Definitions (PNP, Student Registration)** at trng.pearsonaccessnext.com/customer/index.action, under "Support," then "Documentation"
- ★ **Training modules** at <https://parcc.tms.pearson.com/>
- ★ **Test preparation (sample items, tutorials)** at parcc.pearson.com/

