

Overview of the Student Readiness Tools (SRTs)

The [Student Readiness Tools \(SRTs\)](#) are tools that can be used to familiarize students with the format of the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs) and Alternate Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (Alt MCAs). Students already prepare for the *content* of statewide assessments through daily instruction aligned to the academic standards. The SRTs provide students with resources that focus exclusively on the *functionality* of the test and types of questions. If students are comfortable with the format of the test, they are better prepared during testing to demonstrate what they know and can do related to the academic standards.

The SRTs are available in paper and online formats, and students should use the format that matches their test administration mode. The SRTs also include supporting resources for educators and provide guidance, tips, and practice opportunities for educators using them with their students. In addition, some tools and supports that appear in the MCAs and Alt MCAs are available for students to practice outside of the SRTs. These tools are available on the [Student Tools and Supports](#) page of the Minnesota Assessment Hub (Minnesota Assessment Hub > Resources & Training > Student Tools and Supports).

SRT Formats

	<h4>Online SRTs</h4> <p>For the online SRTs, students select their grade level to access instructional videos and practice opportunities that will help them become familiar with the MCAs. They will learn how to navigate within the test, use its tools and test supports, and indicate answers for each type of question.</p>
	<h4>Paper SRTs</h4> <p>For the paper SRTs, educators can download and print the appropriate SRT that matches the paper test administration students will use to take the MCA. Students and educators will become familiar with the look and feel of the paper test materials and will practice indicating answers for each type of question.</p>
	<h4>Alternate Assessments</h4> <p>Paper and Online Alt MCA SRTs are available for the new Reading and Science Alternate MCAs. Resources to prepare students for the Mathematics MTAS will continue to be available on the Student Readiness Tools page.</p>

MDE Requirements

MDE requires districts to ensure that all students are familiar with the test they will take but does not require that specific resources be used or specify how those resources are used.

Each district determines how available resources will be used, and it may vary by school, grade, or student.

Grade 3 students or students who are new to Minnesota schools, for example, may need to use resources in a different way than grade 10 students who have taken a test in previous years. Check with your District Assessment Coordinator (DAC) on the plan for your district.

Additional Resources for Educators

Based on input from educators, MDE understands that educators need to be familiar with content that is aligned to the Minnesota Academic Standards and have access to resources that can be used to inform instruction. The Minnesota Questions Tool (MQT) is available to address these educator needs and is available on the [Released MCA Questions](#) page of the Testing 1, 2, 3 website.

Questions

For questions about student and educator resources, contact MDE's Academic Standards, Instruction and Assessment division at mde.testing@state.mn.us.