



**MS Subject Area Testing Program, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (SATP2)**  
**Fact Sheet**  
**Spring 2013**

**Introduction**

Subject area end-of-course assessments (SATP2) are administered to students as part of the requirements for the federal *No Child Left Behind Act* and the State Accountability Model. Since the 2001-2002 school year, students have been required to pass the subject area tests for graduation and are not allowed to participate in commencement exercises unless all tests have been passed.

**When do students take the assessments?**

Students initially participate in the assessments when they complete the associated courses. Courses for which state assessments are given at the secondary level include:

- Algebra I – typically taken in 9<sup>th</sup> grade
- Biology I - typically taken in 9<sup>th</sup> grade
- English II Multiple Choice Test and Writing Test – taken in 10<sup>th</sup> grade
- U.S. History – typically taken in 11<sup>th</sup> grade

**How many times may seniors take the assessments?**

For each assessment, students have multiple opportunities to achieve a passing score, depending on when the student takes the course. Retest opportunities for all courses are scheduled in September, December, and March for seniors.

**Special testing administration for seniors will be conducted in February (U.S. History only) and May (all courses) with scores provided prior to graduation.**

**Available Testing Opportunities for Students:**

Course taken in:	Opportunities for Students on Fall Block Course Schedule	Opportunities for Students on Traditional or Spring Block Schedule
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>
11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>
12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

## **What remediation is provided for students?**

The MDE provides remediation sessions on a regional basis twice each year for all subjects. Remediation video sessions are available for all end-of-course assessments and are currently posted on iTunes U, which can be found on the Office of Student Assessment website. Additionally, all districts provide a range of remediation activities for these students.

## **What steps are being implemented to help seniors pass SATP2?**

- Additional retesting opportunities are available.
- Personal notification from the State Superintendent to the parent/guardian of any senior who has not passed one or more of the subject area assessments in the fall of the same year.
- Communication from the State Superintendent to every district superintendent regarding the steps the district/school are to take to ensure success for all students, including meeting with the parents/guardians of each senior who has not passed all subject area tests.
- Development of online remediation session resources for teachers and students to access on-demand.
- Offering of best practice sessions for school/district personnel on how to develop/implement more effective remediation strategies for students.
- Conducting a three-day 'SATP2 Teacher Boot Camp' in July where teachers will attend an intensive training session to better prepare them to teach a course included in the assessment program.
- Development of annotations for existing practice tests which will provide a detailed explanation of why the correct answer is correct and why the incorrect answers are not.
- Allowing senior students who are re-testers to have 2 days to complete the English II assessment.
- More precise data collection to allow better decision-making related to all aspects of the assessment system.
- Identification of collaborative resources to provide a better support system for teachers and principals.
- Student/Parent information guides are provided to the districts in July, in time for school orientation with students enrolled in SATP2 courses.