

2018 GRADE 8 RICAS

MATHEMATICS ASSESSMENT FACT SHEET

RICAS TESTING SESSIONS

- There are two sessions in the grade 8 mathematics test.
- There is a non-calculator and a calculator session.
- Each session has a suggested length of 90 minutes.
- All students are eligible for extended time.

RICAS ITEM TYPES

- **Multiple Choice:** Students select one correct answer from several answer options. Items are worth 1 point and are machine-scored.
- **Multiple Select:** Students select more than one correct answer from among several answer options. Items are worth 1 point and are machine-scored.
- **Short Answer/Fill-in-the-Blank:** Students construct a short written response, typically only a word or number. Items are worth 1 point and are machine-scored.
- **Technology Enhanced:** Students answer questions using technology such as drag-and-drop or hot spots (on the computer-based test only). Items are worth 1 or 2 points and are machine-scored.
- **Constructed Response:** Students write a response to a multi-part item that includes calculations and explanations to a problem or set of problems. Items are worth 4 points and are hand-scored with a rubric.

RICAS TEST DESIGN

The grade 8 test includes both common and matrix questions. Common questions count towards a student's score, while matrix questions consist of both field-test and equating questions and do not count towards a student's score. The table below provides information about the number and point values of common questions on the grade 8 test.

Number of 1-Point Questions	Number of 2-Point Questions	Number of 4-Point Constructed Response Questions	Total Number of Questions	Total Number of Points
34	2	4	40	54

*Students in grade 8 will also answer four additional 1- or 2-point matrix questions and two additional constructed response matrix questions.

RICAS REPORTING CATEGORIES AND PERCENTAGE OF POINTS

The reporting structure is based on the domains of the Common Core State Standards for an individual grade. The percentage of points for the grade 8 domains are displayed in the table below.

Reporting Category Grade 8	2018 Percentage (+/-5%)
The Number System & Expressions and Equations	40%
Functions	20%
Geometry	30%
Statistics and Probability	10%

RICAS TESTING PLATFORM

The RICAS assessment will be administered through the Pearson TestNav8 platform. All students will take the computer-based version of the assessment unless a student receives an accommodation for a paper form of the assessment. The testing platform will provide a grade 8 student with embedded tools and features including an eighth inch ruler, centimeter ruler, pointer highlighter, answer eliminator, magnifier, and line reader. Students will be able to bookmark and review their work as they progress through the assessment. RIDE has created a document outlining the technology skills students should have for RICAS.

RICAS STUDENT TESTING RESOURCES

All grade 8 students will have access to a scientific calculator (on the calculator session of the test) and a standard mathematics reference sheet through the Test Nav8 platform (this reference sheet is also at the end of this document). For mathematics accommodations for students with disabilities and English learners, please visit ride.ri.gov/InstructionAssessment/Assessment/RICASAssessments and select the Accommodations tab for a complete list.

RICAS TUTORIALS, PRACTICE TESTS, AND RELEASED ITEMS

The RICAS Resource Center, administered by Pearson, is a site through which educators can access the Test Administration Manuals, Student Tutorials, Practice Tests, etc. Selected resources may be linked to the MCAS website and contain the MCAS branding for the 2017-2018 school year.

Computer-scored released items can be accessed via the RICAS Resource Center. Scoring rubrics and student work for the constructed response released items are available via the Question Directory for Student Work on the Massachusetts Department of Education website. Directions for using the online tool are provided.

RICAS Resource Center: <http://ricas.pearsonsupport.com/>

Question Directory for Student Work: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/student/2017/>

Directions for using the online tool: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/student/2017/about.html>

