

# Understanding your child's CMAS: Science and Social Studies Performance Levels



There are big changes coming this year for state tests. One of the changes is in something called performance levels. A performance level works the same way as letter grades do in the classroom. These help us to understand where a student is in their progress toward mastering a subject. In the past, the state tests used four levels: **Advanced, Proficient, Partially Proficient, and Unsatisfactory**. These are gone as of this year.

For the new tests on science and social studies, the state gathered 47 educators and experts from all school types from every region of the state. The state board adopted all new performance levels from their recommendations: **Distinguished Command, Strong Command, Moderate Command, and Limited Command**. Because these are all new tests with new standards and new performance levels, it is impossible to compare the old levels to the new levels. They are like apples and oranges. Students scoring Distinguished or Strong will be considered “on track” for college and career readiness. These Performance Levels will also be very similar to the Language Arts and Math scores that students will receive next year. Below you can see a table that helps to explain this change. If you have any questions about how all this fits together, please reach out to your child’s teacher.

Remember, these tests are just a small part of how D11 works to educate your student to become the **ACHIEVE graduate**. We are glad to partner with you to prepare your student for a world yet to be imagined!

<i>CMAS Performance Levels</i>		<i>TCAP/CASP Achievement Levels</i>	
<b>Distinguished Command</b>	<i>academically well prepared</i>	<b>Advanced</b>	<i>success with the most challenging content</i>
<b>Strong Command</b>	<i>academically prepared</i>	<b>Proficient</b>	<i>success with the challenging content; some success with most challenging content</i>
<b>Moderate Command</b>	<i>will likely need academic support</i>	<b>Partially Proficient</b>	<i>Has limited success with challenging content</i>
<b>Limited Command</b>	<i>will likely need extensive academic support</i>	<b>Unsatisfactory</b>	<i>Has little success with challenging content</i>

