Understanding Your Student's Individual Profile Report (IPR)



Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP)

Spring 2010 - Form A



Introduction

This document was prepared to help parents understand the Achievement test results. The Achievement Tests, taken each spring by students in grades 3-8, are a part of the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP). The Achievement Tests measure a student's academic knowledge and skills in reading/language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies with multiple-choice questions. Each content area has set time limits in which to administer the test.

The ACH, MAAS, and ELSA tests are criterion-referenced tests that are required by the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) legislation. For additional information about the No Child Left Behind Act, visit the NCLB Web page at http://www2.ed.gov/nclb/landing.jhtml.

Criterion-referenced test scores are used to measure how well a student has learned Tennessee's state curriculum rather than how the student compares with a national group. Criterion-referenced scores are also used to identify student areas of strength or opportunities for improvement.

The Spring 2010 Achievement Tests were aligned with new curriculum standards for reading/language arts, mathematics, and science. The social studies curriculum standards were not revised. As you know, students this year completed their first round of learning and testing under the state's new and higher standards. Sometimes test scores and grades dip when schools put in place higher standards. For additional information on the Tennessee curriculum and what your student should be learning at his or her grade level, visit the Division of Teaching and Learning web page at http://state.tn.us/education/curriculum.shtml.

There are three different types of tests that make up the TCAP Achievement Program: (1) the Achievement Test, (2) the Modified Academic Achievement Standards Assessment, and (3) the English Linguistically Simplified Assessment.

- 1. The Achievement Test (ACH) is the general assessment for grades 3-8.
- 2. The Modified Academic Achievement Standards (MAAS) Assessment is a more appropriate assessment for some special education students. An IEP team determines if a student is eligible based on criteria given by the state. MAAS is challenging for eligible students whose disability has prevented them from attaining grade-level proficiency. MAAS is an assessment that is based on grade-level content standards. The MAAS Test is different from the ACH Test in the following ways:
 - Shorter test with three answer choices
 - Shorter reading passages
 - Simplified language

- Print styles simplified
- Charts, graphs, and tables simplified
- Fewer passages or items on each page
- 3. The English Linguistically Simplified Assessment (ELSA) is given to students who are eligible to receive English as a Second Language (ESL) services. Students who have transitioned out of ESL programs are not eligible to take the ELSA Test. The English Linguistically Simplified Assessment (ELSA) is given to students who are eligible to receive English as a Second Language (ESL) services. Students who have transitioned out of ESL programs are not eligible to receive English as a Second Language (ESL) services. Students who have transitioned out of ESL programs are not eligible to take the ELSA Test. The language for ELSA test items was simplified to help measure the intended content knowledge or skill. The content knowledge or skill being assessed was not simplified. ELSA test items may have been simplified in one or more of the following ways:
 - Wordiness decreased
 - Common words and simplest verb forms used
- Concrete words used
- Sentence structure simplified

• Words with multiple meanings avoided

Context simplified

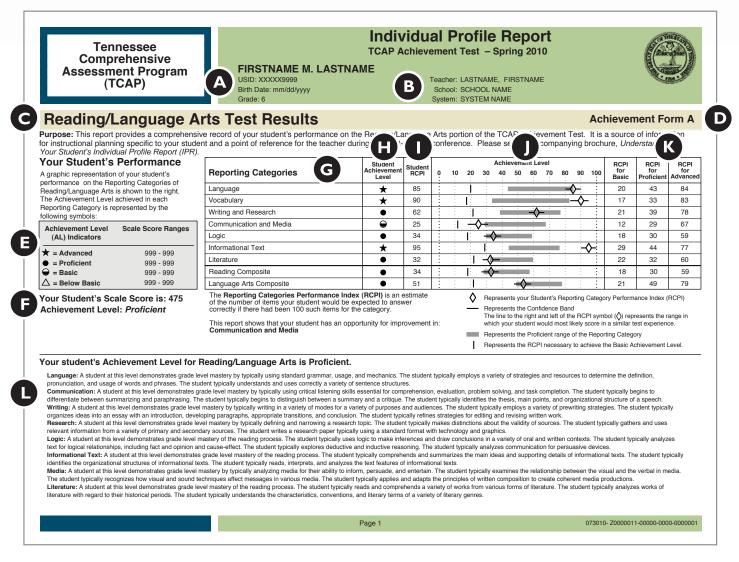
If, after reading this document, you need further assistance with understanding the TCAP Achievement Individual Profile Report (IPR), contact your students's teacher.

For additional information about the TCAP Achievement Test Program, visit the TCAP Achievement Test web page at http://www.state.tn.us/education/assessment/achievement.shtml.

Achievement Test (ACH) & English Linguistically Simplified Assessment (ELSA)

Reading/Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science

This document explains the test results presented on your student's Individual Profile Report (IPR) for the TCAP Achievement Test for reading/language arts, mathematics, and science.



Section A states your student's name, unique student identification number (USID), date of birth, and grade.

Section B features your student's teacher, school name, and school system.

Section C displays the name of the content area being reported.

Section E identifies the achievement levels using symbols. Scale scores are listed for the corresponding achievement levels. A description of each achievement level follows:

 Δ Below Basic – Students who perform at this level have not demonstrated mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and application of understandings that reflect the knowledge and skill specified by the grade/course level content standards and are not prepared for the next level of study.

• **Basic** – Students who perform at this level demonstrate partial mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and application of understandings that reflect the knowledge and skill specified by the grade/course level content standards and are minimally prepared for the next level of study.

• **Proficient** – Students who perform at this level demonstrate mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and application of understandings that reflect the knowledge and skill specified by the grade/course level content standards and are prepared for the next level of study.

★ Advanced – Students who perform at this level demonstrate superior mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and application of understandings that reflect the knowledge and skill specified by the grade/course level content standards and are significantly prepared for the next level of study.

Section F gives your student's scale score and overall achievement level for the content area.

Section G lists the reporting categories for the content areas that are measured by the test.

Section H symbolizes your student's performance in each reporting category.

Section I shows your student's score for each reporting category based on the Reporting Category Performance Index (RCPI). The RCPI is an estimate of the number of items your student would be expected to answer correctly if there had been 100 such items for that category.

Section J represents your student's performance in each reporting category based on the RCPI. The graph allows you to see how close your student's score was to the next higher or lower achievement level.

The Diamond (🛇) symbolizes your student's Reporting Category Performance Index (RCPI).

The bar () indicates the proficient range of the reporting category.

The line to the right and left of the student RCPI symbol (—) represents the range in which your student would most likely score in a similar test experience.

Section K presents the RCPI required to reach the Basic, Proficient, and Advanced levels.

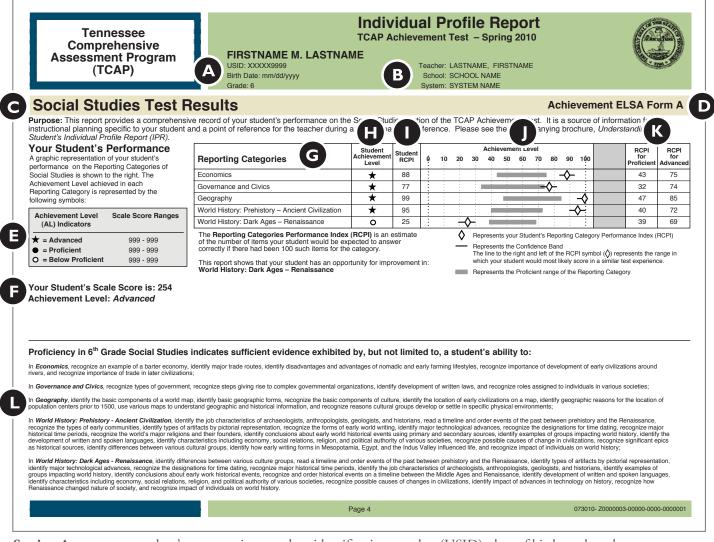
Section L provides information about knowledge and skills associated with the student's achievement level.

Achievement Test (ACH) & English Linguistically Simplified Assessment (ELSA)

Social Studies

This document explains the test results presented on your student's Individual Profile Report (IPR) for the TCAP Achievement Test for social studies. The social studies IPR looks a little different from the other content areas since the curriculum and achievement standards for social studies Use latest ELSA IPR were not revised.

The social studies IPR appears a bit different from the reading/language arts, mathematics, and science IPRs since the social studies curriculum was not revised.



Section A states your student's name, unique student identification number (USID), date of birth, and grade.

Section B features your student's teacher, school name, and school system.

Section C displays the name of the content area being reported.

Section E identifies the achievement levels using symbols. Scale scores are listed for the corresponding achievement levels. A description of each achievement level follows:

- **O** Below Proficient Demonstrates a lack of understanding of the essential concepts and skills of the content area.
- **Proficient** Demonstrates general understanding of the essential concepts and skills of the content area.
- **Advanced** Demonstrates an understanding of the application of complex concepts and skills of the content area.

Section F gives your student's scale score and overall achievement level for the content area.

Section G lists the reporting categories for the content areas that are measured by the test.

Section H symbolizes your student's performance in each reporting category.

Section I shows your student's score for each reporting category based on the Reporting Category Performance Index (RCPI). The RCPI is an estimate of the number of items your student would be expected to answer correctly if there had been 100 such items for that category.

Section J represents your student's performance in each reporting category based on the RCPI. The graph allows you to see how close your student's score was to the next higher or lower achievement level.

The Diamond (🛇) symbolizes your student's Reporting Category Performance Index (RCPI).

The bar () indicates the proficient range of the reporting category.

The line to the right and left of the student RCPI symbol (—) represents the range in which your student would most likely score in a similar test experience.

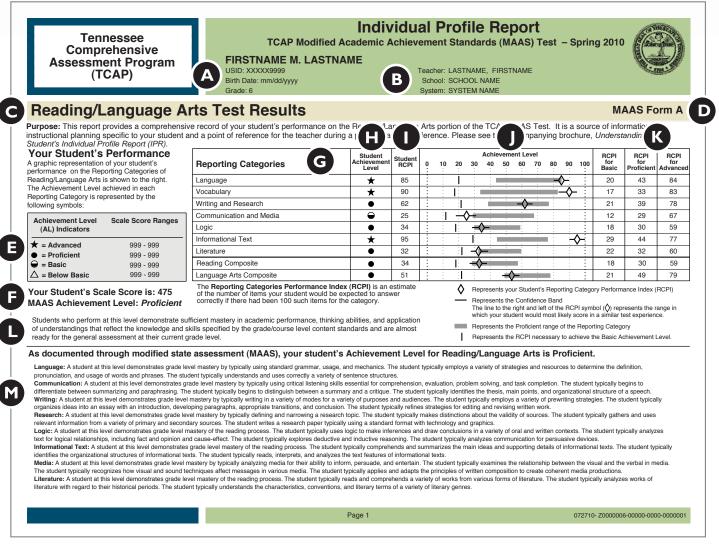
Section K presents the RCPI required to reach the Proficient and Advanced levels.

Section L provides specific information about the skills assessed within each reporting category.

Modified Academic Achievement Standards (MAAS) Assessment

Reading/Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science

This document explains the test results presented on your student's Individual Profile Report (IPR) for the TCAP MAAS Achievement Test for reading/language arts, mathematics, and science.



Section A states your student's name, unique student identification number (USID), date of birth, and grade.

Section B features your student's teacher, school name, and school system.

Section C displays the name of the content area being reported.

Section E identifies the MAAS achievement levels using symbols. Scale scores are listed for the corresponding MAAS achievement levels. A description of the MAAS achievement levels follows:

 Δ Below Basic – Students who perform at this level have not demonstrated partial mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and application of understandings that reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade/course level content standards and are not ready for the general assessment at their current grade level.

• **Basic** – Students who perform at this level have demonstrated partial mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and application of understandings that reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade/course level content standards and are not ready for the general assessment at their current grade level.

• **Proficient** – Students who perform at this level demonstrate sufficient mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and application of understandings that reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade/course level content standards and are almost ready for the general assessment at their current grade level.

★ Advanced – Students who perform at this level consistently demonstrate mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and application of understandings that reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade/course level content standards and are ready for the general assessment at their current grade level.

Section F gives your student's scale score and overall MAAS achievement level for the content area.

Section G lists the reporting categories for the content areas that are measured by the test.

Section H symbolizes your student's performance in each reporting category.

Section I shows your student's score for each reporting category based on the Reporting Category Performance Index (RCPI). The RCPI is an estimate of the number of items your student would be expected to answer correctly if there had been 100 such items for that category.

Section J represents your student's performance in each reporting category based on the RCPI. The graph allows you to see how close your student's score was to the next higher or lower achievement level.

The Diamond (🛇) symbolizes your student's Reporting Category Performance Index (RCPI).

The bar () indicates the proficient range of the reporting category.

The line to the right and left of the student RCPI symbol (—) represents the range in which your student would most likely score in a similar test experience.

Section K presents the RCPI required to reach the Basic, Proficient, and Advanced levels.

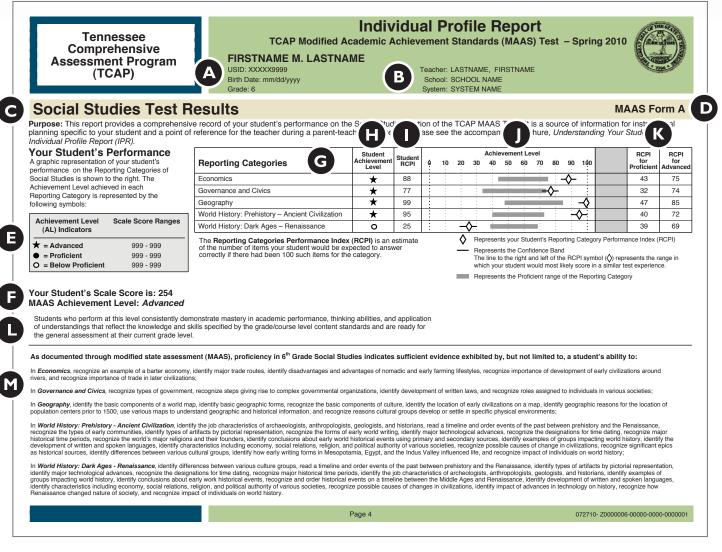
Section L relates your student's performance to the general Achievement assessment.

Section M provides information about knowledge and skills associated with the student's MAAS achievement level.

Modified Academic Achievement Standards (MAAS) Assessment

Social Studies

This document explains the test results presented on your student's Individual Profile Report (IPR) for the TCAP Achievement Test for social studies. The social studies IPR looks a little different from the other content areas since the curriculum and achievement standards for social studies were not revised.



Section A states your student's name, unique student identification number (USID), date of birth, and grade.

Section B features your student's teacher, school name, and school system.

Section C displays the name of the content area being reported.

Section E identifies the MAAS achievement levels using symbols. Scale scores are listed for the corresponding MAAS achievement levels. A description of the MAAS achievement levels follows:

O Below Proficient – Demonstrates a lack of understanding of the essential concepts and skills of the content area.

- **Proficient** Demonstrates general understanding of the essential concepts and skills of the content area.
- **Advanced** Demonstrates an understanding of the application of complex concepts and skills of the content area.

Section F gives your student's scale score and overall achievement level for the content area.

Section G lists the reporting categories for the content areas that are measured by the test.

Section H symbolizes your student's performance in each reporting category.

Section I shows your student's score for each reporting category based on the Reporting Category Performance Index (RCPI). The RCPI is an estimate of the number of items your student would be expected to answer correctly if there had been 100 such items for that category.

Section J represents your student's performance in each reporting category based on the RCPI. The graph allows you to see how close your student's score was to the next higher or lower achievement level.

The Diamond (�) symbolizes your student's Reporting Category Performance Index (RCPI).

The bar () indicates the proficient range of the reporting category.

The line to the right and left of the student RCPI symbol (—) represents the range in which your student would most likely score in a similar test experience.

Section K presents the RCPI required to reach the Proficient and Advanced levels.

Section L relates your student's performance to the general Achievement assessment.

Section M provides specific information about the skills assessed within each reporting category.