

II. Technology Guidelines

A. Operating System Support Plan

The table below describes eMetric's plan for supporting operating systems during the upcoming school year for MCAS computer-based testing. This plan helps districts and schools manage operating system deployments based on the support timelines. Districts and schools can use the support plan below to anticipate technology needs for the 2025–26 school year. Students testing on devices that do not meet the technology guidelines may encounter performance-related issues during testing. OS updates should not be made during the spring testing windows.

Please note the following major updates:

- Windows 10 is no longer supported
- eMetric has updated their Chrome OS support policy to support a larger number of ChromeOS versions each year, as described in the table below.

Table 1. Operating System Support Plan

Operating System	Version	Version Release Date	End of Support Date	eMetric Support Policy
Chrome OS™	138+	July 2025	eMetric supports the versions of ChromeOS that are current as of July of each school year. These versions will be supported through the end of the school year (June). Schools are not recommended to use beta versions of ChromeOS, as this may result in errors.	
	132+ LTS	April 2025		
iPadOS®	17.7+	May 2024	End of 2025–26 school year	eMetric supports the latest three major versions that are supported by Apple.
	18.5+	September 2024	End of 2026–27 school year	
	26	Expected fall 2025	End of 2027-28 school year	
Linux®, Fedora™ (64-bit only)	42	April 2025	End of 2025–26 school year	eMetric supports the latest version of Fedora.
macOS® (64-bit only)	14.7+	September 2023	End of 2025–26 school year	eMetric supports the latest three major versions that are supported by Apple.
	15.5+	September 2024	End of 2026–27 school year	
	26	Expected fall 2025	End of 2027-28 school year	
Windows®	11 (22H2, 23H2, 24H2)	October 2021	October 2031	eMetric supports major versions of Windows that are supported by Microsoft. The latest supported minor versions of Windows are supported.

B. MCAS Student Kiosk Device Specifications

Students must use devices that meet the specifications provided in the table below.

Table 2. Student Device Specifications

System Requirements – All Hardware	
Connectivity	Student devices must be able to connect to the internet via wired or wireless networks.
Screen Size	9.7" screen size or larger/ "10-inch class" tablets or larger "11-inch class" tablets or larger are highly recommended
Screen Resolution	1024 x 768 or larger
Browser Requirements	
Browsers (used for practice tests only)	Chrome 138 or newer Firefox 140 or newer Microsoft Edge 138 or newer Safari 18.5 or newer
Desktop and Laptop Specific Requirements	
CPU	1.3 GHz
Memory	2 GB (4GB is strongly recommended for best performance)

C. MCAS Portal Browser Specifications

The MCAS Portal is accessible via the following browsers on desktops and laptops:

- Chrome 138 or newer
- Firefox 140 or newer
- Microsoft Edge 138 or newer
- Safari 18.5 or newer

D. Accommodations with Supported Operating Systems

Certain accommodations in the MCAS Student Kiosk are only supported on specific operating systems as described in the table below.

Table 3. Accommodations with Supported Operating Systems

Accommodation	Supported Operating System
Compatible Assistive Technology	Windows
Mouse Pointer	Windows, macOS, ChromeOS, and iPadOS*
Screen Reader	Windows (NVDA, JAWS)
Speech-to-Text Standard	Windows, macOS, ChromeOS, and iPadOS
Speech-to-Text Special Access	
Word Prediction Standard	Windows, macOS, ChromeOS, and iPadOS
Word Prediction Special Access	