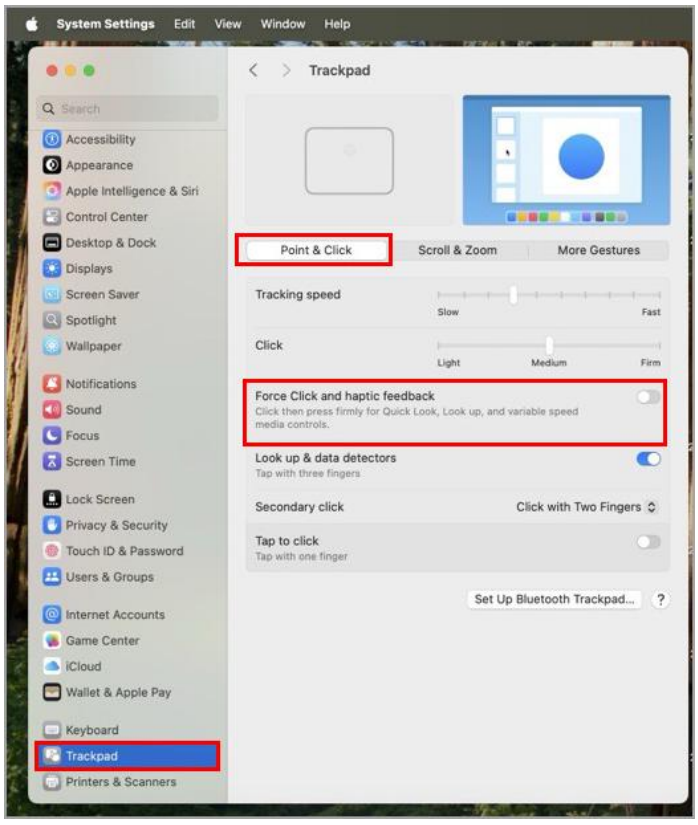


Note: This setting will only be available if the MacBook has a Force Touch trackpad.

When you are ready to complete Site Readiness for this configuration, refer to section V: Site Readiness Testing and Site Certification.

Note: Students should avoid using **Command (⌘) + Q** to exit the app. Using this shortcut to exit the app can sometimes trigger an unexpected error. This is a system-wide feature and not specific to our app. Instead, always use the in-app Exit button or logout options provided in the interface.

E. Windows OS

New for the 2026–27 school year, there are two distinct installation options for the Windows kiosk. Both options deliver identical app features, security protocols, and student testing experiences. Schools may choose their installation method depending on their organization's deployment and management preferences.

Installation Options

- **Option 1: iTester Windows App Installation from the Microsoft Store**

This method delivers updates automatically in the background through the Microsoft Store, reducing the need for manual software maintenance.

- **Option 2: Legacy Windows Kiosk Installation from the MCAS Portal**

  This method grants full control over the app's local write locations, and updates will be performed manually via new kiosk download.

Technology Coordinators may select either option based on the approach that best supports their device management and deployment practices.

Option 1: iTester Windows App Installation from the Microsoft Store

The iTester Windows app is a single instance app. IT Coordinators will select "MCAS "during the initial setup of the app. Follow the steps below to install the iTester Windows app on your testing devices.

To enable automatic updates, refer to: https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/apps/turn-on-automatic-app-updates

Step 1: Set up your school technology

Review section II: Technology Guidelines and section III: Technology Setup in detail.

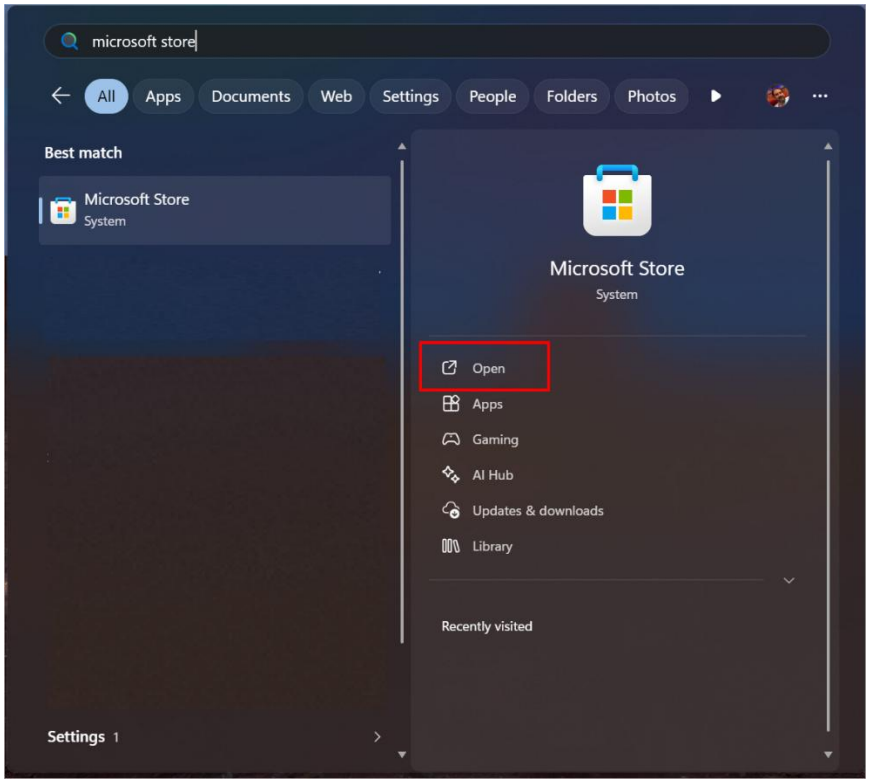
Step 2: Remove the legacy MCAS Student Kiosk

If your devices have the legacy Windows MCAS Student Kiosk installed, it will need to be uninstalled before downloading and installing the iTester Windows app. To uninstall the legacy MCAS Student Kiosk for Windows follow the steps below.

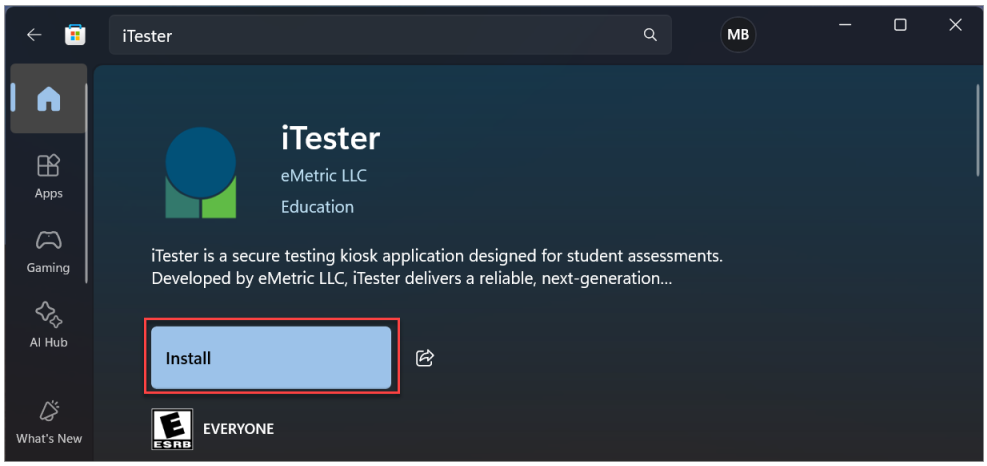
1. Open the **Control Panel** on the Windows device.
2. Select **Programs and Features** (or **Add or Remove Programs**).
3. Locate **MCAS Student Kiosk**.
4. Click **Uninstall** and complete the removal wizard.
5. Restart the device to complete the uninstallation.

Step 3: Download the iTester App from the Microsoft Store

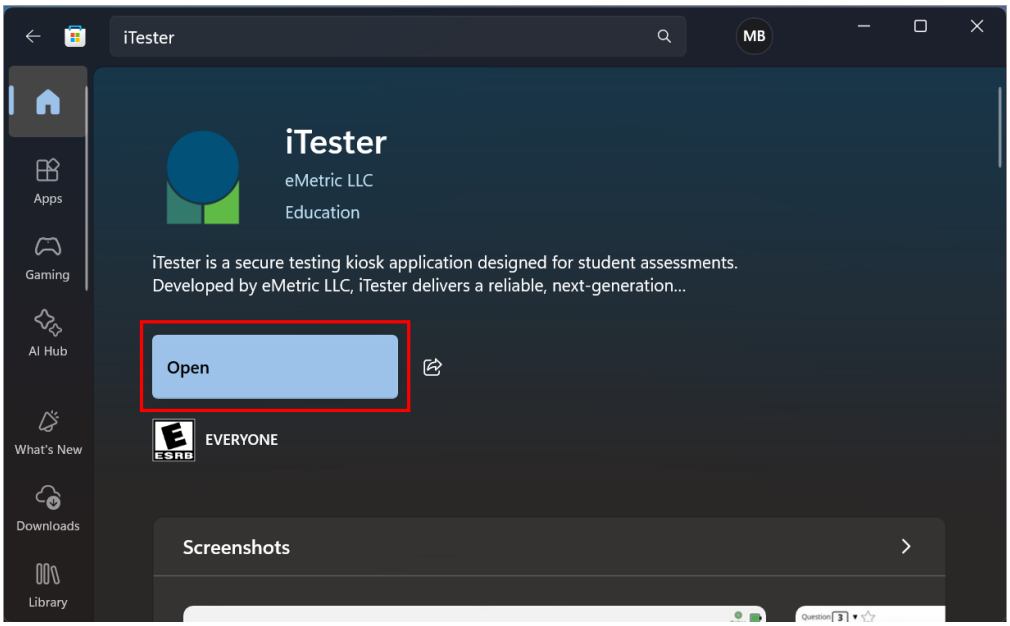
1. Open the Microsoft Store app on the Windows device.



2. Search for **iTester.**
3. When you locate the iTester app, click **Install** to download it to the Windows device.



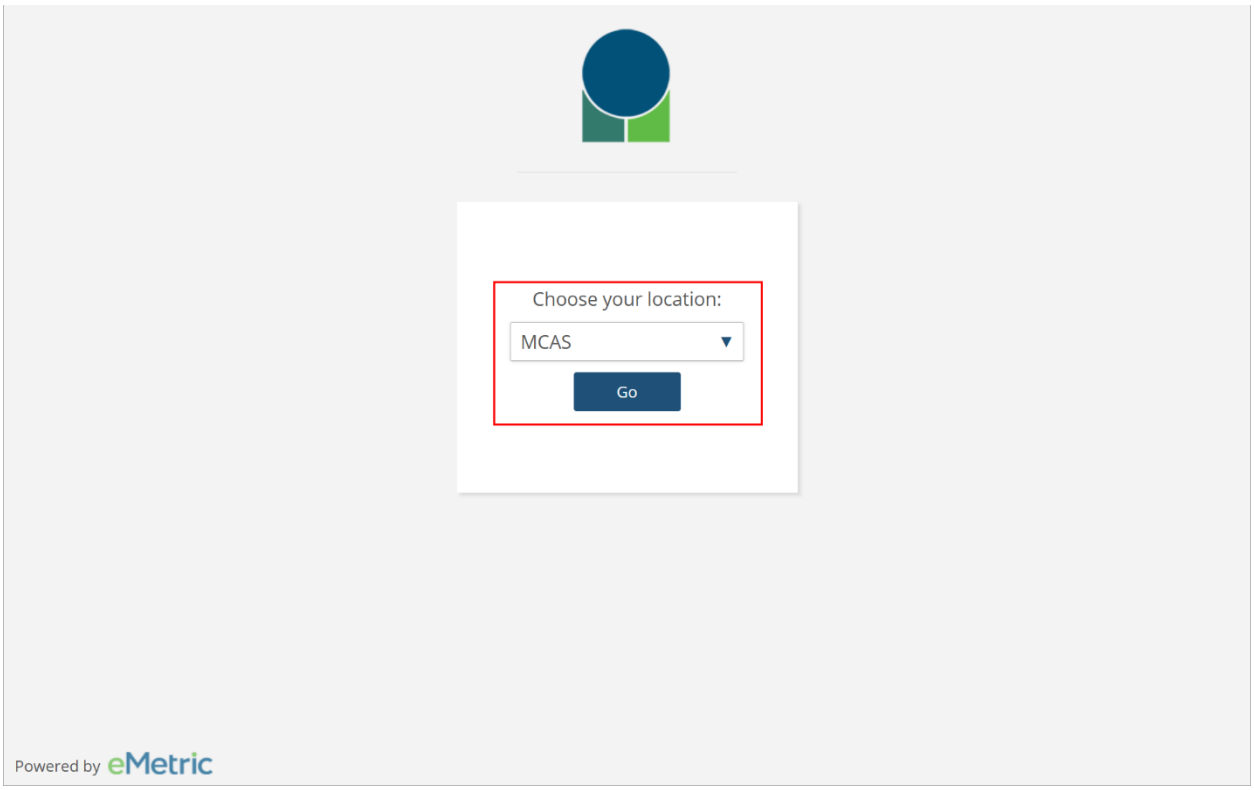
4. Launch the iTester app by selecting **Open**.



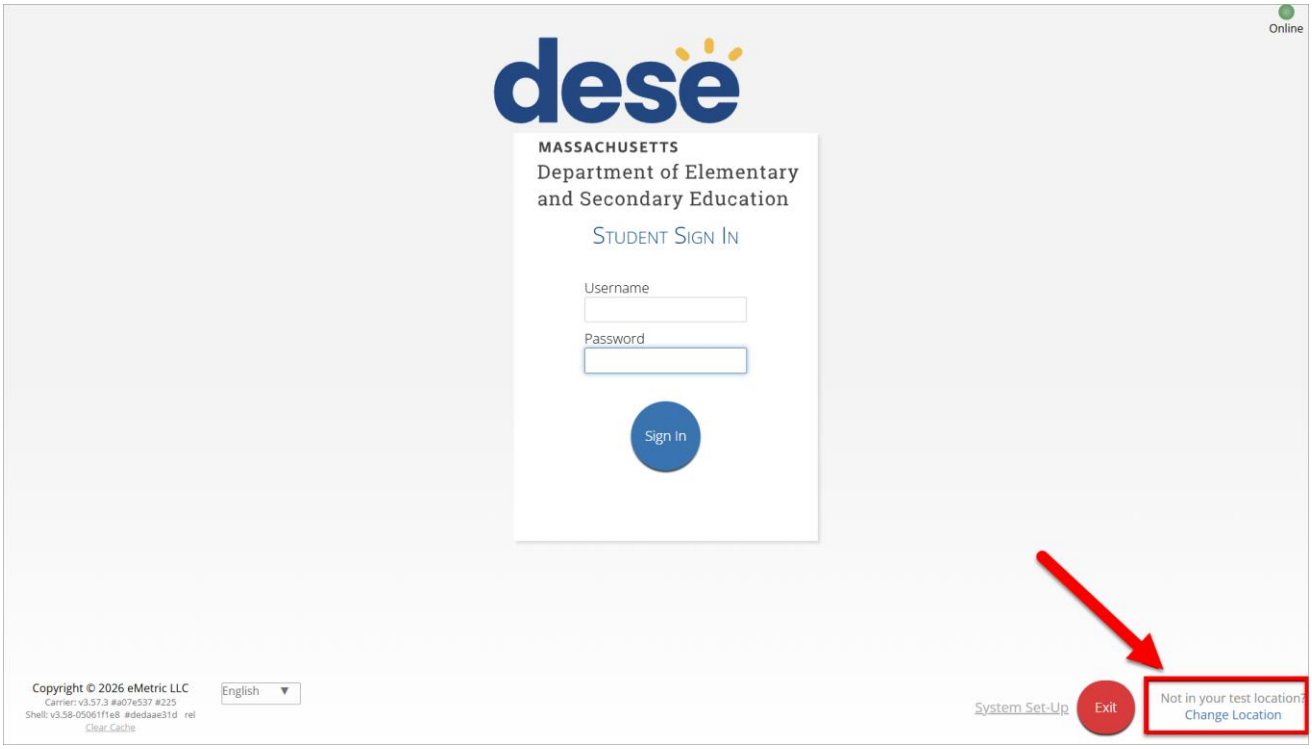
Note: For quick access after installation, you can pin the iTester app to the Windows taskbar or create a desktop shortcut, following the steps below:

1. Open the Windows **Start** menu (or press the Windows key).
2. Type the name of the app in the search bar.
3. **To pin to the taskbar**: Right-click the **iTester** icon in the search results and select **Pin to taskbar**.
4. **To create a desktop shortcut**: Drag the **iTester** icon directly from the Start menu search results onto your desktop.

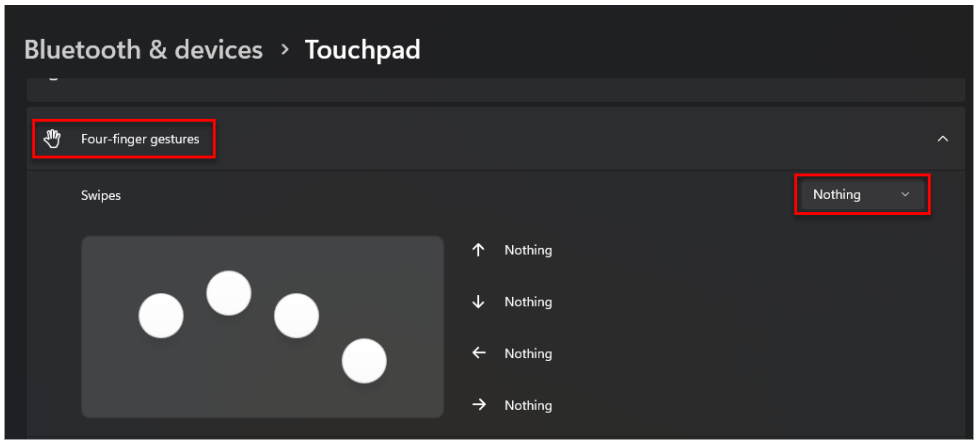
5. Choose "**MCAS"** from the drop-down menu and click **Go**. You will be directed to the student sign in screen for the MCAS Student Kiosk.



Note: If you select the wrong program in the **Choose your location** drop-down menu, select **Change Location** in the bottom right corner of the iTester login page.



6. For Windows devices with touchpads, Four-finger gestures for swiping will need to be disabled. To disable, go to **Settings > Bluetooth & devices > Touchpad**. Then locate Four-finger gestures and expand the section. Next, change the drop-down menu for Swipes to **Nothing**.



iTester Windows App Scripted Installation

Technology coordinators using scripted or automated deployments can install the iTester Windows app by running the following command:

- winget install iTester

The command downloads and installs the iTester Windows App on the device.

iTester Windows App Installation via Intune

Technology coordinators can use Microsoft Intune to distribute and manage the iTester Windows app across all managed client devices. Follow the step-by-step instructions described here:

https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/intune/app-management/deployment/add-microsoft-store

Option 2: Legacy Windows Kiosk Installation from the MCAS Portal

Step 1: Set up your school technology

Review section II: Technology Guidelines and section III: Technology Setup in detail.

Step 2: Remove the previous version of the MCAS Student Kiosk

The legacy Windows kiosk is updated each year. **New for 2026–27:** If your devices have a previous version of the legacy Windows MCAS Student Kiosk, it will need to be uninstalled before downloading and installing the latest version. To uninstall a previous version of the MCAS Student Kiosk for Windows follow the steps below.

If your devices do not have a previous year's kiosk installed, skip ahead to the next page to Step 3: Download the MCAS Student Kiosk

1. Open the **Control Panel** on the Windows device.
2. Select **Programs and Features** (or **Add or Remove Programs**).
3. Locate **MCAS Student Kiosk**.
4. Click **Uninstall** and complete the removal wizard.
5. Restart the device to complete the uninstallation.

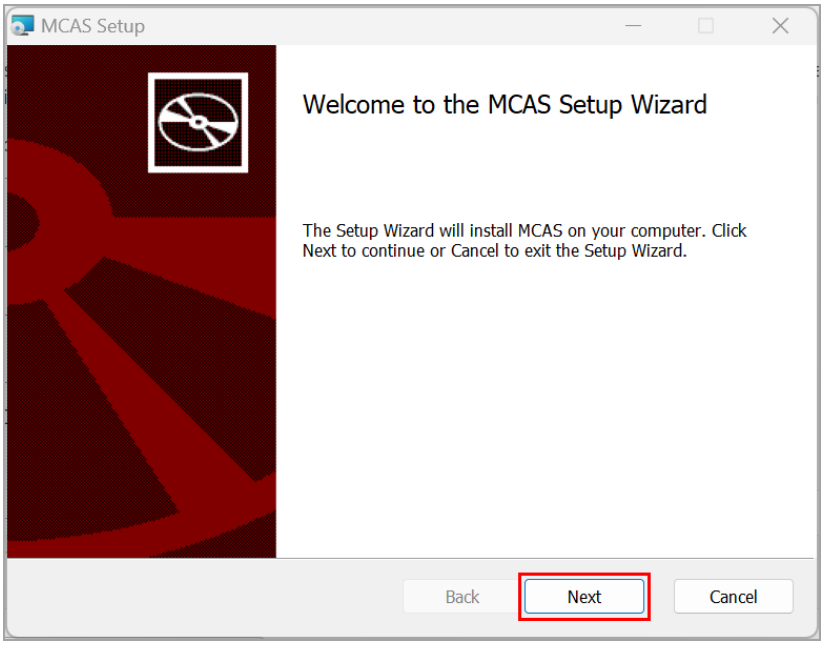
Step 3: Download the MCAS Student Kiosk

1. Go to the MCAS Portal and log in with your username and password. If you need assistance logging in to the MCAS Portal, contact your school or district test coordinator.
2. On the portal home page, click **Administration**.
3. Click **Student Kiosk for Windows** to download the MCAS Student Kiosk to the device.

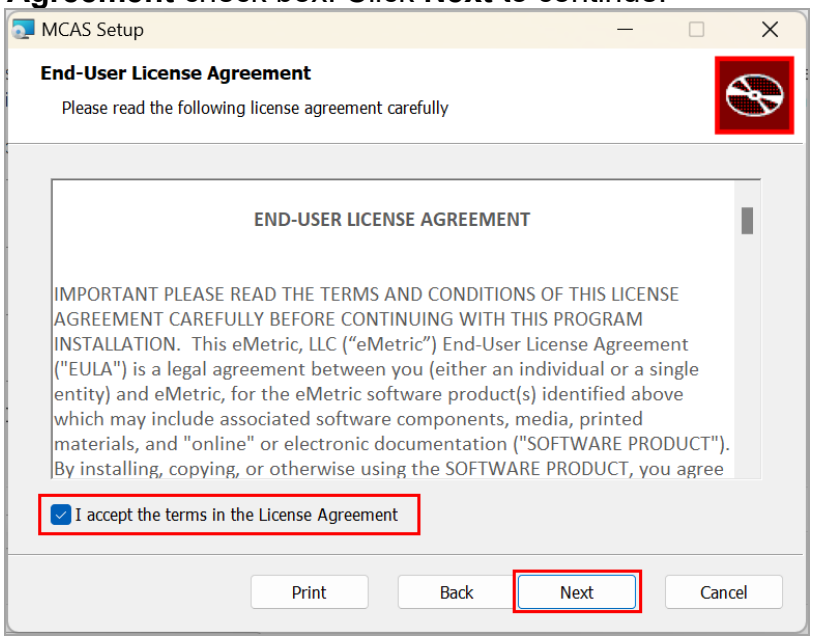
Step 4: Install the Downloaded Kiosk

The MCAS Student Kiosk for Windows can be installed on the school network or on each individual student testing device. It is recommended that the kiosk is installed on each individual device to avoid network connection issues. For installing on each individual student testing device follow the steps below, or follow the steps for Windows MSI Package Scripted Installation, or follow the steps for Windows MSI Package Installation Via Group Policy.

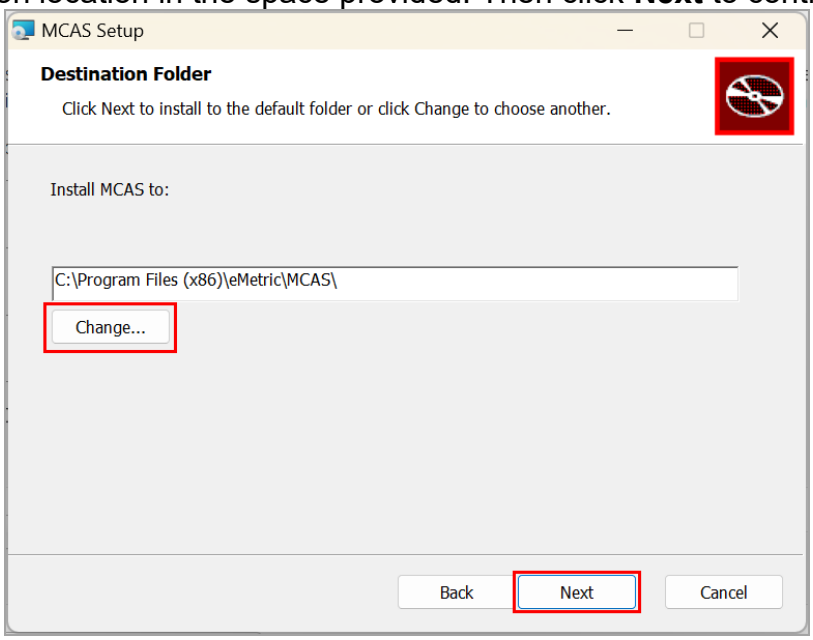
1. Click the installation file in the Downloads folder on the device. The Setup Wizard will open. Read the instructions and then click **Next** to continue.



2. Read the End-User License Agreement and check the **I accept the terms in the License Agreement** check box. Click **Next** to continue.



3. Use the default folder location for installation or click **Change** and type a different installation location in the space provided. Then click **Next** to continue.

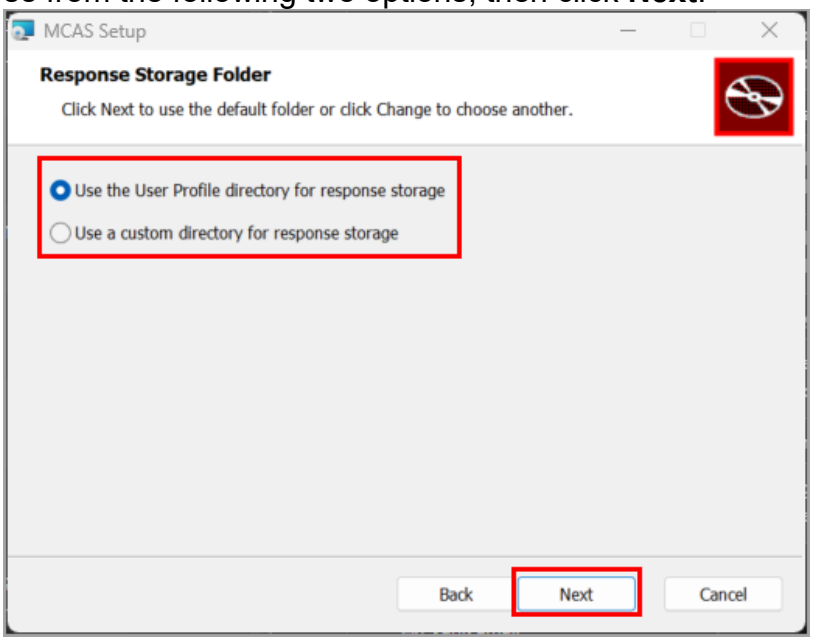


Note: You can choose to install the kiosk in a shared network folder or a local folder on the student testing device. It is recommended that the kiosk is installed on the individual student testing device instead of a network installation to avoid network connection issues (refer to section III, part A: Network Connectivity).

4. Select the directory to store student responses.

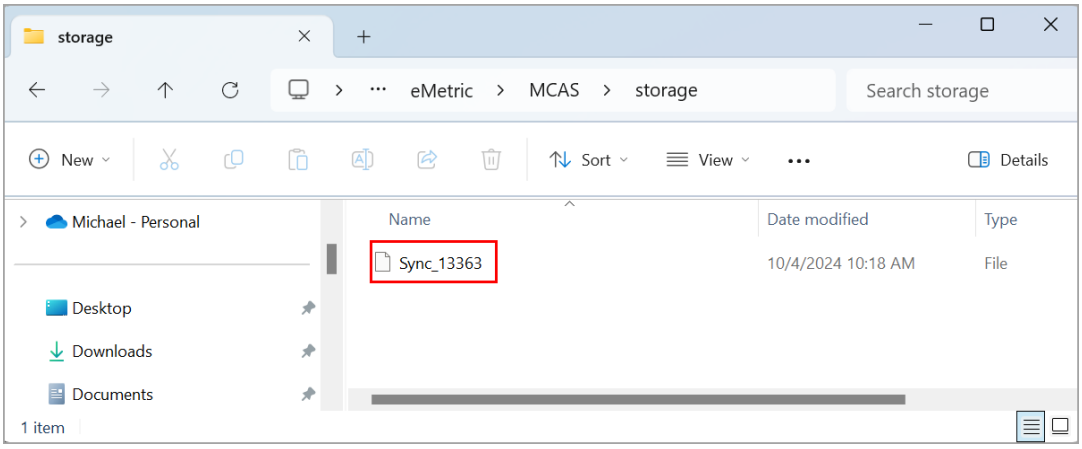
   Important: In the event the student loses internet connectivity during testing, responses will be stored to this location. Additionally, this folder must have the appropriate permissions to allow test takers to write data.

   Choose from the following two options, then click **Next**.



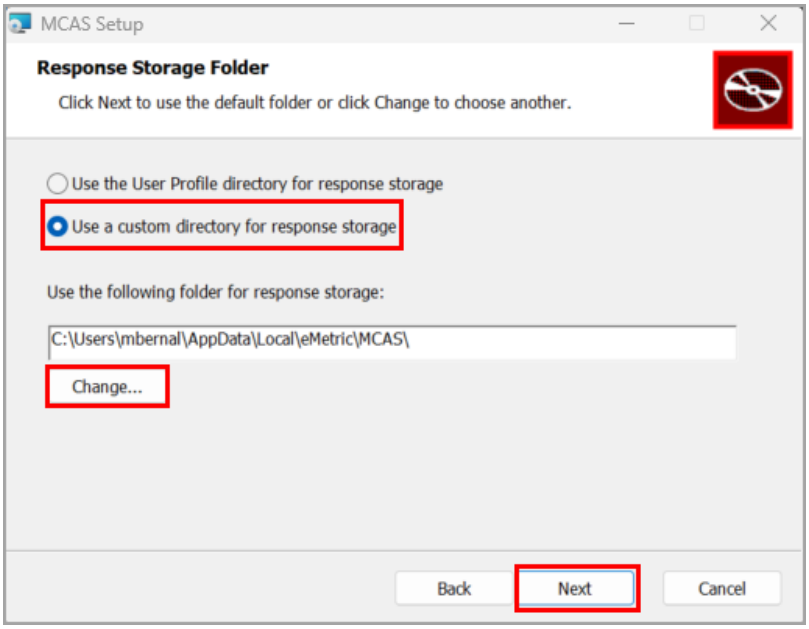
- **Use the User Profile directory for response storage:**

  During kiosk installation, if you choose the default option to store the stored response files in the user profile, these files will have names like this format:

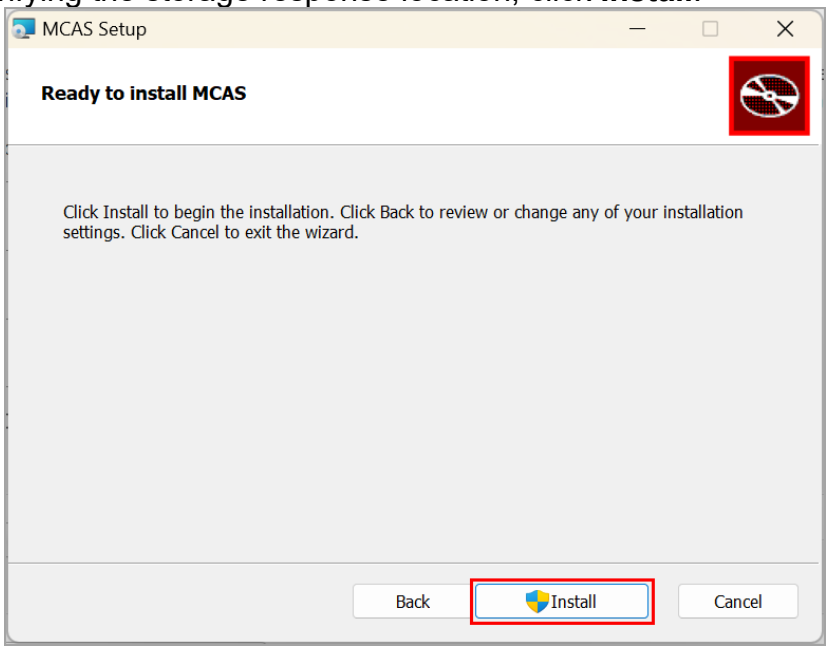


- **Use a custom directory for response storage:**

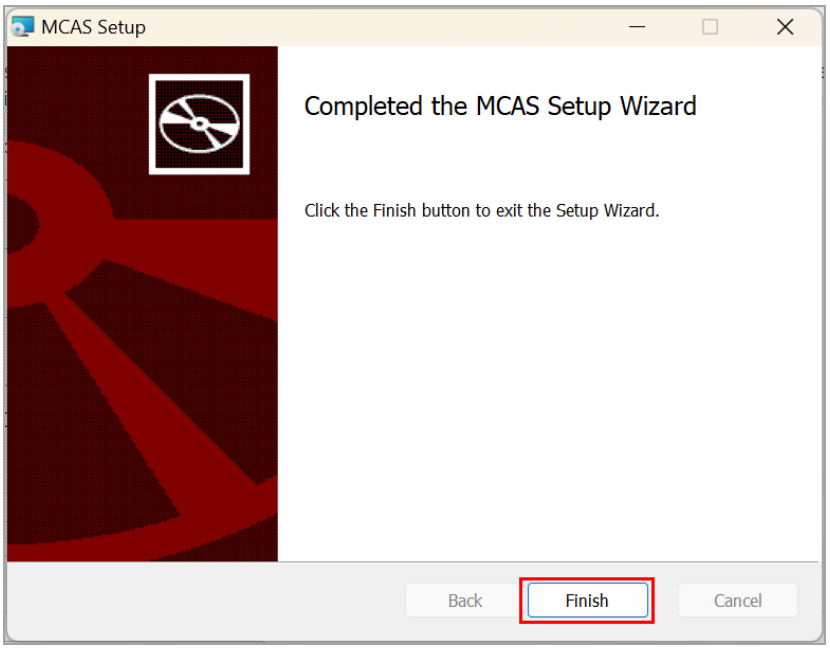
  If you select **Save in the following directory**, you must manually enter the alternate path.



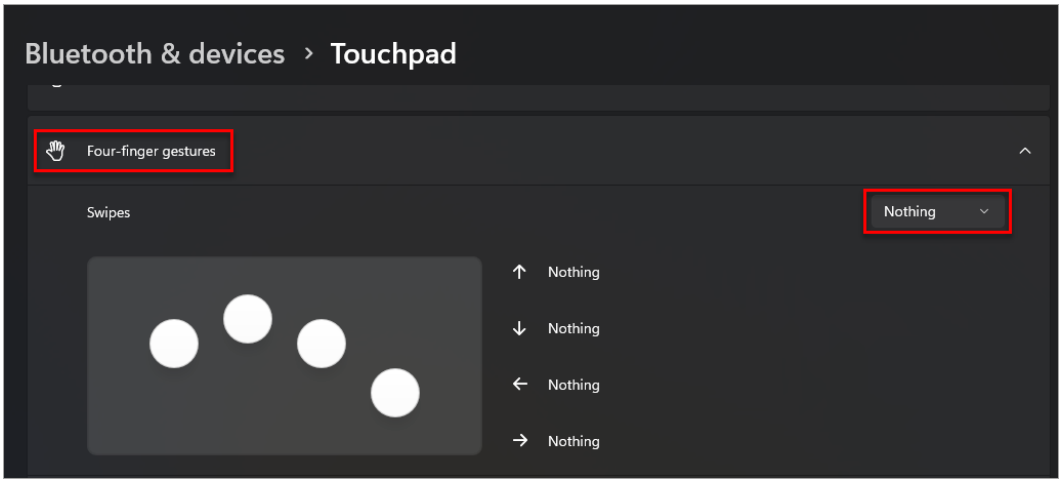
5. After verifying the storage response location, click **Install**.



6. Click **Finish** to complete the installation.



7. For Windows devices with touchpads, Four-finger gestures for swiping will need to be disabled. To disable go to **Settings > Bluetooth & devices > Touchpad**. Then locate Four-finger gestures and expand the section. Next, change the drop-down menu for Swipes to **Nothing**.



8. When you are ready to complete Site Readiness for this configuration, refer to section V: Site Readiness Testing and Site Certification.

Windows MSI Package Scripted Installation

Network administrators can install the legacy MCAS Student Kiosk via an installation script to be executed by an Admin account on the machine. The script can be written to run without any human interaction (quiet switch) and to install in the default directory (C:\Program Files) or any target directory of choice. Uninstalling the client can also be scripted.

Below are generic scripts that can be used for installation and uninstallation.

Script Examples

- `<Source> = Complete path to the MCAS Student Kiosk MSI installation file, including .msi installation file name. Example: C:\Downloads\MCAS.msi`
- `<Target> = Complete path to the location where kiosk should be installed other than the default location (C:\Program Files). Example: C:\MCAS\Installation_Dir`
- `<APPDATALOCATION> = Complete path to the location for storing the cache and encrypted student responses created due to network interruptions. Example: D:\Cache.`

  Note: Ensure that this location is excluded from system restore software.

Installation Script

```
msiexec /i "<Source>" /quiet INSTALLDIR="<Target>"
ITESTERAPPDATALOCATION="<APPDATALOCATION>" INSTALLLEVEL=2
```

Example: `msiexec /i "C:\Downloads\MCAS.msi" /quiet INSTALLDIR="C:\MCAS" ITESTERAPPDATALOCATION="D:\Cache" INSTALLLEVEL=2`

Warning: If you do not specify ITESTERAPPDATALOCATION, then the local Application Data folder located in the User Profile of the actively logged-in user will be used by default. If you do not specify INSTALLLEVEL=2, then the configuration required for setting the <APPDATALOCATION> will not be created.

Uninstallation Script

```
msiexec /x "<Source>" /quiet
```

`Example: msiexec /x "C:\Downloads\MCAS.msi" /quiet`

Windows MSI Package Installation Via Group Policy

Network administrators can use Microsoft Active Directory Group Policy to distribute the legacy MCAS Student Kiosk MSI package to all client computers.

Follow the step-by-step instructions described in Microsoft's Knowledge Base article.

Note: Default installation locations will be used when using Group Policy to distribute the legacy MCAS Student Kiosk. This option will also not allow systematically specifying a network location for caching and storing encrypted student responses created due to network interruptions. The local Application Data folder located in the User Profile of the actively logged-in user will be used by default.

Windows Network Kiosk Installation

To install the legacy MCAS Student Kiosk on a school network:

1. Complete the local kiosk installation listed above on the machine that will host the app.
2. Configure the stored response location to network share or leave as default during installation.
3. On the student testing devices, create a shortcut to the app on the network. The shortcut created should point to MCAS.exe.
4. Ensure that users have read/write/modify access to stored response directory configured in Step 2.

V. Site Readiness Testing and Site Certification

A. Purpose

The MCAS Portal includes a Site Readiness tool for schools and districts to assess their readiness for online testing via the MCAS Student Kiosk and to identify any potential technology-related issues before testing begins to ensure a smooth testing experience. The Site Readiness tool is used to verify that testing devices meet the minimum requirements and have been properly configured. DESE will follow up with schools that do not complete Site Readiness.

The Site Readiness tool includes the **System Set-Up Test** and the **Student Interface Test**.

- The **System Set-Up Test** tests bandwidth, connectivity, screen resolution, and the text-to-speech function.
- The **Student Interface Test** provides sample test questions to determine whether the device is capable of correctly displaying and navigating test content in the MCAS Student Kiosk. The Student Interface Test also allows technology coordinators to test the student tools, including the Line Reader, Text Highlighter, and Notepad, to confirm they are functioning properly.

To administer the Site Readiness test, the technology coordinator launches the MCAS Student Kiosk on each device configuration (i.e., device type and operating system) being used for testing at that site and then uses the Site Readiness login for the assigned school to run the test. For example, if you will be testing on Windows 11 and different versions of supported ChromeOS, then we recommend testing 2 to 3 devices on Windows 11 and 2 to 3 devices on each ChromeOS version that will be used. Then, the technology coordinator certifies the site (school) in the MCAS Portal to indicate to the school and district test coordinators that the site’s technology is ready for testing.

Note: The Site Readiness tool must be conducted using the secure MCAS Student Kiosk. The test does not need to be conducted on the browsers used for practice tests.