4. Complete Site Readiness, using the Site Readiness tool, and certify that the school's devices and technology are ready for testing. All schools should complete Site Readiness to confirm that the school's technology infrastructure has been set up correctly and that testing devices meet minimum requirements and have been properly configured. DESE will follow up with schools that do not complete Site Readiness testing and certification.

   Note: To ensure that the school technology setup is ready for MCAS testing, it is recommended to complete Site Readiness at least four weeks prior to testing. When all the configurations that will be used for student testing are ready, certify that the site is ready for student testing.

For questions about technology guidelines, downloading the MCAS Student Kiosk, and the Site Readiness tool, contact the MCAS Service Center at mcas@cognia.org or 800-737-5103.

II. Technology Guidelines

A. Operating System Support Plan

The table below describes eMetric's plan for supporting operating systems during the 2026–27 school year for MCAS computer-based testing. This plan helps districts and schools manage operating system deployments based on the support timelines. 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.

Table 1. Operating System Support Plan

Operating System	Version	Version Release Date	End of Support Date	eMetric Support Policy
Chrome OS™	150+ 144+ LTS	July 2026 April 2026	End of 2026–27 school year (June 2027)	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.
iPadOS®	18.7+ 26.5+	September 2024 September 2025	End of 2026–27 school year End of 2027–28 school year	eMetric supports the latest three major versions that are supported by Apple.

Operating System	Version	Version Release Date	End of Support Date	eMetric Support Policy
	27	September 2026 - expected	End of 2028–29 school year	
Linux®, Fedora™ (64-bit only)	44	April 2026	End of 2026–27 school year	eMetric supports the latest version of Fedora.
macOS®	15.7+ 26.5+ 27	September 2024 September 2025 September 2026 - expected	End of 2026–27 school year End of 2027–28 school year End of 2028–29 school year	eMetric supports the latest three major versions that are supported by Apple.
Windows®	11 (24H2 Educator, Enterprise, IoT Enterprise, Enterprise Multi-Session; 25H2; 26H1; 26H2)	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 151 or newer Firefox 153 or newer Microsoft Edge 151 or newer Safari 26.6 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 151 or newer
- Firefox 153 or newer
- Microsoft Edge 151 or newer
- Safari 26.6 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 and Special Access	Windows, macOS, ChromeOS, and iPadOS
Word Prediction Standard and Special Access	Windows, macOS, ChromeOS, and iPadOS

*iPadOS: It is highly recommended to use an external mouse.