Waypoint

MONTANA OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Montana Aligned to Standards Through-Year (MAST) Scheduling

Step-by-Step Guide & FAQs for Test Coordinators

Table of Contents

Contact Information....3

Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI)....3

New Meridian Scheduler....3

Kite Service Desk....3

Introduction....3

System Test Coordinator Responsibilities....4

Scheduling Best Practices....4

Testing Windows....5

ELA MAST Testlet Schedules....6

Math MAST Testlet Schedules....7

Publisher Curriculum-Aligned Math Scheduling....7

Local Curriculum-Aligned Math Scheduling....8

MAST Math Testlet Schedule Decision Tree....10

How to Use the “MAST 2025–2026 Math Schedule Worksheet”....11

MAST 2025–2026 Math Schedule Worksheet....12

Frequently Asked Questions....13

Appendix A: Curriculum Alignments....15

Appendix B: MAST Math Testlets and Standards....16

Contact Information

Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

For questions regarding statewide assessment policy, please contact the OPI Assessment Help Desk at

- Email: opiassessmenthelpdesk@mt.gov
- Phone: 844-867-2569

New Meridian Scheduler

For information regarding Montana Aligned to Standards Through-Year scheduling, please contact New Meridian Corporation (NMC) at

- Email: mast@newmeridian.org

Kite Service Desk

Any Kite testing platform inquiries can be directed to the Kite Support Desk.

- Email: kite-support@ku.edu
- Phone: 855-277-9752

Kite Service Desk representatives are available to assist you on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. mountain standard time (closed on state holidays) and from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. mountain standard time during assessment windows. Service Desk is unavailable during the week of the Christmas holiday through the New Year's Day holiday.

Introduction

MAST provides assessments in mathematics and English language arts (ELA), which are closely tied to instruction. This assessment measures specific claims related to the Montana Content Standards in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. The assessment comprises individual tests, or "testlets," taken throughout the school year.

This guide is intended for System Test Coordinators (STCs) and school district staff who support MAST Math testlet scheduling. It may also be used by Building Test Coordinators (BTCs) in districts that defer testlet scheduling to the building level. It will help you understand

how to align math testlets to your district's curriculum and pacing and prepare you to use New Meridian's Scheduler tool to build your test schedules.

System Test Coordinator Responsibilities

STCs will follow standardized test administration procedures and test security policies as outlined in the Roles and Responsibilities for Test Security Information: System Test Coordinators document.

System Test Coordinator (STC) MAST Responsibilities:

- Coordinate with grade-level teachers to schedule testlets that best align to local curriculum and pacing of the district.
- Verify all information in scheduling testlets has been confirmed as correct and accurate by grade-level teachers.
- Ensure scheduled testlets are administered within corresponding MAST testing windows.
- Communicate District's MAST Testing Blueprint schedule to District Authorized Representative, Building Test Coordinators, Test Administrators, and any other district personnel involved with planning, preparing, or administering the MAST.
- Schedule and submit testlet configurations ***no later than September 15, 2025.***

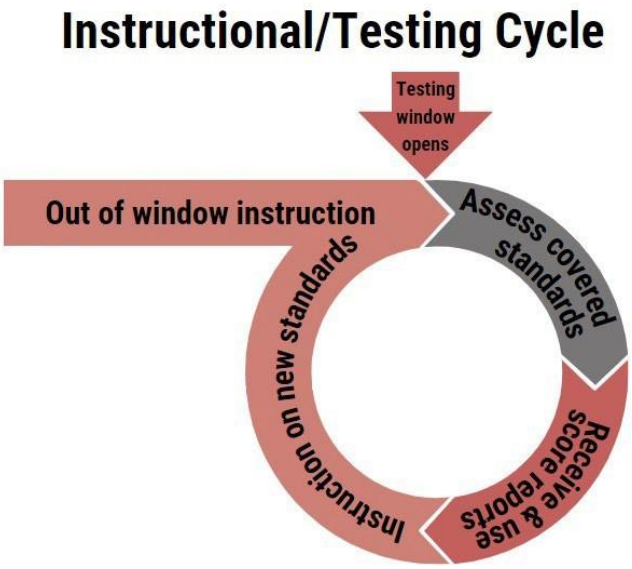
Scheduling Best Practices

1. Administer testlets as close to instruction as possible, ideally at the end of the unit or chapter.
2. Spread testing throughout the window instead of condensing all testlets into the same week.
3. All scheduled testing must be completed within the designated window and cannot be moved to the next window. Please schedule accordingly for make-ups and to accommodate students requiring additional time to complete scheduled testlets within the testing window.

Testing Windows

For MAST 2025–2026, there are three 8-week testing windows.

- Window 1: October 13, 2025 – December 5, 2025
- Window 2: January 12, 2026 – March 6, 2026
- Window 3: March 30, 2026 – May 22, 2026



Testing Windows Overview

	Window 1	Window 2	Window 3	
	October 13 – December 5	January 12 – March 6	March 30 – May 22	
	8 weeks	8 weeks	8 weeks	
MATH	3-5 Testlets	3-5 Testlets	3-5 Testlets	1 Math OR ELA Anchor Test
ELA	2 BOY Testlets	2 MOY Testlets, 1 Performance Task Testlet	2 EOY Testlets	

ELA MAST Testlet Schedules

MAST English language arts (ELA) testlet schedules are the same for all students in each grade level, regardless of district or curricula. Over the course of the school year, ELA testlets increase in text and item complexity within grade level margins, from readily accessible to moderately complex to highly complex.

The ELA testlet schedule is as follows:

- Window 1: October 13, 2025 – December 5, 2025
    - Beginning of Year Literary Testlet
    - Beginning of Year Informational Testlet
- Window 2: January 12, 2026 – March 6, 2026
    - Middle of Year Literary Testlet
    - Middle of Year Informational Testlet
    - Performance Task
- Window 3: March 30, 2026 – May 22, 2026
    - End of Year Literary Testlet
    - End of Year Informational Testlet

Math MAST Testlet Schedules

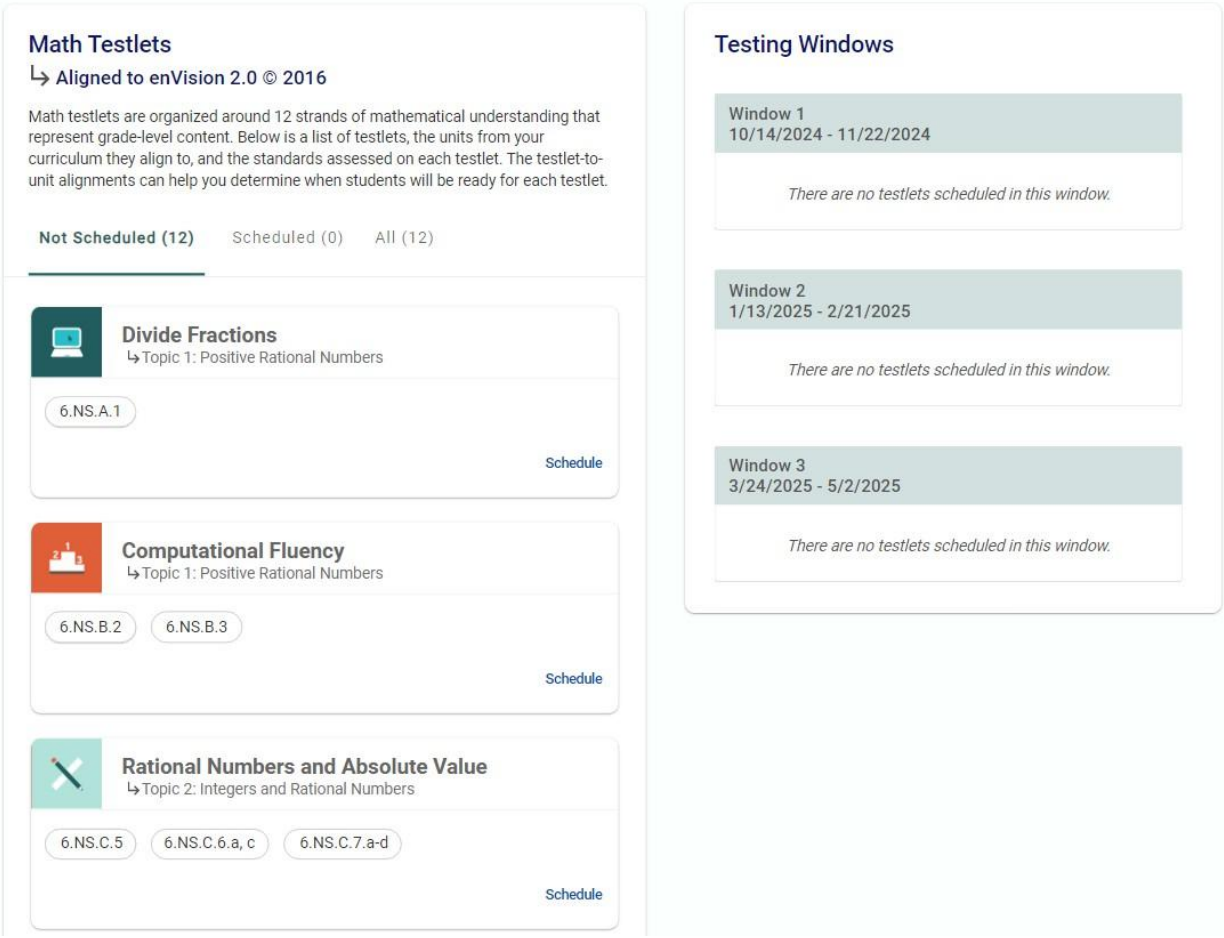
MAST math grade-level testlet schedules are based on each district's local curriculum. Testlets for each grade are organized around 12 strands of mathematical understanding that represent the content of the grade. Districts will use New Meridian's Scheduler tool to create test schedules that best reflect their students' learning. In the Scheduler, districts can choose whether to use publisher math curricula or local curricula as the basis for their math test schedules. Districts are required to schedule and administer 3–5 testlets in each of the three test administration windows.

Publisher Curriculum-Aligned Math Scheduling

The Scheduler features testlet-to-unit alignments for many common publisher math curricula. Districts that use curricula with existing testlet alignments can use the testlet-to-unit alignments to determine when students will be ready for each testlet. After students have completed the learning in a unit, they should be prepared for the testlet(s) aligned to that unit.

To create publisher curriculum-aligned math testlet schedules, for each applicable grade level, you will need the curriculum name, copyright year, and knowledge of when students will finish each unit.

See Appendix A: Curriculum Alignments



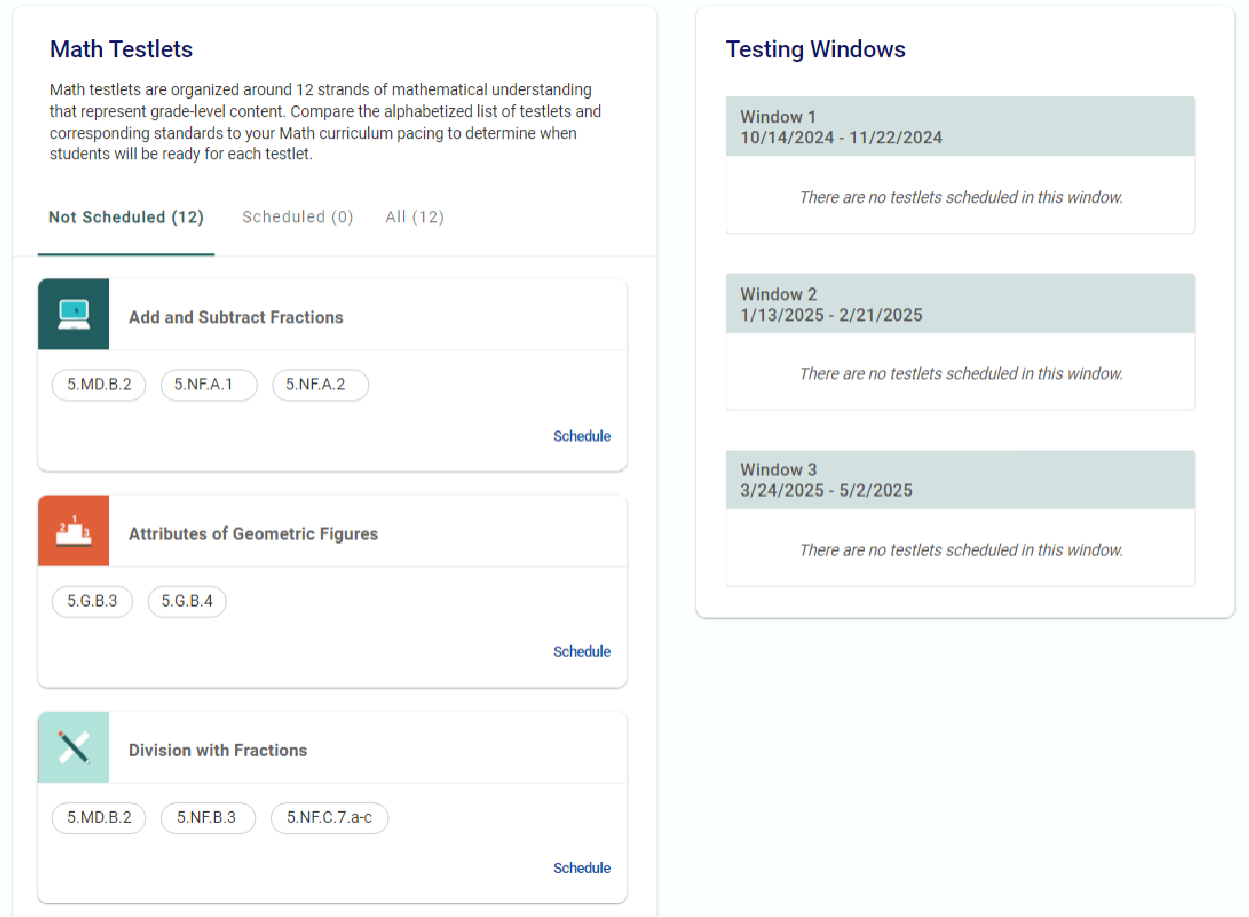
Local Curriculum-Aligned Math Scheduling

Local curriculum-aligned schedules support districts who author their own curriculum or use a curriculum that does not yet have a testlet alignment in the Scheduler.

For a local curriculum-aligned schedule, districts will use a list of testlets for each applicable grade level and their corresponding standards to build test schedules aligned to local curriculum.

To create a local curriculum-aligned math testlet schedule, you will need to know when math concepts and standards are taught for each applicable grade level.

See Frequently Asked Questions to learn how to request testlet alignments for a curriculum.



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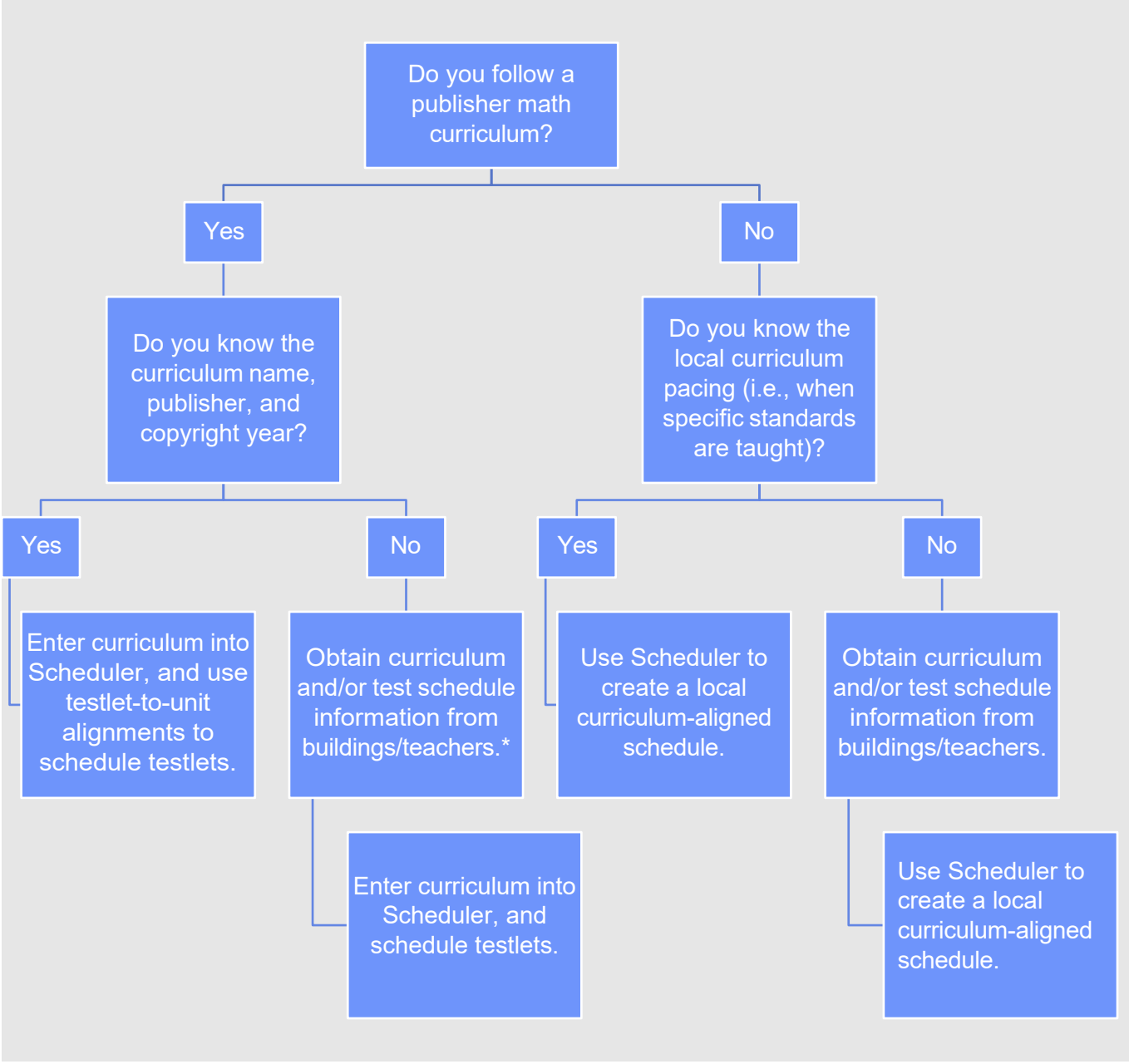
MAST Math Testlet Schedule Decision Tree



*Use the MAST 2025–2026 Math Schedule Worksheet or a method of your choice to collect curriculum and/or test schedule information.

How to Use the “MAST 2025–2026 Math Schedule Worksheet”

The System Test Coordinator (STC) or Building Test Coordinator (BTC) will

1. Fill in STC/BTC name and due date at the top.
    a. September 8, 2025, is the suggested latest due date to allow a buffer before the September 15, 2025, scheduling deadline.
2. Share the Math Schedule Worksheet and Appendix B: MAST Math Testlets and Standards with one lead teacher or administrator per grade level.
3. Collect completed worksheets.
4. Use the Scheduler tool to create test schedules.
5. Share test schedules with applicable teachers.
6. Finalize test schedules ***no later than September 15, 2025.*** *Please note that no changes can be made once the deadline has passed.*

MAST 2025–2026 Math Schedule Worksheet

Directions:

1. Fill in grade, name, and, if applicable, curriculum name, publisher, and copyright year.
2. List the unit names and/or standards covered before and during each window.
3. Compare your math curriculum units, standards, and pacing to the testing windows and to the math test blueprints to determine which testlets should be administered during each window.
4. Return the worksheet to your STC/BTC by the indicated due date.

Name:	
Grade:	
Curriculum name, publisher, and copyright year, if applicable:	

	Window 1	**Window 2**	**Window 3**	
	October 13–December 5, 2025	January 12–March 6, 2026	March 30–May 22, 2026	
Math	3–5 testlets	3–5 testlets	3–5 testlets	1 Math OR ELA Anchor Testlet
ELA	2 BOY testlets	2 MOY testlets + PT	2 EOY testlets	

		Window 1	**Window 2**	**Window 3**
Units Covered				
Standards Covered				
Aligned Testlets	1			
	2			
	3			
	4			
	5			

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is a math testlet?
A: Math testlets for each grade are organized around 12 strands of mathematical understanding that represent the content of the grade. Each strand encompasses a small set of related content standards. Across the year, students take 12 short tests, termed "testlets," to assess their mastery of the content of the strands. For more information, refer to Appendix B: MAST Math Testlets and Standards.

Q: Why am I only creating a testing schedule for math—and not English language arts?
A: MAST English language arts (ELA) schedules are the same for all students in each grade level, regardless of district or curricula. MAST mathematics grade-level schedules are based on each district's local curriculum and pacing. *See the section* ELA MAST Testlet Schedules *for more information.*

Q: What is the difference between publisher curriculum-aligned and local curriculum-aligned schedules?
A: Publisher curriculum-aligned schedules are a great choice for districts that follow a publisher's curriculum program scope and sequence closely. New Meridian provides testlet-to-unit alignments to support scheduling. Local curriculum-aligned schedules support districts that have a district-specific curriculum or pacing. Districts use testlet information, such as Montana Math Content Standards, to create their own testing schedules.

Q: Why do I need the math curriculum's publisher name and copyright year for a curriculum-aligned schedule?
A: A curriculum's publisher name and copyright year will help ensure accuracy. Some curriculum programs have similar names, so the publisher's name helps confirm the correct curriculum. Similarly, there can be multiple versions of the same curriculum program with different copyright years (e.g., enVision Math has multiple versions with copyright years 2012, 2016, 2020, and 2024).

Q: What if I do not need to make any changes to my 2024-2025 testlet scheduling?
A: Schedules from the 2024-2025 school year are carried over, but the STC or designated BC must confirm and submit the schedule for the 2025-2026 school year within the scheduling window. Before submission, please confirm with all educators that scheduled testlets align with the planned 2025-2026 scope and sequence

Q: What if I do not see my district's curriculum listed in the "Curriculum Alignments" table?

A: This year, districts will need to select the 'Other' option and build their own schedule according to their curriculum. To add your district's curriculum for the 2026–2027 school year, please send an email to mast@newmeridian.org to request a testlet-to-unit alignments for a curriculum. Please share the curriculum name, publisher name, and copyright year. To ensure accurate alignments, you may be requested to share unit, standard, and pacing information for the curriculum.

Q: How many math testlets should be administered in each testing window?
A: 3-5 math testlets must be administered in each testing window.

Q: What if I cannot find my curriculum's pacing guide or scope and sequence documents?
A: If you cannot find these documents, you likely aren't using them and would be better off referring to how the curriculum is being implemented in your district. For example, what topic and standards does each unit cover, and when do teachers typically finish each unit? MAST math scheduling is a great opportunity for professional development around how teachers are developing and implementing year-long plans.

Appendix A: Curriculum Alignments

Curriculum Alignments	
Agile Mind Middle School Mathematics (2022)	Go Math (2015)
All Things Algebra Pre-Algebra (2016)	Go Math (2023)
Amplify Desmos Math (2024)	Go Math Middle School (2014)
Big Ideas Math (2014)	Holt McDougal (2012)
Big Ideas Math – Modeling Real Life (2019)	Illustrative Mathematics (2021)
Bridges in Mathematics (2014)	Into Math (2019)
Carnegie Learning Math Series (2011)	Investigations in Number, Data and Space (2017)
Common Core Coach (2015)	iReady Classroom Mathematics (2020)
Connected Math Project 3 (2014)	iReady Classroom Mathematics (2024)
Core Connections (2013)	Jump Math (2014)
Desmos Math 6-A1 (2022)	Math & YOU (2025)
EdGems (2018)	Math Expressions (2018)
Edgenuity (2017)	McDougal Littell (2007)
enVision Math (2024)	Middle School Math Solution (2018) My Math (2013)
enVision Math (2020)	Open Up Resources 6–8 Math (2021)
enVision Math 2.0 (2016)	ORIGO Stepping Stones 2.0 (2022)
enVision Math (2012)	Prentice Hall Mathematics (2023) Prentice Hall
Eureka Math (2013)	Mathematics (2012) Progress in Mathematics (2009)
Eureka Math^2 (2021)	Ready Classroom Mathematics (2020)
Everyday Math 4 (2020)	Reveal Math (2019)
Fishtank Plus (2021)	Singapore Math Common Core (2022)
Glencoe Math (2016)	Zearn (2021)

Appendix B: MAST Math Testlets and Standards

Below are testlets for each grade with their corresponding Montana Math Content Standards.

Grade 3	
Testlet Names	**MT Standards**
Concepts of Multiplication and Division	3.OA.1, 3.OA.2, 3.OA.3
Multiplication and Division Equations	3.OA.4, 3.OA.6
Multiply and Divide Within 100	3.OA.5, 3.OA.7
Time, Liquid Volume, and Mass	3.MD.1, 3.MD.2
Real-World Problems and Patterns	3.OA.8, 3.OA.9
Place Value and Operations in Base Ten	3.NBT.2, 3.NBT.3
Understand Fractions as Numbers	3.G.2, 3.NF.2.a, 3.NF.2.b
Compare and Find Equivalent Fractions	3.NF.3.a, 3.NF.3.b, 3.NF.3.c, 3.NF.3.d
Unit Squares and Square Units	3.MD.5, 3.MD.5.a, 3.MD.5.b, 3.MD.6, 3.MD.7.a
Solve Area Problems	3.MD.7, 3.MD.7.b, 3.MD.7.c, 3.MD.7.d
Data and Graphing	3.MD.3, 3.MD.4
Two-Dimensional Geometric Figures	3.G.1, 3.MD.8

Grade 4	
Testlet Names	**MT Standards**
Place Value in the Base Ten System	4.NBT.1, 4.NBT.2, 4.NBT.3
Addition and Subtraction Algorithms	4.NBT.4
Extend Concepts of Multiplication	4.OA.1, 4.OA.2, 4.OA.4
Multi-Digit Multiplication	4.NBT.5
Multi-Digit Division	4.NBT.6
Real-World Problems and Patterns	4.OA.3, 4.OA.5
Compare and Find Equivalent Fractions	4.NF.1, 4.NF.2
Add and Subtract Fractions	4.MD.4, 4.NF.3.b, 4.NF.3.c, 4.NF.3.d
Multiply Fractions	4.NF.4.a, 4.NF.4.b, 4.NF.4.c
Decimal Fractions	4.NF.5, 4.NF.6, 4.NF.7
Solve Measurement Problems	4.MD.1, 4.MD.2, 4.MD.3
Angles and Geometry	4.G.2, 4.G.3, 4.MD.5.a, 4.MD.6, 4.MD.7

Grade 5	
Testlet Names	**MT Standards**
Numerical Expressions	5.OA.1, 5.OA.2
Place Value and Powers of Ten	5.NBT.1, 5.NBT.2
Represent and Compare Decimals	5.NBT.3, 5.NBT.3.a, 5.NBT.3.b, 5.NBT.4
Multiply and Divide Whole Numbers	5.NBT.5, 5.NBT.6, 5.MD.1
Operations with Decimals	5.NBT.7, 5.MD.1
Add and Subtract Fractions	5.MD.2, 5.NF.1, 5.NF.2
Multiply Fractions	5.MD.2, 5.NF.4.a, 5.NF.4.b, 5.NF.5.a, 5.NF.5.b, 5.NF.6
Division with Fractions	5.MD.2, 5.NF.3, 5.NF.7.a, 5.NF.7.b, 5.NF.7.c
Unit Cubes and Cubic Units	5.MD.3.a, 5.MD.3.b, 5.MD.4, 5.MD.5.a
Solve Volume Problems	5.MD.5.b, 5.MD.5.c
Understand the First Quadrant	5.G.1, 5.G.2, 5.OA.3
Attributes of Geometric Figures	5.G.3, 5.G.4

Grade 6	
Testlet Names	**MT Standards**
Concepts of Ratios and Unit Rates	6.RP.2, 6.RP.3.a, 6.RP.3.b
Percents and Measurement Conversions	6.RP.3.c, 6.RP.3.d
Divide Fractions	6.NS.1
Computational Fluency	6.NS.2, 6.NS.3
Rational Numbers and Absolute Value	6.NS.5, 6.NS.6.a, 6.NS.6.c, 6.NS.7, 6.NS.7.a, 6.NS.7.b, 6.NS.7.c, 6.NS.7.d
Algebraic Expressions and Exponents	6.EE.1, 6.EE.2.a, 6.EE.2.b, 6.EE.2.c
Equivalent Expressions	6.EE.3, 6.EE.4, 6.NS.4
Variables in Expressions and Equations	6.EE.5, 6.EE.6, 6.EE.7, 6.EE.9
Write and Interpret Inequalities	6.EE.5, 6.EE.8
Solve Problems with Area and Volume	6.G.1, 6.G.2, 6.G.4
The Coordinate Plane	6.G.3, 6.NS.6.b, 6.NS.6.c, 6.NS.8
Concepts of Statistics	6.SP.1, 6.SP.4, 6.SP.5.c, 6.SP.5.d

Grade 7	
Testlet Names	**MT Standards**
Ratios and Proportional Relationships	7.RP.1, 7.RP.2.a, 7.RP.2.b, 7.RP.2.c, 7.RP.2.d
Solve Problems with Ratio and Proportion	7.G.1, 7.RP.3
Add and Subtract Rational Numbers	7.NS.1, 7.NS.1.b, 7.NS.1.c, 7.NS.1.d
Multiply and Divide Rational Numbers	7.NS.2.a, 7.NS.2.b, 7.NS.2.c, 7.NS.2.d
Expressions with Rational Numbers	7.EE.1, 7.EE.2
Solve Equations	7.EE.4.a
Solve Inequalities	7.EE.4.b
Solve Problems with Rational Numbers	7.EE.3, 7.NS.3
Angles Relationships and Triangles	7.G.2, 7.G.5
Solve Problems with Geometric Figures	7.G.3, 7.G.4, 7.G.6
Measures of Center and Variability	7.SP.1, 7.SP.2, 7.SP.3, 7.SP.4
Probability	7.SP.5, 7.SP.6, 7.SP.7, 7.SP.7.a, 7.SP.7.b, 7.SP.8, 7.SP.8.a, 7.SP.8.b

Grade 8	
Testlet Names	**MT Standards**
Understand and Use Irrational Numbers	8.EE.2, 8.G.9, 8.NS.1, 8.NS.2
Exponent Rules and Scientific Notation	8.EE.1, 8.EE.3, 8.EE.4
Understand Functions	8.F.1, 8.F.5
Compare and Interpret Functions	8.F.2, 8.F.3
Construct Functions	8.F.4
Linear Equations in One Variable	8.EE.7, 8.EE.7.a, 8.EE.7.b
Proportional Relationships and Lines	8.EE.5, 8.EE.6
Systems of Equations	8.EE.8.a, 8.EE.8.b, 8.EE.8.c
Pythagorean Theorem	8.G.6, 8.G.7, 8.G.8
Geometric Transformations	8.G.1, 8.G.2, 8.G.3
Similarity and Congruence	8.G.4, 8.G.5
Bivariate Data	8.SP.1, 8.SP.2, 8.SP.3, 8.SP.4