

MCAS AI Grading Glitch Mis-scores 1,400 Student Essays Across Massachusetts — A Cautionary Case in Automated Assessment

AI in Education · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 27/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

A temporary AI scoring glitch caused roughly 1,400 of 750,000 MCAS essays to be mis-graded across some 145-200 Massachusetts school districts in 2025, including essays wrongly scored '0' that should have rated as high as 6; a teacher's tip triggered a full rescore.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of learning impact	0/3
Equity & inclusion	0/3
Transparency, ethics & data protection	2/3
Teacher capability & pedagogy	1/3
Scalability & sustainability	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-06

[Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education \(DESE\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-06

[Boston.com](#) — accessed 2026-09-06

[NBC Boston](#) — accessed 2026-09-06

[WPRI](#) — accessed 2026-09-06

Cite this — Evidoria. *MCAS AI Grading Glitch Mis-scores 1,400 Student Essays Across Massachusetts — A Cautionary Case in Automated Assessment*. Persistent ID: 9f87d1f6-43ae-4f24-be44-a012fa3c669d.