

The following document describes the structure and content of the Life Science Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (LS MISA) for high school that is administered at the end of the student’s life science (Biology) course.

## Standards

The LS MISA uses the 24 identified life science performance expectations from the Maryland Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) found in the high school grade band. Not all performance expectations may appear on a single assessment, but they will be rotated over time so that all life science performance expectations will be assessed in a regular cycle.

## Sessions

The LS MISA consists of four sections. Each section is forty minutes and consists of 2 item sets.

## Reporting Category

The following tables identify the two LS MISA reporting categories along with the percent of the assessment aligned to each of the components of that reporting category.

| REPORTING CATEGORY: SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING PRACTICES | PERCENTAGE RANGE |
|---|------------------|
| Investigating Science and Engineering Practices       | 25 to 35%        |
| Sensemaking Science and Engineering Practices         | 35 to 45%        |
| Critiquing Science and Engineering Practices          | 25 to 35%        |

| REPORTING CATEGORY: LIFE SCIENCE TOPICS    | PERCENTAGE RANGE |
|--|------------------|
| Structure and Function                     | 12 to 17%        |
| Matter and Energy in Organisms Ecosystem   | 20 to 25%        |
| Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems | 20 to 25%        |
| Inheritance and Variation of Traits        | 18 to 22%        |
| Natural Selection and Evolution            | 18 to 22%        |