

STUDENT ASSESSMENT NEWS

[Archived Student Assessment News](#)

January 30, 2015

Connecticut State Department Of Education

CTStudentAssessment@ct.gov

860-713-6860

New Resources Available on the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) Smarter Balanced Assessment Portal

District Test Coordinator Workshop Presentation Materials

- The District Test Coordinator Presentation is available as a [PDF](#) or a customizable [PowerPoint](#) version.

Smarter Balanced Practice and Training Sites

- The [TA Practice and Training Site](#) allows users to practice administering tests. Access to the TA Practice and Training Site requires a TIDE username and password.
- The [Smarter Balanced Practice and Training Tests](#) allow students, parents and educators to interact with the Smarter Balanced assessments in a practice environment.

Smarter Balanced Training Modules

- Eight training modules are available on the [Test Administrators and Teachers Training Materials](#) page. Select training modules are also available for Test Coordinators, Technology Coordinators and Students and Families.

Student Assessment Web site

Web site links needed to administer the CMT/CAPT Science, Smarter Balanced assessments and Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA) are consolidated on one page of the [CSDE Student Assessment Web site](#).

District Test Coordinator TIDE Access

District Test Coordinators should have received an e-mail last week from "NEAC-DoNotReply@airast.org" regarding their TIDE user account as a District Administrator (DA). Once District Test Coordinators have successfully logged into TIDE, they can create and manage district- and school-level users. Refer to page 16 of the [TIDE User Guide](#) for a description of user access to tasks in TIDE.

The Teacher (TE) role is a new role that was not available during the 2014 Field Test. The TE role allows users to view student results when they are available for students. This role may also be assigned to teachers who do not administer the test but will need access to student results. The School Coordinator (SC) or District Coordinator (DC) may create rosters for teachers to view their students' reports. Information about creating rosters is available in the TIDE User Guide.

The Test Administrator (TA) role does not allow for access to student reports and is designed for test administrators such as technology staff, who administer tests but should not have access to student results.

All accounts from last year's Field Test are no longer active. Subsidiary TIDE accounts must be created for test administration. The TIDE system can be accessed from the [CSDE Smarter Balanced Assessment Portal](#). District Administrators who wish to create additional District Administrators, or who did not receive this initial e-mail should contact the AIR Connecticut Help Desk at 844-202-7583 or cthelpdesk@air.org.

NOTE: Student Designated Supports and Accommodations will be uploaded to TIDE from the CSDE Accommodations Collections Web site after February 13, 2015.

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DIGITAL LIBRARY

Digital Library: Featured Assessment Literacy Module

[Understanding the Formative Assessment Process](#)

Summary: This module provides an introduction to the Formative Assessment Process. The definition and key features of the Formative Assessment Process are discussed, along with research support. Four attributes of the Formative Assessment Process are identified and examples of each attribute are provided. The module also explains how effective use of formative assessment practices improves teaching and learning.

Log into the [Smarter Balanced Digital Library](#) to access this Assessment Literacy Module.



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Subjects: Not Subject Specific

Grades: Not Grade Specific

Media Types: Video, Image, Interactive, Audio

reminder

Student Assessment Participation

By federal and state law, universal student assessment is required in ELA and Mathematics in Grades 3-8 and once in high school annually. Also, by federal and state law an assessment is required in science once in each school level (elementary, middle, and high school). In Connecticut, students participate in the Smarter Balanced assessments in ELA/literacy and mathematics. These assessments are given in Grades 3 - 8 and 11. In science, students participate in the Science CMT in Grades 5 and 8 and the Science CAPT in Grade 10. Some students with disabilities participate in the Connecticut Alternate Assessment and the CMT Science Skills Checklist or CAPT Science Skills Checklist. Both the CSDE and each LEA are legally responsible to administer these assessments to all students.

reminder

District Technology Upgrades to Support the Transition to the New Standards Request for Proposal

The [District Technology Upgrades to Support Transition to the New Standards](#) Request for Proposal (RFP) was released by the Connecticut State Department of Education. The RFP seeks proposals for alterations, repairs, improvements, technology, equipment and capital start-up costs, including acquisition costs to expand the availability of high-quality school models and assist in the implementation of common core state standards and assessments. The submission date for proposals is February 13, 2015. Please note that a [FAQ](#) has been created to support districts/schools as it relates to questions about the RFP. Additionally, the CSDE is seeking grant reviewers for March 3 and 4, 2015. If interested, see the [Technology Grant Review Team Invitation](#) for more information.

reminder

Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments

Introductory information about the Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments is now available. The CSDE has compiled a [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (FAQ) document. More information about the Interim Assessments is available on the [Interim Assessments page](#) of the Smarter Balanced Web site.

Administering the Interim Assessments requires the same process as administering the summative assessment. The TE/TA will create a test session in the TA Interface and select the interim assessment to be administered. Students must log into the Student Interface on the secure browser and enter the required log-in information, including the test session ID. Directions for administering a test are found in the [Test Administrator User Guide](#) that is posted on the portal. TEs/TAs should be trained in test administration and students should have had an opportunity to engage with the [Practice Tests](#) prior to Interim Assessment administration. Additionally, please note that designated supports and accommodations will not be uploaded until after February 13, 2015.

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Levy Gillespie
Equal Employment Opportunity Director/American with Disabilities Act Coordinator
Connecticut State Department of Education
25 Industrial Park Road
Middletown, CT 06457

