

March 22, 2012

Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium e-Alert

Connecticut State Department of Education

Bureau of Student Assessment

Computer Adaptive Testing

The [Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium](#) recently hosted a webinar on Computer Adaptive Testing (CAT). "[Decisions to be made in Developing an Adaptive Testing System for K-12 Education](#)" features a two-hour presentation from G. Gage Kingsbury, vice president for the International Association for Computerized Adaptive Testing and senior research fellow at the Northwest Evaluation Association.

The webinar addresses the advantages of adaptive testing and the critical decision points in designing, developing, and administering an effective CAT to measure student achievement and growth. The recording of the webinar is available at:



www.smarterbalanced.org/events/computer-adaptive-testing-presentation

The Smarter Balanced assessment system capitalizes on the precision and efficiency of CAT for both the mandatory summative assessment and the optional interim assessments. Based on student responses, the computer program adjusts the difficulty of questions throughout the assessment. By adapting to the student as the assessment is taking place, students receive an assessment with an individually tailored set of questions that can quickly identify which skills have been mastered.

This approach provides better information for teachers by providing a more detailed picture of where students excel or need additional support on the interim assessments, and will offer teachers and schools a more accurate way to evaluate student achievement on the summative assessments.

Smarter Balanced e-Alert

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www.SMARTERbalanced.org

Contact the Student Assessment Office at 860-713-6860 or 860-713-6890 with questions.

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