



Online Panel for Setting Achievement Levels

Invitation to participate in the Smarter Balanced Online Panel for Setting Achievement Levels

The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium is developing a common assessment system for mathematics and English language arts/literacy aligned to the Common Core State Standards to ensure all students are prepared for college and/or career. CTB/McGraw-Hill, on behalf of Smarter Balanced, is recruiting K–12 educators, post-secondary educators, administrators, parents, and business/community leaders to participate in an Online Panel for recommending achievement levels for the assessments. This process is often referred to as “Standard Setting.”

The Online Panel, which is open to the public and allows for broad participation, creates a critical opportunity to collect input from a diverse group of participants and establish consistent measures of progress for the Smarter Balanced interim and summative assessments.

By participating in the online session, panelists will recommend an achievement-level score that demonstrates how much students should know or be able to do in order to be proficient at the grade-level standards and to be on track for eventual college and career readiness. It is important to have as many participants as possible, from as many backgrounds as possible, provide these recommendations.

The process of setting achievement levels will rely on parent and community knowledge of students, in addition to the professional judgment and experience of educators and administrators, in order to develop performance standards that are rigorous, fair, and accurate. The recommendations of the online panel will be based on Achievement Level Descriptors written and approved by Smarter Balanced governing states last year, the claims and targets defined for each content area and grade level, as well as educators’ expertise in their content area and experience with students. Acceptance of recommended scores is subject to existing approval processes within individual states.

The Online Panel to recommend achievement levels will occur during a 2-day window within the October 6–17, 2014, time period. It will take panelists up to 3 hours to complete the orientation process, review test questions, and make achievement level recommendations.

Interested participants can register [here](#).

On the registration site, you will be asked to choose the grade and content area (English language arts/literacy or mathematics) and grade in which you want to participate. You will provide an e-mail address, role, and demographic information. You will then be asked to verify your e-mail and select a 2-day window for participation.

Registrations must be submitted online by September 19, 2014.

For additional information and answers to frequently asked questions, visit the Connecticut State Department of Education Web site (www.ct.gov/sde/SmarterBalanced).