

STUDENT ASSESSMENT NEWS

Connecticut State Department Of Education

[Archived Student Assessment News](#)

CTStudentAssessment@ct.gov

January 2, 2015

860-713-6860

District Test Coordinator Workshops

District Test Coordinator (DTC) Workshops are scheduled for January 21 – 23, 2015, at the Institute of Technology and Business Development (ITBD) in New Britain. Training will be provided for the administration of the Smarter Balanced assessments for English language arts/literacy and mathematics, CMT/CAPT Science, CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science Assessment, and the Connecticut Alternate Assessments (CTAA) for English language arts and mathematics. These trainings **are** intended for District Test Coordinators. Information will be provided about training for School Coordinators and Test Administrators. Registration will be limited to two attendees per district. District Test Coordinators will be provided a registration link next week.

Title III Annual Assessment: The “LAS Links - Form C”

The “LAS Links - Form C” assessment has been chosen by the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) as the federally mandated English language proficiency (ELP) assessment for 2015. Below are important dates related to this assessment that must be administered to all identified English learners.

Date	Deliverable
November 17 - 21	Districts received a <i>2015 Test Coordinator Kit</i> for paper/pencil test administration mandated at Grades K-2 and available for other grades as determined by the district.
December 8 - 12	Paper-based test materials were delivered to district central offices.
December 3 - 31 (continued into 2015 if needed)	For districts administering the test online in Grades 3-8 (optional), each district received a “Welcome e-mail” containing LAS Links Online implementation documentation upon receipt of a signed <i>Online Subscriber’s Agreement</i> .
December 10 and 11	Online training sessions for English Language Learner Directors were delivered at ACES.
December 16 January 13 and 15	Web-based online training for district IT staff.
January 5 - March 13	Annual online and paper/pencil assessment testing window. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As districts finish, they will send results to CTB, tests will be scored by CTB, and CTB will provide access to the results through CTB’s Online Reporting System (ORS). As soon as districts have access to the ORS, they should review results immediately.
March 16	Last day for districts to schedule pick-up of completed paper-based tests for scoring.
Mid - April	CTB completes scoring.
April 21 - April 30	Local Education Authority (LEA) final review of scores.
Proposed CSDE Reporting Schedule	
May 1	CSDE receives ELP Assessment Results Data File from CTB.
May 1 - May 8	CSDE Upload of ELP Assessment Data File and EL Application Preparations.
May 11 - June 31	LEA Reporting and Certification of ELP Assessment Data.

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Resources for this assessment can be found at: http://info.ctb.com/Karen_volkers. For districts with bilingual education and/or dual language programs who would like to assess their Spanish speaking students, the most current publication of LAS Links Español is Form B, and like Form C and D of LAS Links English, emphasizes academic language and content.

Digital Library: Cross-State Collaboration

The Smarter Balanced Digital Library includes innovative collaboration features that promote collegial conversations across the country. These features:



- Encourage educators to rate resources;
- Promote how the resources can be used; and
- Provide online forums for educators to share their expertise with, and pose questions to colleagues.

Access the Forums tab in the [Smarter Balanced Digital Library](#) to participate in the discussions.

Smarter Balanced Achievement Level Setting

Member states of the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium recently voted to approve initial achievement levels for the mathematics and English language arts/literacy assessments that will be administered in the spring of 2015. Information about the achievement levels and the process that Smarter Balanced used to develop them is available on the [Achievement Levels](#) page of the Smarter Balanced Web site. A [video](#) that features Connecticut educators and other key stakeholders who participated in the process can be located [here](#).

District Technology Upgrades to Support Transition to the New Standards Request For Proposal (RFP)

The [District Technology Upgrades to Support Transition to the New Standards](#) 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.

reminder

Assessment Reduction Grant

The [Assessment Reduction Grant](#) was released by the CSDE on November 19, 2014. Please see the [announcement letter](#) from Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Dianna Roberge-Wentzell. As a reminder, the submission date for proposals is January 9, 2015.

reminder

Updating the Measurement Incorporated Web Portal

To ensure that information regarding the Smarter Balanced Assessment, the CMT/CAPT Science Test (including Skills Checklist Science), and Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA) is sent to the appropriate district staff member(s), please verify that the District Test Coordinator (DTC) and Second Contact information is accurate in the District Contact Verification (DCV) application of the [Measurement Incorporated \(MI\) Web Portal](#). The Grades 3 – 8 Smarter Balanced DTC is equivalent to the CMT DTC and the Smarter Balanced High School DTC is equivalent to the CAPT DTC. Please contact the Measurement Incorporated Connecticut Help Line at 1-866-762-1060 or Connecticut@measinc.com for assistance with the MI Web Portal. If you received this communication and are not the DTC, please forward this newsletter to the appropriate district staff member.

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