



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



**TO:** District Test Coordinators

**FROM:** Joe Amenta, Education Consultant  
Janet Stuck, Education Consultant  
Performance Office

**DATE:** August 18, 2016

**SUBJECT:** 2016-17 CSDE Usability, Accessibility and Accommodations Training  
2016-17 CSDE Alternate Assessment System Training

**2016-17 Usability, Accessibility and Accommodations Training**

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) continues to prepare teachers to administer the Smarter Balanced Assessments for English language arts/literacy and mathematics to all students in Grades 3-8, as well as CMT Science in Grades 5 and 8 and CAPT Science in Grade 10. One component of the Smarter Balanced Assessment system and the CMT and CAPT Assessment System includes understanding, selecting and providing access to the assessment. To assist administrators and all teachers working with general education students, students with disabilities, and students who are English learners, we are providing two types of optional professional learning opportunities for these topics.

**Option 1: 2016-17 CSDE ONLINE Usability, Accessibility and Accommodations Training** is a professional learning opportunity presented as an ONLINE course. Information provided during this training will allow participants supporting students assessed with the Smarter Balanced Assessments, CMT Science and CAPT Science to understand what accessibility options are available. This focus includes students with disabilities, students with a Section 504 plan, students identified as English learners (EL), as well as general education students.

[Registration](#)

**Option 2: 2016-17 CSDE LIVE Usability, Accessibility and Accommodations Training** is a professional learning activity that will be presented at each of the six Regional Educational Service Centers (RESC). Morning and afternoon sessions will be available depending on enrollment numbers. Information provided during this training is compatible to the online version listed above. All participants are strongly encouraged to bring a computer/tablet to fully participate in the session.

[Registration](#)

**2016-17 Alternate Assessment System Training**

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) continues to prepare teachers to administer the Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA) in English language arts and mathematics and the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science to students identified with significant cognitive disabilities. Similar to last year, we are providing this **required** training to any teacher who has the primary responsibility for assessing students in Grades 3-8 and 11 on the CTAA and/or the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science for students in Grades 5, 8 and 10. **This training requirement does not apply to teachers who qualified in the 2014-15, or 2015-16 through CSDE Live or Online CTAA & CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science Training.**

We are again providing two ways to access this required training. All registrants **MUST** provide their 10-digit Connecticut Educator Identification Number (EIN). You may look up your EIN by clicking on the link provided. <http://sdeportal.ct.gov/cecscreateuser/default.aspx>

**Option 1: 2016-17 CSDE ONLINE Alternate Assessment System Training**

Participants in this online required training will demonstrate their understanding of the following: the identification process for the CTAA and CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science; the alignment between Connecticut’s Core Standards and the CTAA; and the CTAA and CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science procedures, timeline, administration and resources.

[Registration](#)

**Option 2: 2016-17 CSDE LIVE Alternate Assessment System Training** is a required professional learning activity that will be presented at each of the six RESCs. Morning and afternoon sessions will be available depending on enrollment numbers. Information provided during this training is compatible to the online version listed above.

[Registration](#)

If you have additional questions, please contact Janet Stuck or Joe Amenta in the Performance Office at the following:

Janet Stuck  
860-713-6837  
[janet.stuck@ct.gov](mailto:janet.stuck@ct.gov)

Joe Amenta  
860-713-6855  
[joseph.amenta@ct.gov](mailto:joseph.amenta@ct.gov)