



CMT/CAPT Science and Smarter Balanced

Designated Supports and Accommodations

Designated Supports and Accommodations for students identified as special education, Section 504 and English learners (ELs) are set directly in the [Test Information Distribution Engine](#) (TIDE) for students who will be taking the Smarter Balanced Assessments and the Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) or Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT) Science. Verify in TIDE that students have the supports and/or accommodations needed prior to testing. Additional test settings for students with updated individualized education programs (IEPs) or Section 504 plans can be set as needed. Allow 24 hours prior to testing for the new supports/accommodations to be available.

Request for Paper Testing Materials

The [Request Additional Orders Brochure](#) provides instructions for how to request additional orders for paper testing materials in the TIDE. This includes orders for materials related to the paper test administration for CMT/CAPT Science and Large Print and Braille tests for Smarter Balanced.

CMT/CAPT Science

Science Test Administration Materials

The following CMT and CAPT Science Test Administration materials are available on the [Connecticut Assessment Portal](#). Manuals will be shipped to districts/schools.

- [CMT Science Test Coordinator's Manual](#)
- CMT Science Test Examiner's Manual: [Grade 5](#) and [Grade 8](#)
- [CAPT Science Test Coordinator's Manual](#)
- [CAPT Science Test Examiner's Manual](#)
- [Narrated CMT and CAPT Science Training Module](#)
- [CMT and CAPT Science Training for Test Examiners](#)

Science Practice Tests

The [Science Online Practice Tests](#) are available for identified Grades 5, 8, and 10 students who will be administered the assessment online. The Practice Tests are designed so students may become familiar with a grade-specific online testing experience, including multiple-choice and open-ended response question types, as well as the universal tools in the online environment. All associated science designated supports and accommodations are available on the practice tests.

Parent/Guardian Brochures

The following CMT and CAPT Science brochures are available for district use.

- [Understanding the Connecticut Mastery Test for Science](#)
- [Understanding the Connecticut Academic Performance Test Science](#)

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Connecticut SAT School Day

Connecticut State-Allowed Accommodations Update

The Connecticut's State-Allowed Accommodations (SAA) process has been updated. The SAA Portal is available through the College Board's Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) Online System. It is an option that should be used only in special circumstances for accommodations that can NOT be approved for college reportable scores (i.e., word-for-word glossaries for English learners).

Approval is automatic and displayed on the SSD Online Dashboard. Questions about using the tool or how to get the correct materials for students on test day should be directed to the Connecticut SAT School Day Support number at 855-373-6387.

Test Center Supervisors and Services for Students with Disabilities Coordinators Mandatory Training

All primary SSD Coordinators and Test Center Supervisors **must complete a mandatory training course** that is offered as a webinar and complete a questionnaire by **February 29, 2016**. The recorded webinar and associated materials are available on the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) Web site (www.ct.gov/sde/sat).

- [Webinar Presentation](#)
- [Stream Recording](#)
- [Webinar Transcript](#)
- [Mandatory Questionnaire to Indicate Viewing of the Webinar](#)

Administration Material

The [Connecticut SAT School Day Testing Manual](#) is available on the CSDE Web site.

Associate Supervisors Training

A training webinar for Associate Supervisors (test proctors) is available as well. This training is suggested to ensure Associate Supervisors are familiar with the procedures for administering the test.

- [Webinar Presentation](#)
- [Stream Recording](#)
- [Webinar Transcript](#)

Fee Waivers

School principals should have received a shipment of fee waivers for the Connecticut SAT School Day. The fee waivers are to be distributed to eligible low-income students. Students should add the code from the fee waiver card to their College Board account to access the benefits. Information about eligibility and the benefits of fee waivers are described on the [College Board's Web site](#).

Parent/Guardian Informational Letter

A sample [informational letter template](#) to inform parents/guardians about the Connecticut SAT School Day is available for district use.

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Connecticut Smarter Balanced

Summative Assessment Test Administration Manuals

The Connecticut Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment [Test Coordinator's Manual](#) and [Test Administration Manual](#) are available on the Connecticut Portal. These manuals were shipped to districts/schools in early February.

Parent/Guardian Informational Letter

A sample [informational letter template](#) to inform parents/guardians about the Smarter Balanced assessments is available for district use.

Connecticut Alternate Assessments & CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science

Revised Test Window for the Connecticut Alternate Assessment

The Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA) test window will be from April 18 to June 10, 2016. The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) has revised the CTAA test window as a result of the following considerations:

- The revised test window from **April 18 to June 10, 2016**, will provide eight weeks for testing allowing trained teachers additional time to test students who must be tested individually.
- The revised test window will allow teachers, schools, and districts more flexibility to assign staff and computer access for Smarter Balanced to accommodate these other statewide assessments.

The CTAA will NOT include the Writing Constructed Response Item in 2015-16

The CTAA will not include the writing constructed-response item in 2015-16. This decision was made based on the following considerations:

- Students with significant cognitive disabilities assessed with the alternate assessment are a relatively small population, and supporting evidence related to writing constructed-response items is limited. Therefore, the CSDE will seek additional evidence from national studies to support the inclusion of writing constructed-response items in the future.
- Excluding the writing constructed-response item in 2015-16 allows teachers of students with significant cognitive disabilities additional testing time for other test elements.

Questions regarding the CTAA can be directed to Janet Stuck at 860-713-6837 or janet.stuck@ct.gov.

Confirming Entry of the CTAA and CMT/CAPT Skills Checklists Science Eligibility & Learner Characteristics Inventory

District TIDE users with the DA, DC and SC user role may ensure the [CTAA and CMT/CAPT Skills Checklists Science Eligibility & LCI](#) has been entered for each eligible student to be assessed with the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science and/or the Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA) using the process described in *Section V. Working with Student Information* (page 23) of the [Test Information and Distribution Engine User Guide](#). Users will need to select "Additional Search Criteria," then the "Alt flag," and "Yes" to generate the list. This information will be updated each Monday with activity that occurred during the prior week.

CTAA and CMT/CAPT Skills Checklists Science Eligibility & Learner Characteristics Inventory

The [CTAA and CMT/CAPT Skills Checklists Science Eligibility & LCI](#) is required to



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register eligible Grades 3 – 8 and 11 students with significant cognitive disabilities for the alternate assessments. The LCI is submitted through the [Data Entry Interface \(DEI\)](#) on [Connecticut Alternate Assessment \(CTAA\) Portal](#). The [Data Entry Interface Brochure](#) provides instructions on how to complete the LCI, the CMT Skills Checklist Science and the CAPT Skills Checklist Science through the DEI.

An LCI must be submitted for students who will be administered the Connecticut Alternate Assessment and the CMT or CAPT Skills Checklist Science. Completing an LCI will create a test within the system for those students. Until the student's LCI is entered, the student will be registered to take the Smarter Balanced Assessments and the CMT/CAPT Science. Care must be taken not to administer these assessments to these students.

CTAA & CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science Training

Teachers are required to be trained to administer the CTAA and the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklists Science. The [Online 2015-2016 CSDE CTAA & CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science Training](#) will remain available until March 1, 2016.

Alternate Test Participation by Grade

Submission of the LCI will register eligible students with significant cognitive disabilities for the appropriate tests listed below

Grade(s)	Alternate Assessment Participation	Student does NOT Participate in This Assessment
Grades 3-8	CTAA English Language Arts and Mathematics	Does not participate in Smarter Balanced
Grades 5 and 8	CMT Skills Checklist Science and CTAA	Does not participate in Smarter Balanced or CMT Science
Grade 10	CAPT Skills Checklist Science	Does not participate in the CAPT Science
Grade 11	CTAA English Language Arts and Mathematics	Does not participate in the Connecticut SAT School Day

[Register for email updates](#)

To automatically receive the *Student Assessment News* and/or other announcements, [register for e-mail updates](#) on the Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal.

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