



STUDENT ASSESSMENT NEWS

March 1, 2017

[Archived Student Assessment News](#)

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860-713-6860



Summative Assessment Updates

Use the quick links below to access articles or sections included in this newsletter.

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Correction to the CMT/CAPT Science Test Administration Manual
American Institutes for Research (AIR) has posted an ERRATA on the [portal](#). This corrects two errors in the teacher instructions that occurs on page 21 and 22 of the *2016-2017 CMT/CAPT Science: Test Administration Manual for Online Testing*. These errors have to do with instructions to the students. The first error incorrectly requires students to answer items in order before being allowed to continue. The science test sessions have no such restriction, so this direction should not be read to students. The second error instructs students to **PAUSE** upon completion of the science test session. Because the science test is a timed test, students need to **SUBMIT** their test when the session is over, rather than **PAUSE** their test. Tests that are **PAUSED** will be **SUBMITTED** automatically at the end of the testing day. These errors have been corrected in the online version of the manual. Please contact [Jeff Greig](#) if you have any questions. (Revised 3/2/17)

Updated Smarter Balanced Practice and Training Tests

The Updated Smarter Balanced Mathematics and English Language Arts (ELA) practice and training tests are now available. Students and Test Administrators can access these tests via the [practice and training test icon](#). Updated [practice test scoring guides](#) tests have also been posted to the portal.



Connecticut SAT School Day Updates

Connecticut SAT School Day Supervisors Online Training

The Connecticut SAT School Day training is available as a recorded webinar on the [Connecticut State Department of Education \(CSDE\) SAT Web site](#). This training is required for all new Test Center Supervisors, and recommended for returning supervisors as a refresher. A version for Associate Supervisors is also available that you can use to train your test day staff. Additionally, test manuals are posted on the [CSDE SAT Web site](#) and should have been shipped to schools last week. Please contact [Michelle Rosado](#) if you have any questions.

Transfer Scenarios and Testing on the Connecticut SAT School Day

The [Connecticut SAT School Day Guidance for Testing Students Who Transfer into Schools](#) provides guidance about testing students who enroll in your school between January 27 and April 14, 2017. Please review this document to ensure that you are accounting for all Grade 11 students who must be tested. Contact [Michelle Rosado](#) if you have any questions.



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Connecticut SAT School Day Updates

Testing Grade 12 Students on the Connecticut SAT School Day

A *small* number of Grade 12 students who skipped Grade 11 because of credit deficiency *and* did not take the Connecticut SAT School Day in Grade 11 will be required to take the Connecticut SAT School Day in April 2017. If your school has any such eligible Grade 12 students, please **FAX** a list of these students to Michelle Rosado at the CSDE at **860-326-0565** by **March 3, 2017**. The list of Grade 12 students must include the following information as it appears in PSIS registration:

- Student Name (First and Last); SASID; Date of Birth and School and District.

Please contact [Michelle Rosado](#) if you have any questions about student eligibility.

Fee Waivers

Eligible students who take the Connecticut SAT School Day can take advantage of the benefits of the College Board's fee waiver program. These benefits are described in the College Board publication [Putting Fee Waivers to Work](#). Schools should have received fee waivers for the upcoming administration and should distribute them to eligible students. Please contact the College Board School Day Support at 855-373-6387 if you need additional fee waivers.

Approved List of Bilingual Dictionary Word to Word Translation

The list of approved College Board Bilingual Dictionary Word-to-Word Translation for the Connecticut SAT School Day is posted to our [Web site](#). As a reminder, schools do NOT need to apply for accommodations for EL students who use Bilingual Dictionary Word to Word Translation.

Translated Test Directions

Translated test directions for the Connecticut SAT School Day have been posted to our [Web site](#). The directions are available in [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [Haitian Creole](#), [Polish](#), [Portuguese](#), [Russian](#), [Spanish](#) and [Vietnamese](#). Additionally, other languages can be supported with test day translators. As a reminder, English learners (EL) students may receive directions translated in their native language for the Connecticut SAT School Day. Schools do **NOT** need to apply for this support in the College Board's Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) online system.

Parent Letter and FAQ

A Connecticut SAT School Day [parent letter](#) has been posted to our Web site. Schools may personalize this letter and use it to inform parents about the upcoming Connecticut SAT School Day. A *Frequently Asked Questions for Families and Students* document is also available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Accommodations

The deadline has passed to enter Connecticut SAT School Day accommodations for special education and 504 students into the [College Board's SSD online system](#). However, a late request window is available for those students who are newly enrolled, identified or classified as Grade 11 students. The window to enter accommodations for EL students who need extended time into the College Board's SSD online system is March 6-31, 2017. If you have any questions, please contact [Joe Amenta](#).



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Connecticut SAT School Day Updates

Online Attendance Rosters

All Test Center Supervisors should have received an e-mail from ets.org on February 10, 2017, with access information for rosters. Please follow the instructions and verify that you can access your roster. When reviewing the roster, remember this will only include students that were registered in Public School Information System (PSIS) as of January 26, 2017. It will only include students testing without accommodations and those testing with accommodations that don't require alternate formats or unique testing scenarios. If a student is missing from your roster:

- Have the SSD Coordinator check to confirm the student is approved for accommodations and is appearing on the Nonstandard Accommodations Report (NAR).
- Confirm the student is accurately listed in PSIS. College Board will be receiving an updated student file from CSDE in mid-March, which will update the rosters.

If a student appears on your roster that won't be taking the SAT, you will mark them as absent on test day. This would apply to those students who are taking the CTAA.

Please use the roster to begin planning your room and staffing needs for test day. If you did not receive an e-mail regarding the rosters, or you have any questions, please contact School Day Support at 855-373-6387 (Option 1).

Non Standard Accommodations Report (NAR)

All SSD Coordinators can download the NAR from the Dashboard in SSD Online by clicking the link in the upper right hand corner. This roster will provide a list of all the students who require accommodations that will test under the SSD Coordinator. If a student is missing from your roster:

- Have the Test Center Supervisor check to confirm the student is appearing on the Online Attendance Roster.
- Check your Dashboard to confirm the student has been approved for their accommodations.
- Contact the College Board SSD team at 855-373-6387 for assistance.

SAT Practice Tests and Khan Academy

Schools can access full length SAT practice tests for students from the [College Board's Web site](#). Practice tests are also available for students using [MP3](#) or [Screen Reader or Assistive Technology](#). Schools can also request large print or Braille SAT practice tests for students by contacting the [College Board's Services for Students with Disabilities \(SSD\)](#). Additionally, students may access free online SAT practice through [Khan Academy](#). Khan is optional and is authorized by the student. Districts do **NOT** need to have an agreement as per Connecticut P.A. 16-189 with Khan, or any other vendor, if the district is NOT disclosing student data to that vendor.

Students *may* also chose to link their College Board account to their Khan Academy account. Students who link their accounts will receive personalized practice. Please contact [Alan Bernstein](#) at the College Board if you would like to know the percentage of students in your school who have linked their accounts.



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Interim Assessment Updates

Interim Assessment Training—SPACES STILL AVAILABLE

The *optional* Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments provide teachers with an additional resource to measure students' mastery of specific content and skills aligned to the Connecticut Core Standards. The following training sessions are being provided to introduce educators to these interim assessments and explore creative ways to integrate them within curriculum and instruction. The trainings will be held at the Institute of Technology & Business Development (ITBD) in New Britain. The [Interim Assessment Training flyer](#) describes each session in detail. E-mail [Deirdre Ducharme](#) or [Cristi Alberino](#) for more information.

Creative Ways to Use the Smarter Balanced Interim Assessment Blocks	
Register for March 10, 2017	Grades 6-8: 8:30-11:30 a.m.
Register for March 10, 2017	Grades 3-5: 12:30-3:30 p.m.



Special Populations Updates

TIDE Test Setting Update

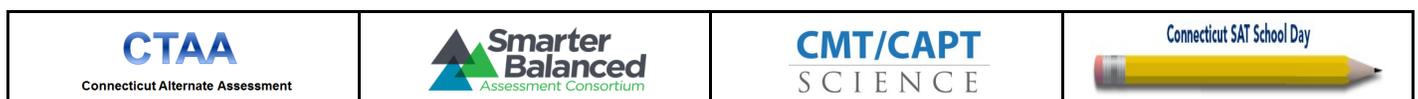
On February 22, 2017, Test Information and Distribution Engine (TIDE) was updated so that accommodations can only be entered for students with an individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 Plan. English learners (EL) students who require time extension for science **are** allowed to receive this accommodation. The update to the TIDE will not allow you to indicate this under test setting. Therefore, you will not be able to indicate time extension for science for your EL students in TIDE, but you can still provide this support during testing. Your test proctor will need to be made aware of EL students with time extension for science prior to testing.

Required Text-to-Speech and Read Aloud Decision Guidelines 2016-17 Form Submission

All students who qualify to receive either text-to-speech or read aloud of the Smarter Balanced English Language Arts (ELA) reading passages are required to complete the [Text-to-Speech and Read Aloud Decision Guidelines 2016-17](#) form. This form can be completed online and submitted by clicking on the [SUBMIT FORM](#). In TIDE, there are students listed with this accommodation that have not had this form submitted. District test administrators are encouraged to monitor the selection of this accommodation and whether the [Text-to-Speech and Read Aloud Decision Guidelines 2016-17](#) form has been submitted online.

CTAA User Guide

The [Connecticut Alternate Assessment System User Guide](#) is now available on the CSDE Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal. The guide is designed to help users navigate the Test Delivery System for the Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA), including the Student Interface and the Test Administration Interface. This guide includes directions for accessing the CTAA practice tests, starting a test session, and how teacher administering the alternate assessment (TEAs) can log students into the system for online testing.



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Special Populations Updates

Students in PSIS Who Attend Out-of-State Facilities or Attend In-State Non-Approved Facilities

As shared at the January Test Coordinator workshops, Connecticut public school districts are responsible for testing students registered in the Public School Information System (PSIS) who are enrolled in out-of-state facilities or in-state non-approved facilities. Information on how to administer the CMT/CAPT Science (including Skills Checklist), Smarter Balanced assessment and the CTAA may be accessed in [Students in PSIS Who Attend Out-of-State Facilities or In-State Non-Approved Facilities](#). These students should be reflected in TIDE beginning the week of February 28, 2017.

Districts with Grade 11 students who attend out-of-state facilities or in-state non-approved facilities have already been notified by the CSDE about testing those students.

Deadline for Required Training to Administer Connecticut's Alternate Assessments

On August 18, 2016, District Administrators (DAs) were e-mailed a letter regarding the required [2016-17 CSDE Alternate Assessment System Training](#). Teachers administering the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science and/or the CTAA must complete the CSDE Alternate Assessment System Training. This training is available online. All four modules and associated quizzes must be completed and passed by **March 17, 2017**, in order to administer either Alternate assessment in the 2016-17 school year.

CTAA and CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science Eligibility & LCI Deadline

The [CTAA and CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science Eligibility & Learner Characteristics Inventory \(LCI\)](#) must be submitted by the teacher administering the alternate assessment (TEA), into the Data Entry Interface (DEI) by **March 17, 2017**. This is required for any student who will participate in the alternate assessments, which includes the CTAA for English language arts and mathematics, and the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist. The Alternate Assessment Indicator in the demographic section for each student in TIDE will be selected by AIR following March 17, 2017.

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Updates on English Learners

Family Resources for English Learners

Please share with families the [Family Resources for English Learners](#) available on the CSDE [English Learner](#) webpage. Many of these resources are available in multiple languages including English, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, Haitian Creole, Polish and Portuguese. Resources include, but are not limited to:

- English Learner Brochure that provides information about identification, eligibility, programing and parent participation;
- English Learners and State Assessments Brochure that provides information about supports available for ELs on Connecticut state assessments;
- Web Resources for Parents and Families; and
- English Language Development Web sites.

English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessment Window Closes March 10, 2017

All English learners must participate in the annual English language proficiency (ELP) assessment. The annual ELP testing window will be closing March 10, 2017. LAS Links, Form D must be administered to **all** English learners registered in PSIS. As in previous years, the Kindergarten-Grade 2 assessments are administered using paper and pencil. Districts have the option to administer the assessment to students in Grades 3-12 using the online platform, or as a paper and pencil assessment. Decisions about assessing students using the online versus paper and pencil administration should be made at the student level. If LEAs have questions regarding the particular testing needs of individual ELs, especially those who are hearing impaired or deaf, non-verbal, or those who will be participating in either the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science or Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA), should contact Janet Stuck at janet.stuck@ct.gov or by phone at 860-713-6837.

Advanced Placement

AP Potential Student Letters

Letters have been sent to over 20,000 high school students in Connecticut who have demonstrated Advanced Placement (AP) Potential based on the 2016 October PSAT. Superintendents received a [letter](#) on February 1, 2017, regarding this mailing.

For the past four years, as part of a student activation campaign, the CSDE has issued letters to students who demonstrated the potential to succeed on AP course work based on the results from the PSAT. The letters instruct these students to meet with their school counselors to discuss what course work is right for them. By taking challenging courses such as AP, dual enrollment, International Baccalaureate (IB), and/or honors courses, students attain important academic and financial benefits such as earning college credit, potentially skipping introductory courses and experiencing college-level work while in high school.



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2016-17 Important Dates

Event	Dates
The secure browsers for the 2016-17 school year must be downloaded for all 2016-17 online test administrations	Currently available
Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments Testing Window (ICA and IAB) and Interim Assessment Teacher Hand Scoring System	October 18, 2016-June 9, 2017
English Language Proficiency Testing	January 3-March 10, 2017
Deadline for Submission of CTAA and CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science Eligibility & Learner Characteristics Inventory (LCI)	March 17, 2017
Connecticut Smarter Balanced Assessment Window	Monday, March 27, 2017-Friday, May 26, 2017
CMT/CAPT Science and CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science	Monday, March 27, 2017-Friday, April 28, 2017
Connecticut Alternate Assessment	Monday March 27, 2017-Friday, May 26, 2017
Connecticut SAT School Day	Wednesday, April 5, 2017 Makeup dates: April 25 and April 26, 2017

[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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