



Performance Matters Forum
The NGSS and Smarter Balanced
Interim Assessments in Action as
an Instructional Resource
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Populations

Welcome

This session will encompass a discussion of the various strategies employed by districts using the NGSS/Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments and other assessment tools to inform curriculum and instruction. Attendees will learn about this system available to Connecticut districts as well as other available assessment resources. Using the curated roundtable approach, attendees will be able to hear stories and best practices from districts who have implemented the interims and regularly used other assessment tools to improve instruction.



What to Expect

Six districts will tell their story. Participants will have an opportunity to visit 3 roundtables at specified times.

- Roundtable Discussion 1: 10:30-10:50/2:30-2:50

Switch

- Roundtable Discussion 2: 10:50-11:10/2:50-3:10

Switch

- Roundtable Discussion 3: 11:10-11:30/ 3:10-3:30
- Wrap-up 11:30 - 11:45/3:30 - 3:45



Meet the Presenters



- | | |
|---------|-----------------------------|
| Group 1 | New Hartford Public Schools |
| Group 2 | Brass City Charter School |
| Group 3 | Winchester Public Schools |
| Group 4 | Fairfield Public Schools |
| Group 5 | Stamford Public Schools |
| Group 6 | Monroe Public Schools |

Getting to Know the Audience



Who has never used the Smarter Balanced or NGSS Interim Assessments?

Who currently uses the Smarter Balanced or NGSS Interim Assessments?

Who is considering its use?

Interim Assessment Reminders

- Define the **PURPOSE** for use and ensure that the process of teacher training, implementation, data analysis, and instructional planning is aligned to the purpose *before* you begin.
- Interim assessments offer **flexibility** (e.g., can be used in formal and informal ways); however, consider risks of over exposure or other limitations that may misguide student performance and data interpretation.



Interim Assessment Reminders

- Maximize the **value** of using individual or group data to support **individualized learning and support**, especially for students with disabilities and children who are learning English as a new language.
- Provide students with an opportunity to **practice** using embedded test tools, designated supports, and accommodations (if applicable), while also becoming familiar with test format and item types. Building confidence is key to success.
- Take advantage of **Tools for Teachers** (the Smarter Balanced online collection of tools and supports for teachers) to support instruction and learning.



Student Participation on the Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments Have a Positive Impact on Student Growth on Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments



A [report](#) released by the Connecticut State Department of Education (March 2020) shows that in both ELA and math, in all grades, and regardless of performance level or socioeconomic status of the student, **those who take four or more different IABs during the year generally demonstrate substantially greater mean scale score gain** than those taking fewer or no IABs.

CSDE Resources

Interim Assessment Main [Webpage](#)

- What are Interim Assessments?
- Why are the Interim Assessment Valuable?
- How are the Interim Assessments Administered?
- What is the Format of the Interim Assessments?
- How are the Interim Assessments Scored?
- Where are the Interim Assessments Located?
- Which Designated Supports and Accommodations are Available on the Interim Assessments?
- Are There Resources that Support the ELA, Math, and Science Interim Assessments?



Smarter Balanced and Next Generation Science Standards Overview

Contents

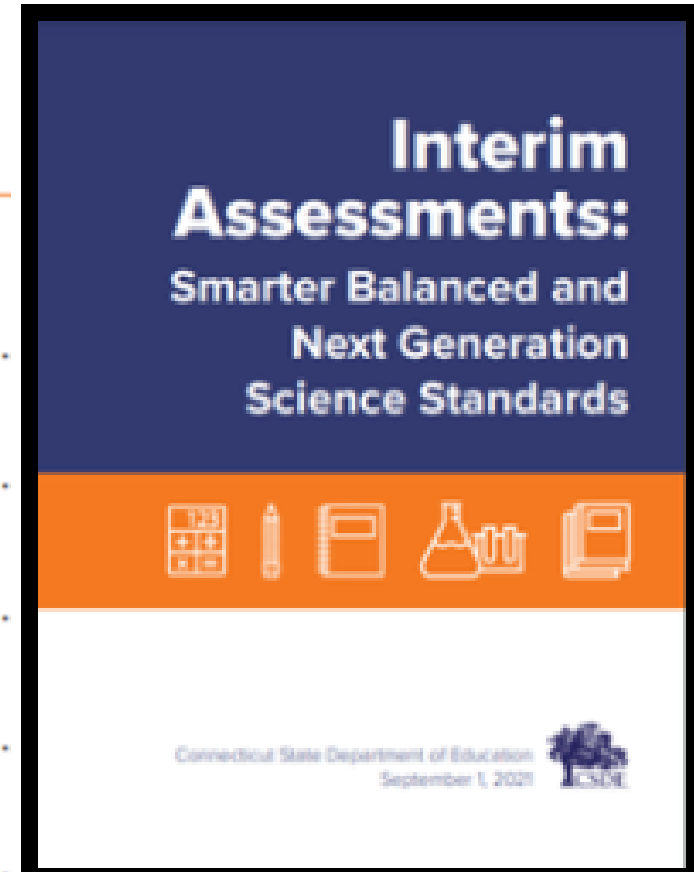
Test Format

Test Administration: In Person and Remote

Scoring and Reporting

Universal Tools, Designated Supports, and Accommodations

Resources



Additional Interim Assessment Training Materials

Available Resources Include:

- Recorded and captioned presentations for access
 - [Smarter Balanced and NGSS Interim Assessments Overview \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Smarter Balanced and NGSS Interim Assessment Content \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Smarter Balanced and NGSS Interim Scoring and Reporting \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Integrating Smarter Balanced and NGSS Interim Assessments into Practice \(PDF\)](#)
- Scripted PowerPoints for turn-key training
- Hyperlinks to dozens of resources (e.g., interim blueprints, test administration manuals, scoring rubrics, answer keys)



Additional Interim Assessment Training Materials

- On-demand videos and modules
 - [Using Interim Connections Playlists](#)
 - [Understanding the Individual Student Accessibility Assessment Profile](#)
 - [Individual Student Assessment Accessibility Profile: A Tool to Support Students](#)
 - [Understanding the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment](#)
 - [Understanding the Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments](#)
 - [Understanding the Formative Assessment Process](#)
 - [Smarter Balanced Tools for Teachers](#)
 - [Smarter Balanced Content Explorer](#)



One-Stop Access to Supporting Systems

Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal with single sign-on access

- Assessment Viewing Application
- TIDE
- Test Administration Interface
- Centralized Reporting System
- Tools for Teachers

The screenshot displays the Smarter Balanced Assessments Portal dashboard. At the top, the Connecticut State Department of Education logo is visible on the left, and the text 'Department of Education' is on the right. Below this, the 'Smarter BALANCED' logo is on the left, and 'Smarter Balanced Assessments' is on the right, with a subtitle: 'Access resources for administering Smarter Balanced Assessments in Mathematics and English language arts.' The main content area is organized into three sections: 'Preparing for Testing', 'Administering Tests', and 'After Testing'. Each section contains several system tiles with icons and brief descriptions of their functions.

Smarter BALANCED Smarter Balanced Assessments
Access resources for administering Smarter Balanced Assessments in Mathematics and English language arts.

Home > Smarter Balanced Assessments

Preparing for Testing

- Assessment Viewing Application (AVA)**
Access items on the Smarter Balanced and NGSS Interim Assessments for administrative or instructional purposes.
- Practice and Training Tests**
Become familiar with the testing system, accommodations, and types of questions on the summative tests.
- TA Practice and Training Tests Site**
Become familiar with Test Administrator (TA) interface and proctor practice sessions for students and guest users.
- Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE)**
Manage users, manage student information, and monitor test progress.
- Tools for Teachers**
Access the Smarter Balanced online collection of tools and supports for teachers.

Administering Tests

- Test Administration**
Creates and manage test sessions.

After Testing

- Centralized Reporting System**
Access and download summative and Interim assessment reports and results.
- Inbox**
Securely access data files and secure materials in TIDE.
- Data Entry Interface**
Enter student responses and scores for paper tests only as well as complete the Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form.



Questions?



Roundtable Discussions

Use [Padlet](#) to jot down any unanswered questions.

<https://padlet.com/bostonwhalerkrisst/vr5r0xqei818wed3>



Recap



Thank you!