

2023 Student Assessment Office Hours Attendee Reminders

- You must connect to your computer's audio or telephone using the phone number provided in the registration response email for TEAMs.
- All attendees will be placed on mute for the duration of the webinar.
- Presenters will not be consistently monitoring the chat for questions.
- To ask questions, please select the **Raise your Hand** button when prompted and you will be able to ask your question.
- This session is being recorded and will be posted to the [training](#) page of the CSDE Assessment website.





CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office Hours

Smarter Balanced, NGSS and the
Alternate Assessment System

April 20, 2023



CSDE Assessment Staff - Contact Information

**Abe Krisst, Chief
Student Assessment**
abe.krisst@ct.gov
(860) 713-6894

ctstudentassessment@ct.gov

Cristi Alberino, Education Consultant
cristi.alberino@ct.gov
(860) 713-6862

Jeff Greig, Education Consultant
jeff.greig@ct.gov

**Special Populations
Accessibility &
Accommodations**

Deirdre Ducharme
deirdre.ducharme@ct.gov
(860) 713-6859

Janet Stuck
janet.stuck@ct.gov
(860) 713-6860



Cambium Assessment, Inc. (CAI)

Connecticut Help Desk

844-202-7583

cthelpdesk@cambiumassessment.com

The Help Desk is open Monday – Friday 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
during testing.

CAI Project Team

Jen Chou, Program Director

Marie Musumeci, Senior Program Coordinator

Christine June, Program Assistant



Office Hours

What are the Details?

- Every Thursday through June at 3 p.m.
- TEAMS invite was previously sent to all District Administrators.
- Feel free to forward the invite to relevant staff.
- Office Hours are **optional**.



Speaking of Professional Development...

- The CSDE Performance Office is starting a new professional learning series called [Behind the Numbers: From Data to Dashboards](#).
- Sessions in this series will show how data from different sources are incorporated into EdSight reports/dashboards including Next Generation Accountability reports.
- They will also highlight the proactive steps that districts can take to ensure that their data are accurate and complete when submitted to the CSDE.
- Three virtual sessions will be offered for the 2022-23 school year. The first session, Next Generation Accountability Indicators Supported by the Teacher Course Student (TCS) Collection, will take place on **Friday, April 21**. Check out the [flyer to register](#).



Friendly Reminder About Another Assessment

- The CSDE will be collecting individual student assessment achievement levels for the **Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment (CPFA)** in 2022-23. The *CPFA Individual Student Collection Application* is now open.
- Information on the collection and application (e.g., Test Administration Manual, CPFA Individual Student Collection Application Users Guide and Sample/Template File) can be found on the [CPFA Individual Student Collection Page](#).
- **The deadline for data submission is June 30, 2023.**



Presentation Overview

- General Updates
- Participation Reminders
- PSIS and CT-SEDS
- Preparation Reminders
- Accessibility Reminders
- Connecticut Alternate Assessment System



Testing Numbers as of Yesterday

Summative Counts as of 5:00 AM; 04/19/23		
Program	Tests Started	Tests Completed
Smarter Balanced	22,845	16,187
NGSS	21,422	19,232
CTAS	102	85
CTAA	806	639
CAAELP	3,014	2,998
Total	48,189	39,141



Important Reminders

- All materials posted to the Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal:
<https://ct.portal.cambiumast.com/>
- Paper TAMs/TCM were delivered in late January. If your district needs more, please contact the Cambium Help Desk 844.202.7583.
- The testing window runs until June 2, 2023.
- There is a [Test Administrator Training](#) developed for districts that can be used (partially or as a whole) when preparing staff for statewide assessments.



Preliminary Results Delivery

- All results (NGSS, Smarter, CTAS and CTAA) will be posted by mid-June.
- CSDE will likely be providing results taken earlier in the window on a “rolling release” in the [Centralized Reporting System](#) (CRS). This will be dependent on the quality control process, so a hard date has not been set. The tentative date is set for May 12, 2023.



PSIS Reminders

The Public School Information System (PSIS) drives information about students in TIDE.

- The PSIS Testing Demographics for SPED, FRL, EL, Military Family, and Homeless values were loaded in November 2022.
- The values for Recently Arrived EL and Section 504 were not pulled from Freeze Zero. These must be set in the PSIS Registration Module.
- Student demographic values will be saved, and the fields locked in PSIS on June 2, 2023. All changes to a student's status at the time of testing must be made by June 2, 2023.
- Student's grade in PSIS is that grade in which the test is given.
- **Accommodations are available only to students recorded in PSIS as Special Education or Section 504.**



CT-SEDS and TIDE

- The sync between implemented/active IEP/504 plans in CT-SEDS and TIDE occurs nightly. This **does not apply** to the CT SAT School Day.
- The Special Education/504 Indicator must be turned on in PSIS for these accommodations.
- The IEP is the source of truth. If there are changes regarding a student's designated support/accommodation, they have to be documented through an implemented/active IEP or IEP amendment.
- Once the amendment is implemented/active, any *new* accommodations will sync with TIDE.
- If the amended/revised IEP/504 indicates the **removal** of a designated support/accommodation in CT-SEDS, it will not be automatically removed in TIDE. Therefore, it is recommended that the DA/DC manually remove them from the student's profile.
 - ❑ The removal of a Special Documented Accommodation (e.g., Read Aloud, Scribe, Math Manipulatives) in TIDE can only be deactivated by the CSDE and Cambium. Please email Deirdre or Janet and provide the student SASID (no names) and accommodation type.



CT-SEDS and TIDE

- If you identify accommodation discrepancies within an implemented/active IEP/504 plan in CT-SEDS and TIDE, please email Deirdre or Janet, and provide the student SASID (no names) and accommodation type.
- Best practice is to wait to test students until the records in CT-SEDS and TIDE are the same.
- It is recommended that districts develop a local process for reviewing, tracking, and updating discrepancies in CT-SEDS and TIDE.

Refer to [CT-SEDS to TIDE Designated Supports/Accommodation Sync FAQ](#) for more information.



Participation Reminders

Participation expectations for Smarter Balanced, NGSS, and Connecticut SAT School Day include testing all students:

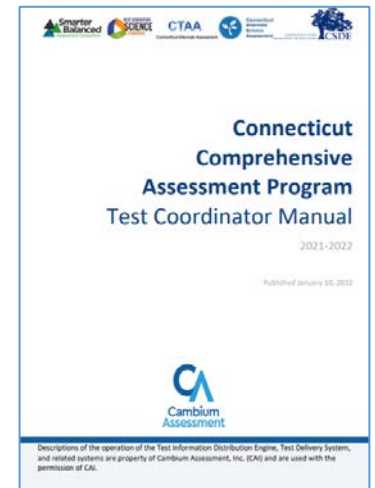
- Enrolled in the Public School Information System (PSIS) in Grades 3-8 and 11.
- Enrolled in PSIS attending Approved Private Special Education Programs (APSEPs).
- Enrolled in PSIS who are being educated in out-of-state facilities, in-state facilities, and non–approved facilities.

Refer to the [Students in PSIS Who Attend Out-of-State and In-State Non-Approved Facilities](#) brochure.



Preparation Reminders

- ✓ Confirm grade and testing demographics in PSIS (Special Education, 504, EL/ML).
- ✓ Enter/upload TIDE test settings (both embedded and non-embedded) prior to testing for general education and EL/MLs and those students with IEP/504 plans not implemented/active in CT-SEDS.
- ✓ Review and distribute manuals.
 - [Test Coordinator Manual](#)
 - [CTAA User Guide](#)
 - [NGSS TAM](#)
 - [Smarter Balanced TAM](#)
 - [Connecticut Alternate Assessment \(CTAA\) TAM](#)
 - [Connecticut Alternate Science Assessment \(CTAS\) TAM](#)



Preparation Reminders

- [CTAA TAM](#)
 - ❑ Directions for Test Administration (DTA) for ELA and Math (available to TEAs via TIDE Test Secure Materials tab or Secure Inbox) are required.
 - ❑ Secure PDFs of CTAA Math and ELA (available to TEAs via TIDE Secure Test Materials tab or Secure Inbox) are available if appropriate.
- [CTAS TAM](#)
 - ❑ CTAS Performance Tasks, Resource Packets, Student Score Worksheets (available on the portal- [CTAS Required Materials](#))
- Assign user roles and conduct training.
 - ❑ [Refer to the TIDE User Guide for Roles and Permissions.](#)
 - ❑ Refer to the [2023 District Administrator Training](#) for key points.
 - ❑ TEAs complete required annual, online training for test administration of CTAA and CTAS. [Training and resources](#) are available on the portal.



Preparation Reminders



- ❑ Prepare the test setting (e.g., small group, lighting, testing devices, assistive technology etc.).
- ❑ Set up a practice test experience for all students (taking both the standard and alternate assessments) and model how to use universal tools, designated supports, and accommodations with those students using them.
- ❑ Order paper materials in advance of testing (Large Print and Braille) in TIDE (DA-only function) and select the Large Print/Braille in the non-embedded section of the student's TIDE dashboard.
- ❑ Work with your Technology Coordinator to ensure the functionality of assistive technology. (Reminder: Set Permissive Mode in TIDE.)
- ❑ Refer to the [Technology Guide](#) available on the portal for details.
- ❑ Work with Case Managers to cross check accommodations in CT-SEDS with those in TIDE **prior** to testing.
- ❑ Work with EL/ML Coordinators/Teachers to ensure that appropriate language supports are considered per student need, use during instruction, and availability on statewide assessments.

Additional Reminders

- Schedule test sessions—allow for extended time if needed.
- Minimize disruptions (e.g., fire drills, announcements, etc.)
- Transcribe large-print and braille materials and submit into DEI, then return paper materials.
- ACTIVE PROCTORING!



Test Setting Reminders

Some designated supports or accommodations require students to be assessed individually. These students would also require a separate setting.

Examples include student who are accessing

- the Read Aloud designated support or accommodation
- talking calculator
- speech-to-text

This means that each student with any of these accommodation needs an individual, separate setting, with an individual, separate proctor.

Many of the non-standard, special documented accommodations require that students be tested in a 1:1 setting because the test administration/structure is substantially different from standard testers.



Test Setting Reminders

If students are using the embedded text-to-speech:

- They can test in a regular test setting if they use a headset.
- If they don't use a headset, they must test 1:1.

The embedded speech-to-text requires a 1:1 test setting as to not disrupt other testers as the student dictates their responses into the embedded microphone. Students may need more time as well with this accommodation to edit their dictated responses.

The provision of a human reader, human signer, scribe, or provision of math manipulatives also requires a 1:1 test setting.



Questions



Universal Tools:

Available to ALL students

Embedded

- Breaks
- Desmos Calculator (Math Grades 6-8; Science Grades 5, 8, & 11)
- Digital Notepad
- English Glossary^
- Expanded Passages/Stimuli/Items
- Highlighter
- [Keyboard Commands](#)
- Line Reader
- Mark for Review
- Math Tools
- Strikethrough
- Writing Tools
- Zoom
- NGSS Periodic Table (Grades 8 & 11) English

Non-Embedded

- Breaks
- Calculator (Science Grades 5, 8, & 11)
- Scratch Paper/whiteboard with marker
- NGSS Periodic Table (Grades 8 & 11) [English](#) and [Spanish](#)*

Designated Supports:

Embedded

- Color Contrast ***Updated!**
- Masking
- Mouse Pointer
- Print Size Online
- Spanish Presentation (Math) (Stacked) *
- Spanish Presentation (Science) (Toggle) *
- Streamline
- Text-to-Speech- Science, Math & ELA Items (NOT ELA Reading Passages)
- Text-to-Speech-Spanish (Math, Science) ***Updated!**
- [Translations Glossary](#) (Math) (Includes Illustration Glossary as an available language support) *
- Turn off any universal accessibility tool

Available to ANY student with a need determined by educators

Non-Embedded

- Amplification
- Bilingual Dictionary (Science) *
- Color Contrast
- Color Overlay
- Magnification
- Native Language Reader Directions (Science) *
- Noise Buffer
- Read Aloud~ [Review the Read Aloud Guidelines](#)
- Read Aloud in Spanish (Math, Science) *~ [Review the Guidelines for Spanish Read Aloud, Test Reader](#)
- Separate Setting
- [Simplified Test Directions](#)^
- [Translation Glossary](#) (Math) * (Includes Illustrative Glossary as an available language support) (**Note: These must be requested through Helpdesk and accompany a large-print test booklet.**)
- [Smarter Balanced Translation Test Directions](#)* (Math, ELA)^
- Native Reader of Test Directions * (teacher script from the Smarter Balanced/NGSS Test Administration Manual)

Accommodations:

Embedded

- American Sign Language (Video)^
- Braille Type
- Braille Transcript (ELA Listening)
- Closed Captioning (ELA Listening)
- Permissive Mode (compatible third-party accessibility software)
- Refreshable Braille
- Speech-to-Text
- Text-to-Speech ELA Reading Passages (Grades 3-8); Complete the [Decision Guidelines for Text-to-Speech of the Smarter Balanced ELA Reading Passages](#)

Available to students with an IEP or 504 Plan

Non-Embedded

- [100s Number Table](#) (Grades 3-8)
- Abacus
- Alternate Response Options
- Braille Booklet (Only UEB/UEB Nemeth)
- [Calculator \(Math Grades 6-8\) #](#)
- [Customized Accommodations](#) ~# (Contact the CSDE)
- [Human Signer for ELA, Math, and/or Science Items](#) ~#
- [Human Signer for ELA Reading Passages \(Grades 3-8\)](#) ~#
- Large Print Booklet
- [Manipulatives \(Math, Grades 3-8\) #](#)
- [Multiplication Table](#) (Grades 3-8)
- [Print on Demand](#) # (Contact the CSDE)
- [Read Aloud ELA Reading Passages \(Grades 3-8\)](#) ~# Complete the [Documented Evidence for a Read Aloud of the Smarter Balanced ELA Reading Passages](#)
- [Scribe](#) ~#
- Specialized Calculator (Braille/Talking Calculator) (Math Grades 6-8; Science Grades 5, 8, & 11)

Requires Petition for Approval of Special Documented Accommodations unless the accommodation(s) and IEP are finalized in CT-SEDS prior to March 1, 2023.

^ NOT available for Science
~ Requires Trained Educator
*Suggested for English learners/multilingual learners (ELs/MLs)

Selecting NGSS Assessment

Test Selection



Filter By: Add Filter

3 Tests Selected

Clear All

Next Generation Science Standards Summative Assessments



Choose the tests to add to your session, and then start your session.

Next Generation Science Standards Summative Assessments

Summative Braille Grade 5 Science

Summative Grade 5 Science

Summative Spanish Grade 5 Science

- Elementary School
 - Summative Braille Grade 5 Science
 - Summative Grade 5 Science
 - Summative Spanish Grade 5 Science
- Middle School
- High School

Back



Start Session

NGSS Assessment

- In the TA interface, the tests are now broken out by English, Braille and Spanish.

Test Selection

Filter By:

Next Generation Science Standards Summative Assessments

Choose the tests to add to your session, and then start your session.

- Elementary School
- Summative Braille Grade 5 Science
- Summative Grade 5 Science
- Summative Spanish Grade 5 Science
- Middle School

- For example, if a student has Spanish set in TIDE, the student should be administered the Spanish Science test.
- If a student logs in and sees the message “No Test Found”, please verify that the student has the proper test settings selected in TIDE.



Guidelines, Protocols, and Test Security/Confidentiality Forms

Special Documented Accommodations Resources for Proctors Providing Non-Standard Accommodations

When the PPT/504 plan rules out that a student's needs cannot be met through the standard supports/accommodations, there are specific guidelines that must be provided to the teacher (and reviewed/signed by teacher administering the accommodation(s)) prior to testing.

Accommodation Type	Resources Required for Review by Test Administrator prior to Testing
Scribe	Scribe Protocol
Human Signer/Visual Support for ELA or Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Smarter Balanced/NGSS Guidelines for Read Aloud Test Reader• Documented Evidence of a Read Aloud of the Smarter Balanced ELA Reading Passages• Read Aloud Protocol
Human Signer/Visual Support for ELA Reading Passages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Smarter Balanced/NGSS Guidelines for Read Aloud Test Reader• Documented Evidence of a Read Aloud of the Smarter Balanced ELA Reading Passages• Read Aloud Protocol (maintain locally in student file)
Math Manipulatives (Grades 3-8)	Math Manipulatives brochure
Non-Embedded Calculator (Math Grades 6-8)	This non-standard accommodation is <u>only permitted</u> for the calculator Segment 1 of the Smarter Balanced Math Assessment and the Math Performance Task in Grades 6-8. Refer to Page 38 and Appendix A of the Assessment Guidelines for details related to calculator specifications.

Additional Accommodation Reminders

PPTs should review and confirm that designated supports and accommodations are not conflicting when selecting them for statewide testing. For example, selecting:

- Embedded Text-to-Speech and Non-Embedded Read Aloud
- Embedded Speech-to-Text and Scribe
- Embedded Color Contrast and Non-Embedded Color Contrast or Color Overlay
- Braille Booklet and Large Print
- Specialized Calculator (Grade 6-8 Math or Science Grades 5, 8, 11), which is a Braille/Talking Calculator, and Calculator (Math Grade 6-8 Special Documented Accommodation)



Questions



Connecticut Alternate Assessment System

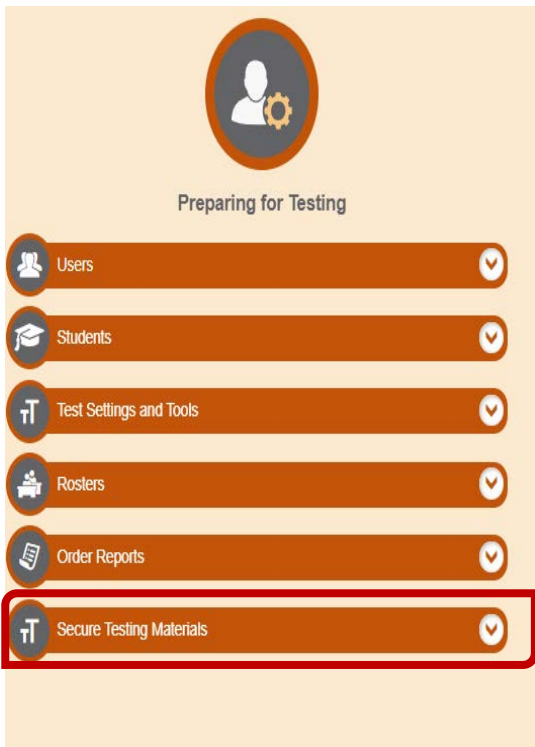


**Connecticut
Alternate
Science
Assessment**

CTAA

Connecticut Alternate Assessment

Secure Alternate Assessment Materials



- Secure Test Materials can only be accessed by a trained TEA or a DA.
- Materials are posted to TIDE in the Secure Materials Tab or the Secure Inbox.
- Resources include:
 - Secure Directions for Test Administration (DTAs) (grade and subject specific) **Required**
 - Secure PDFs of the CTAA Math and ELA (grade specific)
 - All materials must be securely stored when not in use
 - Requires secure shredding upon completion



The image shows a screenshot of the TIDE dashboard. The dashboard has a sidebar with 'Dashboard', 'Recent Files', and 'View Archives'. The main content area shows a table of files with columns for 'File Name', 'Created On', 'Expiration Date', 'Expires In', and 'Actions'. The table contains several rows of files, all named 'Grade X CTNA Directions for Test Administration.zip' for various grades (11, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3). Each row has a green 'Download' button and a red 'Delete' button.

File Name	Created On	Expiration Date	Expires In	Actions
Grade 11 CTNA Directions for Test Administration.zip	3/1/2017 4:38:39 PM		118	Download Delete
Grade 8 CTNA Directions for Test Administration.zip	3/1/2017 3:46:58 PM		118	Download Delete
Grade 7 CTNA Directions for Test Administration.zip	3/1/2017 3:46:54 PM		118	Download Delete
Grade 6 CTNA Directions for Test Administration.zip	3/1/2017 3:43:40 PM		118	Download Delete
Grade 5 CTNA Directions for Test Administration.zip	3/1/2017 3:43:10 PM		118	Download Delete
Grade 4 CTNA Directions for Test Administration.zip	3/1/2017 3:42:34 PM		118	Download Delete
Grade 3 CTNA Directions for Test Administration.zip	3/1/2017 2:43:28 PM		118	Download Delete



Troubleshooting Access to Alternate Assessments

If you have difficulty accessing the alternate assessment for a student, confirm the following:

- Has the Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form submitted in the Data Entry Interface (DEI)?
- Was the Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form submitted on or after March 1, 2023? If yes, then the Help Desk (844-202-7583) must be called to set the Alt Indicator to “Yes”.
- Is the test administrator trained?
- Does the test administrator have a TEA user role in TIDE?
- Is the test administrator going to the Test Administration Card to access the test?
- Does the student have access to the student interface with the current Secure Browser installed on their device?
- Has the student been approved for the Early Stopping Rule?



Alternate Assessment System Training Requirements

- Connecticut Alternate Assessment Training must be completed **annually by certified educators administering the alternate (TEAs)**.
- Training is online and available on the [Alternate Assessment web page](#) on the portal.
- TEAs must complete and pass the end-of-training quiz with a score of at least 80 percent or better.

Resources:

- [Overview for District Administrators](#)
- [Overview for Teachers Administering the Alternate](#)

- [CTAA TEA Responsibility Checklist](#)
- [CTAS TEA Responsibility Checklist](#)

- [CTAA System User Guide](#)
- [CTAA Test Administration Manual](#)
- [CTAS Test Administration Manual](#)

- [CTAA Assessing Students who are Blind, Deaf, or Deaf-Blind Additional Guidance](#)
- [CTAS Assessing Students who are Blind, Deaf, or Deaf-Blind Additional Guidance](#)



Questions





THANK
YOU!