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 <u>training</u> page of the CSDE Assessment website.





CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office Hours

Smarter Balanced, NGSS, and the Alternate Assessment System
April 27, 2023



CSDE Assessment Staff - Contact Information

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

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Special Populations
Accessibility &
Accommodations

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

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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 participation is <u>optional</u>.



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
 second session Find Contacts Report; Chronic Absenteeism Accountability
 Indicator will review two different types of reports Find Contacts and
 Indicator 4 of the accountability system (i.e., chronic absenteeism). The
 session will be offered on May 12, 2023. To learn more and to register,
 please check out the flyer.



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 <u>CPFA Individual Student Collection Page</u>.
- The deadline for data submission is June 30, 2023.



Presentation Overview

- General Updates
- Appeals
- Student Response Alerts
- CT-SEDS and TIDE
- Preparation Reminders
- Test Setting Reminders
- NGSS Assessments
- Connecticut Alternate Assessment System



2023 Office Hours Series

CT.gov Home / Department of Education / K-12 Education / Accountability-Assessment-Data / Student Assessment / Connecticut Student Assessment Main Page / Training Connecticut Student Assessment Main Page Overview Training Assessment Results 2022 - 23 District Administrator Trainings General Test Administration Policies Session (recorded version) - January 18 and 20, 2023 Training Related Resources 2022 - 23 Training Resources • Test Administrator Training 🗳 - This PowerPoint is intended for District Administrators (DA's in Laws/Regulations TIDE) as an option to train test administrators. It can be used (partially or as a whole) as Contact a supplement to the information that was presented at the District Administrator Training conducted on January 18 and 20, 2023. Connecticut Alternate Assessment Updates (recorded version) During this brief overview, Provided by: topics such as the 2022-23 assessment window, teacher training, and processes for submitting the **Department of Education** Connecticut Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form for students that qualify for the academic alternate assessments are discussed. The eligibility form also is used for students in Grades K-12 that are dually identified English learners/multilingual learners with significant cognitive disabilities that qualify for the new Connecticut Alternate English Language Proficiency Assessment (CAAELP). 2022 - 23 Assessment Office Hours • English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessments: LAS Links and CAAELP 🔁 (Presentation Notes (2)) - January 4, 2023 March 30 Office Hours Webinar Presentation (Recorded Version) April 6 Office Hours Webinar Presentation (Recorded Version) April 20 Office Hours Webinar Presentation (Recording Version)



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 closes June 2, 2023.



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 <u>Centralized Reporting</u> <u>System</u> (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.



Testing Numbers as of Today

Summative Counts as of 5:00 AM; 04/27/23				
Program	Tests Started	Tests Completed		
Smarter Balanced	99,422	70,801		
NGSS	43,598	40,020		
CTAS	231	214		
СТАА	1,732	1,419		
CAAELP	3,014	2,998		
Total	147,997	115,452		

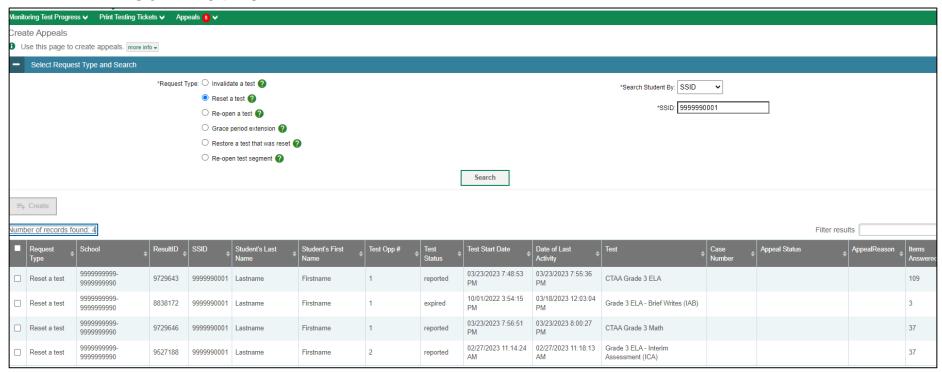


Appeals

- Since we opened the window, we have had over 340 appeals.
- This week over 200 tests needed to be reset.
- More than half of these were because teachers accidentally administered a summative test instead of a practice (or interim) test.
 - Train all test administrators before having them use the system.
 - Use interims throughout the year to improve familiarity with the system, the tools, and the accommodations/supports.
- If you submit a new Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form, you must call CAI to have the Alternate Indicator set to YES. (844.202.7583)
- Please submit requested documentation in a timely manner, and we ask that you do not include students' names in any email correspondence.

Appeals

- Interims do not need to be reset or invalidated.
- Page 62 in the <u>TIDE User Guide</u> explains the appeals process.
 - For large appeals, search by Session ID.
 - Search for a test by SSID and only choose the appropriate summative.

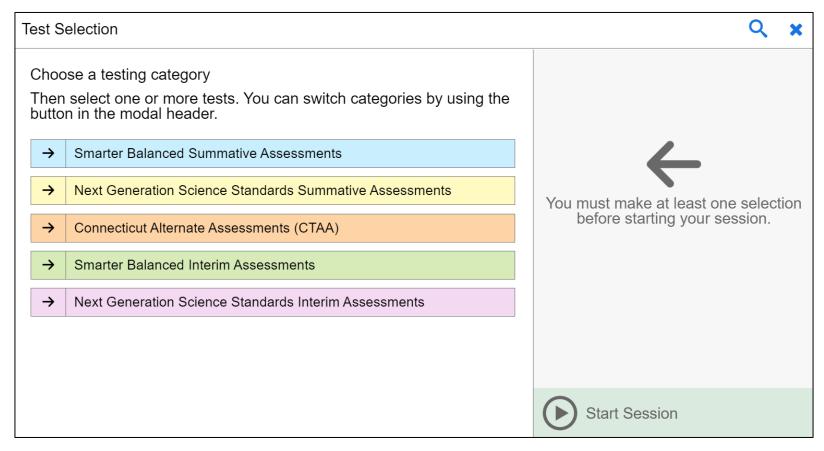


Appeal Types

Appeal Type	Description
Reset a Test	 Removes the test and scores from the system Enables student to start a new test
Re-open a Test	 Allows for a test that has already been submitted in error or has expired to be re-opened
Re-open a Test Segment	 Re-opening a test segment allows a student to access the first segment of a test that was submitted in error
Grace Period Extension	 Granted if a test session is unexpectedly interrupted Allows access to all previous responses
Restore a Test That Has Been Reset	 Returns a test from the Reset status to its prior status Only allowed on tests that have been reset A test can be restored if it was reset in error
Invalidate a Test	 Rarely Used Eliminates the test Student does not receive a score



Active Proctoring





Attestation of Training

Important!

All test items and test materials are secure and must be handled appropriately. Educators who administer Connecticut's summative assessments (e.g., Smarter Balanced, Connecticut Alternate Assessment, NGSS Assessments, and Connecticut Alternate Science) are required to maintain security of the tests, the testing materials, and the testing environment. Maintaining the security and integrity of the entire assessment process is vital to ensuring the reliability of the results and the validity of the inferences made about student performance.

Connecticut's test security requirements are outlined in the respective Test Administration Manuals listed below:

Smarter Balanced Test Administration Manual (see pages 2-5, 31 and 33) Connecticut Alternate Assessment Test Administration Manual (see pages 23-27) NGSS Assessment Test Administration Manual (see pages 5-7, 37 and 39)

OK



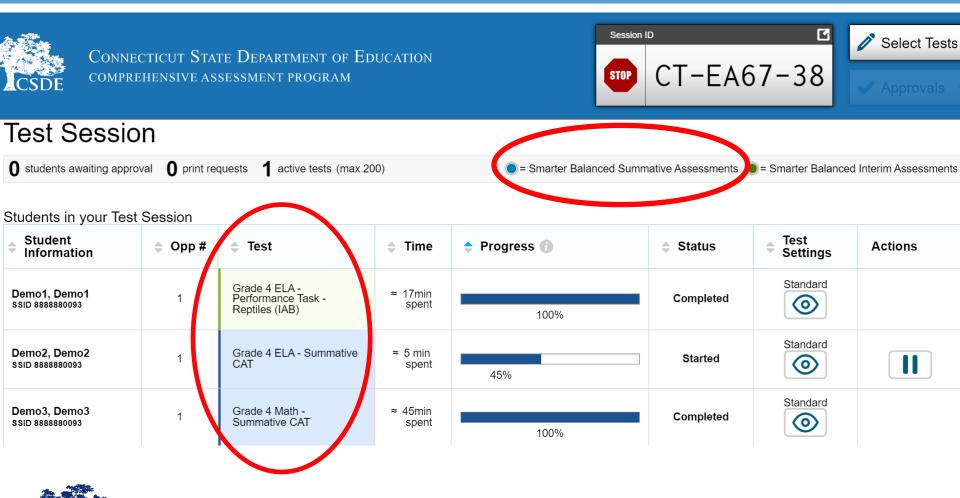
Appeals Process for Resetting a Test

If a testing irregularity occurs, and a student must retest due to an administrative error, the DA must provide a letter to the CSDE on district/school letterhead. Letters must be signed by the DA and faxed to *Performance Office Irregularities* at 860-713-7033.

The letter **must include**:

- The student's grade, SASID, and the name of the test on which the irregularity occurred;
- The date and a detailed explanation of the irregularity;
- The name of the teacher involved;
- A description of the discussion that occurred with parents/guardians of the student explaining the irregularity, options offered, and impact on the student's time; and
- A brief list of procedures in place to ensure the irregularity is not repeated.

Active Proctoring



 There is a <u>Test Administrator Training</u> developed for districts that can be used when preparing staff for statewide assessments.

 Consider asking teacher to revisit this training if they test students in error.





Student Response Alerts

CAI and the CSDE work to flag assessments – both interim and summative – in which a student writes item responses or item notes that contain sensitive matter.

- We immediately contact the DA to make them aware of the information.
- We suggest that the district/school handle the next steps: school counselor or parents as they feel necessary.
- Not available to us until the test is submitted or expired.
- We do ask that DAs respond to our email to show the information has been received.



CT-SEDS and TIDE

- A one-way import occurs nightly between implemented/active IEP/504 plans in CT-SEDS and TIDE. This import is additive only. Accommodations may need to be turned off in TIDE if they are no longer reflected in the current or amended IEP/504 Plan.
- There is a timing mater which may affect access to the accommodations in TIDE. Depending on when documents are finalized in CT-SEDS (per the Begin Date), it could take up to 2 days for they data to populate in TIDE.
- Typically, PCG posts the IEP/504 accommodations file (marked by the solid blue star) daily in the morning.
- The CSDE pulls the data accommodations file in the evening and exports to TIDE over night. Therefore, if plans are updated after PCG's data posting, they should be reflected in TIDE within 48 hours.

Note: This one-way data import **does not apply** to the CT SAT School Day. Also note that Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Forms entered in CT-SEDS **do not import to** TIDE. These forms <u>must be submitted directly</u> into the Data Entry Interface by the trained TEA.



CT-SEDS and TIDE Reminders

- The Special Education/504 Indicator must be turned on in PSIS for these accommodations.
- The IEP/504 Plan 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/504 Plan or IEP amendment/504 reconvening.
- Once the amendment is implemented/active, any new accommodations will import to TIDE (Note: this may take up to 2 days to reflect in TIDE).
- If the amended/revised IEP/504 indicates the **removal** of a designated support/accommodation in CT-SEDS, it will <u>not</u> 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. They will verify the student's implemented/active IEP/504 Plan first to confirm the request before removing the accommodation in TIDE.

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 <u>CT-SEDS to TIDE Designated Supports/Accommodation Sync FAQ</u> for more information.



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	 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	 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 <u>Appendix A</u> of the <u>Assessment Guidelines</u> for details related to calculator specifications.

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 <u>2023 District Administrator Training</u> for key points.
 - □ TEAs complete required annual, online training for test administration of CTAA and CTAS. <u>Training and resources</u> are available on the portal.



Preparation and Administration Reminders

Prepare the test setting (e.g., small group, lighting, testing devices, assistive technology etc.).
Provide Practice opportunities for students and test Administrators.
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.
Refer to the <u>Technology Guide</u> available on the portal for assistive technology 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 used during instruction are considered and made available if applicable.
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.



Test Setting Reminders

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

Examples include students who are accessing the assessments with

- Simplified Test Directions
- the Read Aloud designated support or accommodation
- a talking calculator
- speech-to-text

This means that each student with any of these supports/accommodations 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 to edit their dictated responses.

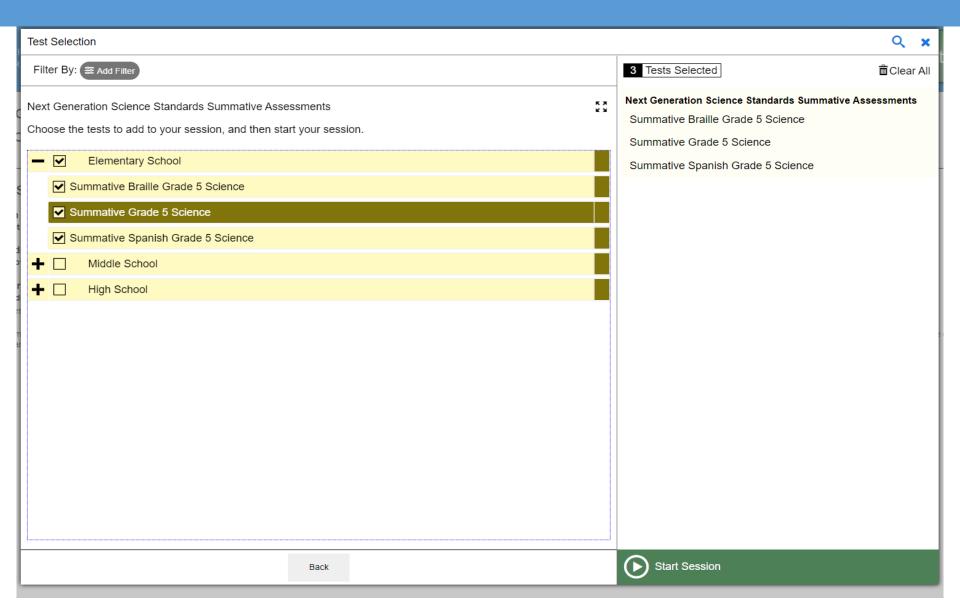
The provision of a human reader, human signer, scribe, or provision of math manipulatives also requires a 1:1 test setting.





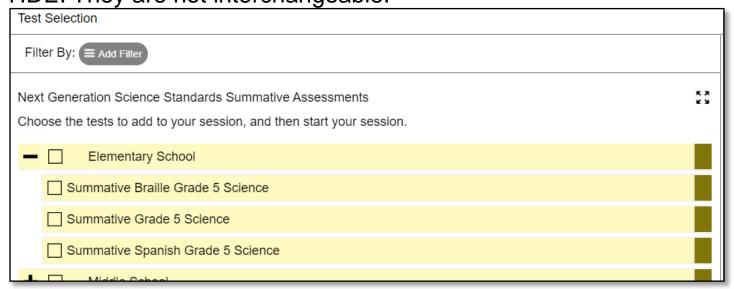
Questions

Selecting NGSS Assessment



NGSS Assessment

• In the TA interface, there are three different science test forms: English, braille and Spanish. These are determined by the student's test settings in TIDE. They are not interchangeable.



- For example, if a student has Spanish toggle set in TIDE, the student should be administered the "Summative 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.



Questions

Connecticut Alternate Assessment System





Connecticut Alternate Assessment

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 <u>Alternate Assessment</u> 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



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?



CTAA System User Guide

Secure Alternate Assessment Materials





CSDE

- 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.





Questions

HANK Y()()