Office Hours
April 4, 2024

Smarter Balanced Assessments

Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

Connecticut Alternate Assessment System

Connecticut State Department of Education

Reminders

Meeting Reminders:

- The slide deck is posted in the chat.
- The meeting is being recorded and will be posted to the Student Assessment Training webpage.
- Attendees are on mute.
- We are monitoring the chat and will respond to your questions.
- Thanks for your ongoing support and partnership!
- Good luck with spring testing!

CSDE Assessment Team

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Special Populations Accessibility & Accommodations

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Cambium Assessment Project Team

Jen Chou, Program Director

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Marie Musumeci, Program Coordinator

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Christine Jung, Project Assistant

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Who do I Contact?

Who	When	How
CSDE Performance Office	• State Policy Test Administration Questions • Reporting of Security Breaches Only	860-713-6860 ctstudentassessment@ct.gov
Connecticut Help Desk- Cambium Assessment	• Test Administration Procedure Questions • Technology Questions	844-202-7583 cthelpdesk@cambiumassessment.com

Participation Numbers

Summative Counts as of 5:00 AM; 04/04/24		
Program	**Tests Started**	**Tests Completed**
Smarter Balanced	17,929	8,861
NGSS	16,378	13,076
CTAS	94	74
CTAA	711	568
CAAELP	-	-
Total	35,112	22,579

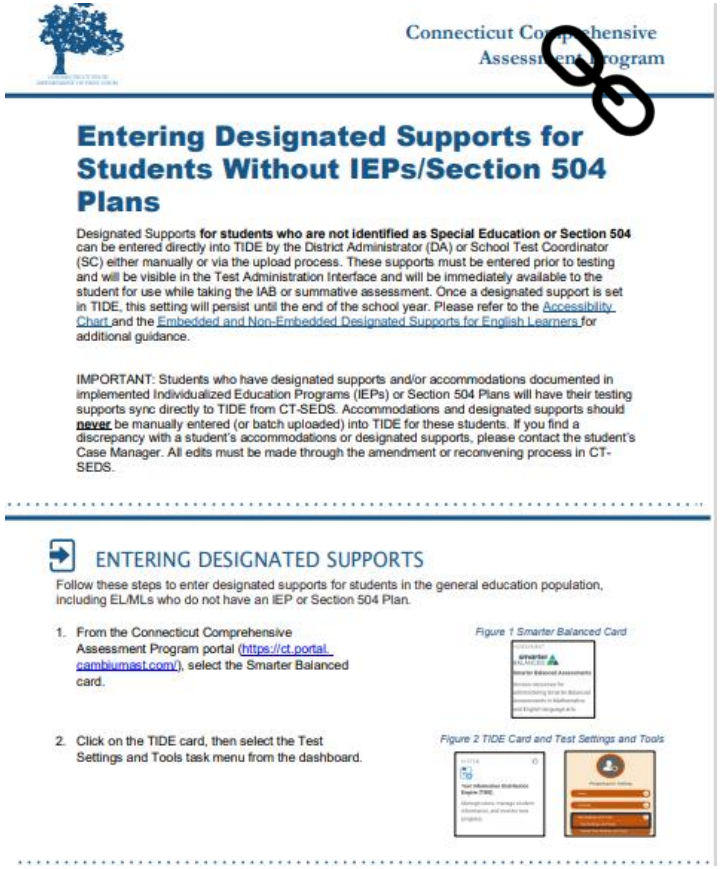
Special Considerations Calendar 2024

	Deadline	Delivery Method
Designated Supports	*Must be entered or submitted via batch upload in TIDE **prior to testing**. (This is for students who **do not** have IEPs/Section 504 plans) Refer to this updated resource for information on manually entering designated supports for students without an IEP or Section 504 Plan.	TIDE Test Settings and Tools
Medical Exemptions (See Appendix C of the CSDE Assessment Guidelines for more information)	**April 5, 2024** – CAAELP **April 26, 2024** - Connecticut SAT School Day **June 7, 2024** - Smarter Balanced, NGSS, Connecticut Alternate Assessments	DA Requests Application from CSDE

Manually Entering Designated Supports for Students who are not Section 504 or Special Education

Manually Entering Designated Supports for Students who are not Section 504 or Special Education

- Designated Supports for students who are not identified as Special Education or Section 504 can be entered directly into TIDE by the District Administrator (DA) or School Test Coordinator (SC) either manually or via the batch upload process.
  - These supports must be entered prior to testing.
  - They will be visible in the TIDE and will be immediately available to the student.



Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program

Entering Designated Supports for Students Without IEPs/Section 504 Plans

Designated Supports **for students who are not identified as Special Education or Section 504** can be entered directly into TIDE by the District Administrator (DA) or School Test Coordinator (SC) either manually or via the upload process. These supports must be entered prior to testing and will be visible in the Test Administration Interface and will be immediately available to the student for use while taking the IAB or summative assessment. Once a designated support is set in TIDE, this setting will persist until the end of the school year. Please refer to the Accessibility Chart and the Embedded and Non-Embedded Designated Supports for English Learners for additional guidance.

IMPORTANT: Students who have designated supports and/or accommodations documented in implemented Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) or Section 504 Plans will have their testing supports sync directly to TIDE from CT-SEDS. Accommodations and designated supports should **never** be manually entered (or batch uploaded) into TIDE for these students. If you find a discrepancy with a student's accommodations or designated supports, please contact the student's Case Manager. All edits must be made through the amendment or reconvening process in CT-SEDS.

ENTERING DESIGNATED SUPPORTS

Follow these steps to enter designated supports for students in the general education population, including EL/MLs who do not have an IEP or Section 504 Plan.

1. From the Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program portal (https://ct.portal.cambiumast.com/), select the Smarter Balanced card.

Figure 1 Smarter Balanced Card

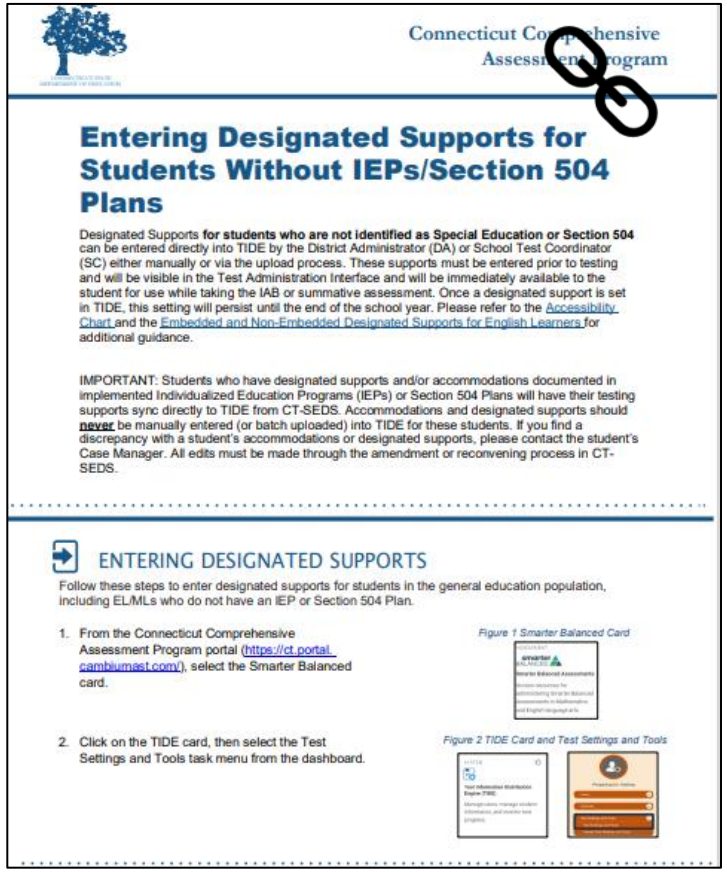
2. Click on the TIDE card, then select the Test Settings and Tools task menu from the dashboard.

Figure 2 TIDE Card and Test Settings and Tools

Manually Entering Designated Supports Continued

IMPORTANT: Do not include students with IEPs or Section 504 plans in any batch uploads.

- Designated supports and accommodations sync directly to TIDE from CT-SEDS.
- If you find a discrepancy with a student's accommodations or designated supports, please contact the student's Case Manager.
- All edits must be made through the amendment or reconvening process in CT-SEDS.



Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program

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Figure 2 TIDE Card and Test Settings and Tools

Accessibility and Special Populations

2023-24 Accessibility Features for Connecticut Smarter Balanced and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Assessments

Universal Tools
Available to All Students

Embedded	Non-Embedded
Digital Notepad	Scratch Paper/ whiteboard with marker
English Glossary ^	
Expanded Passages/ Stimuli/Items	
Highlighter	
Keyboard Commands	
Line Reader	
Mark for Review	
Math Tools	
Writing Tools	
Strikethrough	
Zoom	
Desmos Calculator (Math Segment 1 ONLY, Grades 6-8; Science Grades 5, 8, and 11	Calculator (Science Grades 5, 8, &11)
NGSS Periodic Table (Grades 8 & 11) English and Spanish	NGSS Periodic Table (Grades 8 & 11) English and Spanish *
Breaks	

Refer to the CSDE Assessment Guidelines for detailed information on universal tools, supports, and accommodations.

Designated Supports
Available to Any Student With a Need Determined by Educator Teams

Embedded	Non-Embedded
Print Size Online	Magnification
Color Contrast	Color Contrast
Masking	Color Overlay
Mouse Pointer	
Streamline	
Text-to-Speech- ELA Items (NOT ELA Reading Passages), Math and Science Stimuli and Items	Read Aloud (English) ELA Items, Math and Science Stimuli and Items ~ + Review Read Aloud Guidelines
Text-to-Speech-Spanish (Math, Science Stimuli and Items) *	Read Aloud in Spanish (Math, Science) * ~ + Review Guidelines for Spanish Read Aloud of Stimuli and Items
Spanish Presentation (Math, Science) (Toggle) * **Updated!**	
Translations Glossary (Math) (Includes Illustration Glossary as an available language support) *	Translation Glossary (Math) (Includes Illustrative Glossary as an available language support) **(Note: Requires large-print test booklet and must be requested through CAI Help Desk.)** *
Turn off any universal accessibility tool	
	Smarter Balanced Translated Test Directions (Math, ELA) * ^
	Bilingual Dictionary (Science) *
	Simplified Test Directions (Test Administration Manual for Math and ELA) ^ +
	Native Language Reader of Test Directions (Test Administration Manual for Math, ELA, Science) * +
	Translated Test Directions in ASL (Test Administration Manual for Math, ELA, Science) **New!** +
	Printed Test Directions in English (Test Administration Manual for Math, ELA, Science) **New!**
	Separate Setting
	Amplification +
	Noise Buffer

Accommodations
Available to Students with an IEP or Section 504 Plan

Embedded	Non-Embedded
Permissive Mode (compatible third-party accessibility software)	
Refreshable Braille	
Braille Type (UEB/UEB Nemeth)	Braille Booklet (UEB/UEB Nemeth)
	Large Print Booklet
American Sign Language Video (ELA Listening, Math) ^	Human Signer/Visual Support for ELA Items and Math/Science Stimuli and Items # ~ +
	Human Signer/Visual Support for ELA Reading Passages (Grades 3-8) # ~ +
Braille/Audio Transcription (ELA Listening) +	
Closed Captioning (ELA Listening)	
Text-to-Speech ELA Reading Passages (Grades 3-8); Complete the Decision Guidelines for Text-to-Speech of the Smarter Balanced ELA Reading Passages	Read Aloud ELA Reading Passages (Grades 3-8) # ~ + Complete the Documented Evidence for a Read Aloud of the Smarter Balanced ELA Reading Passages
	Alternate Response Options
Word Prediction **New!**	
Speech-to-Text +	Scribe # ~ +
	Abacus
	(Braille/Talking) Specialized Calculator (Math Grades 6-8 Segment 1 ONLY; Science Grades 5, 8, & 11) +
	Calculator (Math Grades 6-8 Segment 1 ONLY) #
	Multiplication Table (Grades 3-8)
	100s Number Table (Grades 3-8)
	Math Manipulatives (Grades 3-8) # +
	Print on Demand # + (Contact the CSDE)
	Medical Device (e.g., glucose monitor)
	Customized Medical Accommodations # ~ + (Contact the CSDE)

Department of Education

Welcome to the Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal

smarter BALANCED Smarter Balanced Assessments

SCIENCE NGSS Assessments

Alternate Assessment System

Key

^ NOT available for Science

* Suggested for English learners/multilingual learners (ELs/MLs)

\+ Individual Test Setting

\# Special Documented Accommodation

~ Requires Trained Educator

Checking Accessibility Features

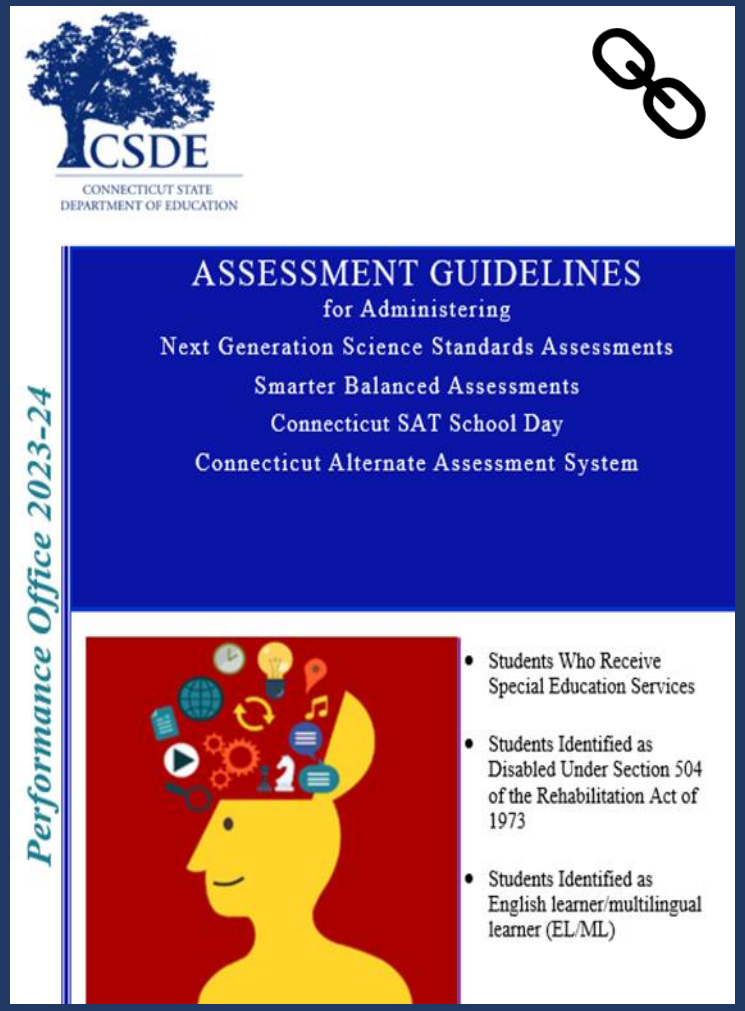
- PPTs should review and confirm that designated supports and accommodations are not conflicting when selecting them for statewide testing. For example, selecting:
  - ❑ Embedded Text-to-Speech and Non-Embedded Read Aloud
  - ❑ Embedded Speech-to-Text and Scribe
  - ❑ Embedded Color Contrast and Non-Embedded Color Contrast or Color Overlay
  - ❑ Braille Booklet and Large Print
  - ❑ Specialized Calculator (Grades 6-8 Math or Science Grades 5, 8, and 11), which is a Braille/Talking Calculator, and Calculator (Math Grades 6-8 Special Documented Accommodation)

Non-Embedded Tools

Reminder: Any non-embedded universal tools, designated supports or accommodations should be prepared in advance for student ahead of test day.

- Refer to the student's TIDE dashboard or CT-SEDS accommodation report for a list of non-embedded supports.
- Most non-embedded test tools can be downloaded and printed from the CAI portal: Home Page.
- To access resources related to Special Documented Accommodations, refer to these guidelines: Process for Requesting Special Documented Accommodations (cambiumast.com)

CSDE Assessment Guidelines



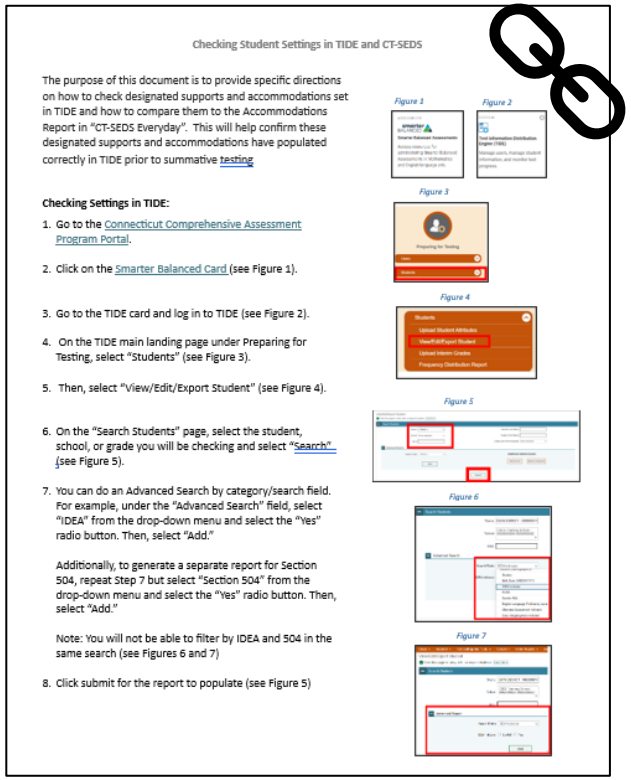
- The **CSDE Assessment Guidelines** include detailed information related to accessibility supports and accommodations on statewide assessments.
- They provide guidance related to special circumstances such as medical exemptions and requests for non-standard special documented accommodations.

TIDE and CT-SEDS Resources

How to Cross Reference TIDE Student Settings and CT-SEDS Accommodations Reports

Checking Student Settings in TIDE and CT-SEDS Reports reference sheet:

This resource provides a step-by-step process to cross check accommodations in CT-SEDS and TIDE to ensure accurate supports are reflected between both platforms.



Checking Student Settings in TIDE and CT-SEDS

The purpose of this document is to provide specific directions on how to check designated supports and accommodations set in TIDE and how to compare them to the Accommodations Report in "CT-SEDS Everyday". This will help confirm these designated supports and accommodations have populated correctly in TIDE prior to summative testing

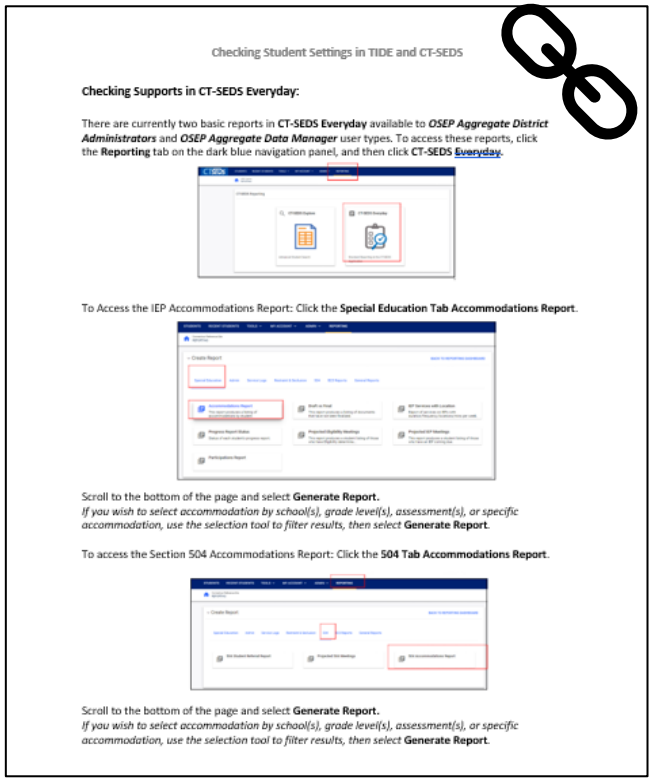
Checking Settings in TIDE:

1. Go to the Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal.
2. Click on the Smarter Balanced Card (see Figure 1).
3. Go to the TIDE card and log in to TIDE (see Figure 2).
4. On the TIDE main landing page under Preparing for Testing, select "Students" (see Figure 3).
5. Then, select "View/Edit/Export Student" (see Figure 4).
6. On the "Search Students" page, select the student, school, or grade you will be checking and select "Search" (see Figure 5).
7. You can do an Advanced Search by category/search field. For example, under the "Advanced Search" field, select "IDEA" from the drop-down menu and select the "Yes" radio button. Then, select "Add."

   Additionally, to generate a separate report for Section 504, repeat Step 7 but select "Section 504" from the drop-down menu and select the "Yes" radio button. Then, select "Add."

   Note: You will not be able to filter by IDEA and 504 in the same search (see Figures 6 and 7)
8. Click submit for the report to populate (see Figure 5)

Figure 1 Figure 2 Figure 3 Figure 4 Figure 5 Figure 6 Figure 7



Checking Student Settings in TIDE and CT-SEDS

Checking Supports in CT-SEDS Everyday:

There are currently two basic reports in **CT-SEDS Everyday** available to ***OSEP Aggregate District Administrators*** and ***OSEP Aggregate Data Manager*** user types. To access these reports, click the **Reporting** tab on the dark blue navigation panel, and then click **CT-SEDS Everyday**.

To Access the IEP Accommodations Report: Click the **Special Education Tab Accommodations Report**.

Scroll to the bottom of the page and select **Generate Report.**
If you wish to select accommodation by school(s), grade level(s), assessment(s), or specific accommodation, use the selection tool to filter results, then select **Generate Report**.

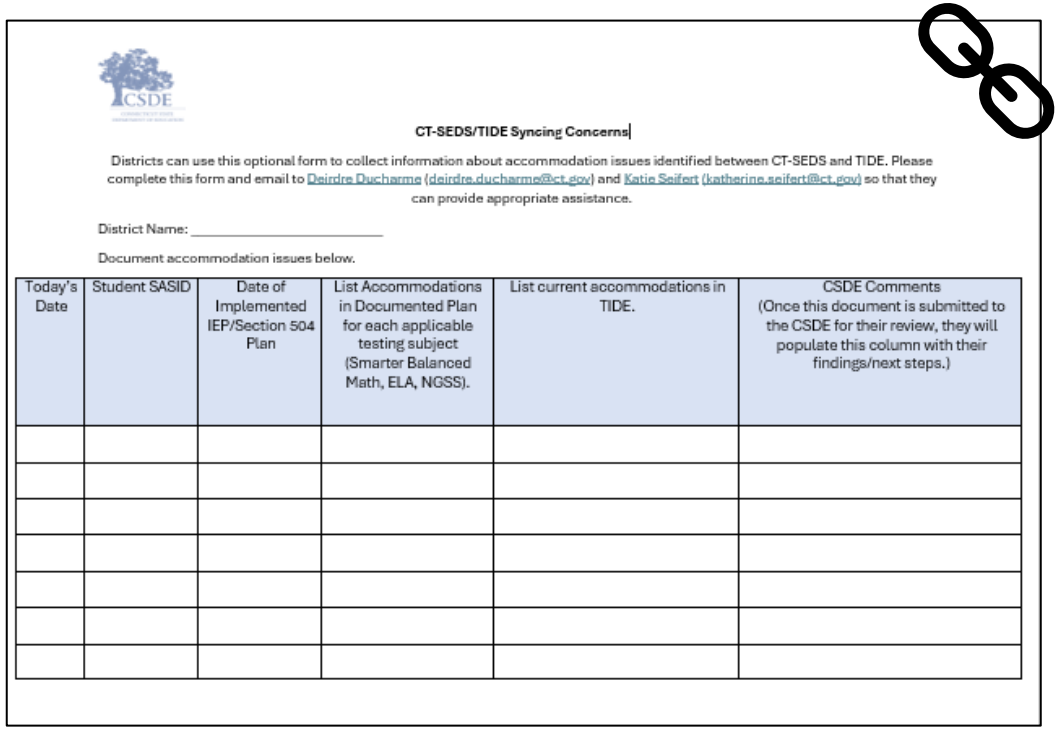
To access the Section 504 Accommodations Report: Click the **504 Tab Accommodations Report**.

Scroll to the bottom of the page and select **Generate Report.**
If you wish to select accommodation by school(s), grade level(s), assessment(s), or specific accommodation, use the selection tool to filter results, then select **Generate Report**.

CT-SEDS and TIDE Accommodations

If contacting the CSDE, please provide the following information:

- SASID
- IEP/Section 504 plan implementation date
- Designated supports/accommodations currently implemented in the IEP/504 plan for each applicable test area (Smarter Balanced Math, ELA, NGSS) for State Testing Accommodations
- Designated supports/accommodations populated in TIDE.



CT-SEDS/TIDE Syncing Concerns

Districts can use this optional form to collect information about accommodation issues identified between CT-SEDS and TIDE. Please complete this form and email to Deirdre Ducharme (deirdre.ducharme@ct.gov) and Katie Seifert (katherine.seifert@ct.gov) so that they can provide appropriate assistance.

District Name: _____

Document accommodation issues below.

Today's Date	Student SASID	Date of Implemented IEP/Section 504 Plan	List Accommodations in Documented Plan for each applicable testing subject (Smarter Balanced Math, ELA, NGSS).	List current accommodations in TIDE.	CSDE Comments (Once this document is submitted to the CSDE for their review, they will populate this column with their findings/next steps.)

Test Security

Test Attestation Page

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 35)
Connecticut Alternate Assessment Test Administration Manual (see pages 25-29)
NGSS Assessment Test Administration Manual (see pages 9-11, 41 and 43)

If you have any questions, please contact your School or District Coordinator.

WARNING! You are in the process of selecting a Summative Test. Students only have one opportunity to take this test. Please confirm your selection below and click OK to continue. If you are ready to administer the SUMMATIVE TEST, type **Summative** in the box.

hello

Please enter the correct word.

OK | Cancel

QUESTIONS

FROM THE

CHAT

Thank you for your Participation!