



CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

# Office Hours

**Smarter Balanced (Math and ELA)**

**Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)**

**Connecticut Alternate Assessments (CTAA Math and ELA)**

**Connecticut Alternate Science (CTAS)**

**April 14, 2022**



# CSDE Assessment

## Bureau Chief

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## NGSS Standard and CTAS

Jeff Greig

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## Smarter Balanced/Interims All Appeals

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## Accessibility and Accommodations

Deirdre Ducharme

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## Connecticut SAT School Day

Michelle Rosado

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# CSDE Assessment

**General CSDE Assessment Email:**  
[Ctstudentassessment@ct.gov](mailto:Ctstudentassessment@ct.gov)

**General CSDE Assessment Number:**  
860-713-6860



# Cambium Assessment

Connecticut Help Desk

844-202-7583

[cthelpdesk@cambiumassessment.com](mailto:cthelpdesk@cambiumassessment.com)

The Help Desk is open Monday–Friday 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
during the testing window  
(February 7 - June 3, 2022)

CAI Project Team

Jen Chou, Program Director

Marie Musumeci, Program Coordinator

Kimberly David, Project Coordinator



# Office Hours

Every Thursday through June at 3 p.m.

TEAMS invite sent on March 28 to all District Administrators.

Feel free to forward the invite.

The Office Hours are optional.



# Testing Counts

Summative Counts as of 5:00 AM; 04/13/22		
Program	Tests Started	Tests Completed
Smarter Balanced	27,068	23,977
NGSS	18,766	17,089
CTAS	101	64
CTAA	749	602
Total	46,684	41,732



# Assessment Trivia

On average, when is the approximate most favorite time of the window to test?

- The last day of the window.
- The first day of the window.
- The Friday before Memorial Day weekend.
- During the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of May.





# Important Reminders





# Field Testing/Results Release

- Connecticut is participating in field testing for Smarter Balanced and NGSS.
- CSDE will very likely be providing results taken earlier in window on a “rolling release” during the window in CRS. This will be dependent on the quality control process, so a hard date has not been set.



# Reminder About Choosing Tests

Please make sure to choose the correct summative test on the menu.

→ Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments

→ Next Generation Science Standards Summative Assessments

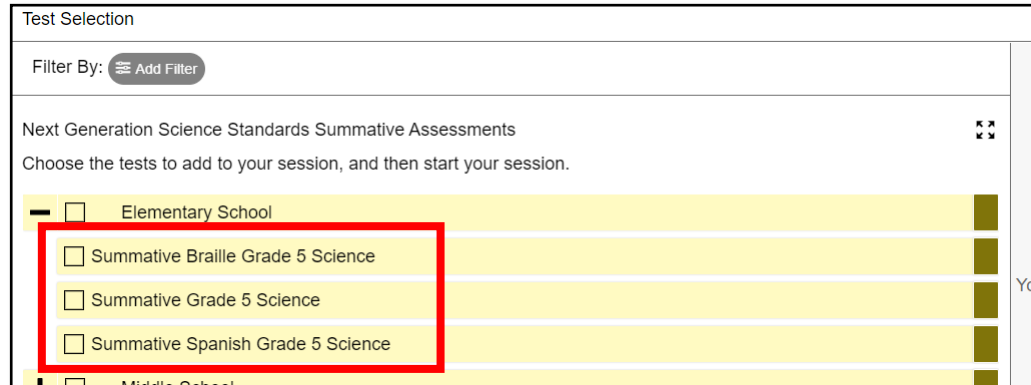
→ Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments

→ Next Generation Science Standards Interim Assessments



# NGSS Summative Testing

- In the TA interface, 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 presentation 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.
- If there are students in a classroom who will be taking Braille, Spanish, or English tests, the teacher can administer all three tests at the same time. Select all appropriate tests before starting a session.





# Designated Supports & Accommodations



# 2021-22 Calendar for Special Considerations

- ✓ Set designated supports and accommodations in TIDE prior to testing (the TIDE system will remain open through June 3, 2022)
- ✓ District Administrators should contact Deirdre Ducharme (860) 713-6859 for students requiring non-standard accommodations (e.g., human reader, signer, scribe, math manipulatives)
- ✓ Requests for Medical Exemptions have specific deadlines based on test windows:
  - ❑ Connecticut SAT School Day-June 10, 2022
  - ❑ Smarter Balanced, NGSS, Connecticut Alternate Assessments - June 10, 2022



# Text-to-Speech of ELA Reading Passages

If a student is eligible for Text-to-Speech of ELA Reading Passages (see the [2021-22 Decision Guidelines for Text-to-Speech of Smarter Balanced ELA Reading Passages](#)), be sure to set the TIDE permissions to **Passages & Items (Accommodations)**.

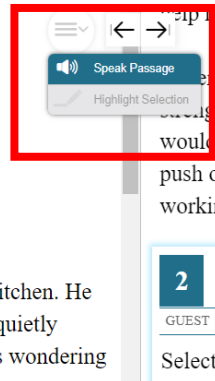
Embedded Designated Support	ELA
Masking	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
Medical Device	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
Mouse Pointer	System Default
Permissive Mode	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
Print Size	No Default Zoom Applied
Streamline Mode	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
Text-To-Speech (Designated Supports and Accommodations)	<input type="button" value="Passage &amp; Items (Accommodations)"/>

When the student takes the ELA Reading Assessment, the student should select the context menu and choose **Speak Passage** (as shown on the right). The text will highlight as the text is read aloud.

Read the passage and answer the questions.

**James Watt and the Teakettle**  
by James Baldwin

A little boy from Scotland was sitting in his grandmother's kitchen. He was watching the red flames in the wide open fireplace and quietly wondering about the causes of things. Indeed, he was always wondering



# Text-to-Speech of Test Items

Prior to testing, set Text-to-Speech of **Items** (for ELA) or **Stimuli & Items** (for math and science) on the TIDE dashboard, as shown below.

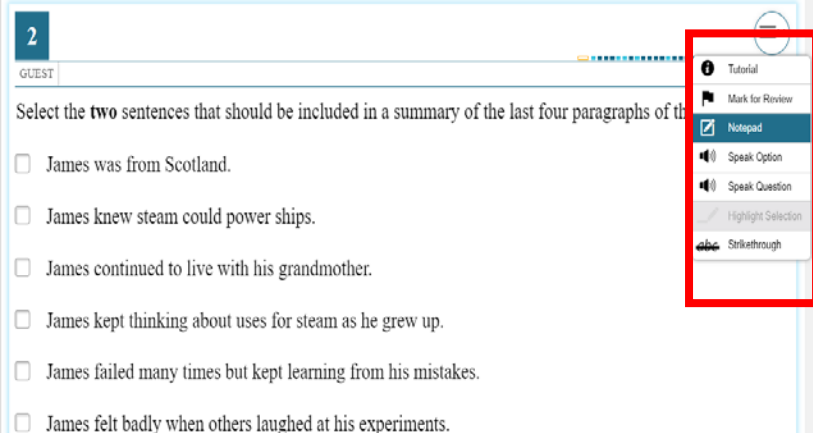
Embedded Designated Support	ELA
Masking ?	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
Medical Device ?	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
Mouse Pointer ?	System Default ▼
Permissive Mode ?	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
Print Size ?	No Default Zoom Applied ▼
Streamline Mode ?	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
Text-To-Speech (Designated Supports and Accommodations) ?	Items ▼



# Text-to-Speech of Test Items

To listen to a question or answer options, students open the question context menu and select one of the following Speak options:

- ⇒ To listen only to the question, students select **Speak Question**.
- ⇒ To listen to a multiple-choice question and all answer options, students select **Speak Question and Options**.
- ⇒ To listen only to an answer option, select **Speak Option** from the context menu and then select the answer option. Students could also right-click the answer option and select **Speak Option**.
- ⇒ To listen to a specific portion of text, highlight the text you would like to listen to. Right-click the highlighted text and select **Speak Selection**.



The screenshot shows a test interface with a question and a context menu. The question is: "Select the **two** sentences that should be included in a summary of the last four paragraphs of the text." Below the question are six multiple-choice options, each with a radio button. The context menu is open on the right side of the question, showing options: Tutorial, Mark for Review, Notepad, Speak Option, Speak Question, Highlight Selection, and Strikethrough. The "Speak Option" and "Speak Question" options are highlighted in blue. The "Speak Option" option is also highlighted with a red box.





# TIDE Test Setting Reminders

- **Careful attention** must be given to activate designated supports and accommodations prior to testing.
- Supports and accommodations added to TIDE **after** a student begins testing will not work and are not retroactive.
- Students testing without accommodations (or with the wrong accommodations) are considered test irregularities and must be reported through the Appeal System in TIDE.
- **All students** should have an opportunity to take a [Practice Test](#) to learn the test platform and available universal tools. Students with designated supports and accommodations should know how to use these accessibility features prior to test day.





# Connecticut Alternate Assessment System

# CTAA

**Connecticut Alternate Assessment**



**Connecticut  
Alternate  
Science  
Assessment**



# For Late Eligibility Form Submissions

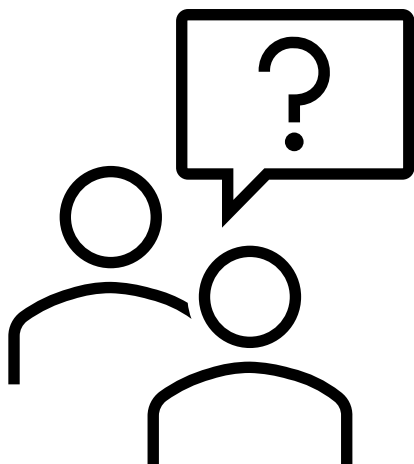
To qualify for the Connecticut Alternate Assessment System:

- PPT decision guided by the Connecticut Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form
- Eligibility Form must be submitted through the Data Entry Interface by the trained TEA
- Contact the Connecticut Help Desk to activate the Alt Flag Indicator: 844-202-7583;  
[cthelpdesk@cambiumassessment.com](mailto:cthelpdesk@cambiumassessment.com)

Primary Disability Type: - Select -

Alternate Assessment Indicator:  Yes  No





# Questions