



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: District Administrators in TIDE (DAs), Special Education Directors, English Learner Assessment Coordinators (ELACs), Title III Coordinators, and Connecticut SAT School Day Coordinators

FROM: Janet Stuck, Special Populations Education Consultant, Performance Office
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DATE: July 18, 2022

SUBJECT: Summer Student Assessment Updates for the 2022-23 School Year

The Performance Office wishes you a healthy, relaxing summer. We want to share important updates related to the 2022-23 school year designed to support you as you collaborate with your teams of educators to facilitate discussions, establish systems, and prepare technology to ensure that all students are assessed appropriately in the school year ahead. Opportunities to participate in upcoming webinars and informational sessions that support state-wide assessments will be provided throughout the upcoming school year.

Communications

The [Student Assessment News](#) is the primary source of communication regarding state-wide assessments for all Connecticut public school students. If you are not receiving this newsletter, please [register](#) for email updates from the Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal at <https://ct.portal.cambiumast.com/>.

Communications related to the Smarter Balanced, Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), the Connecticut SAT School Day, and Connecticut Alternate Assessments are posted to the [Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal](#) and the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) [Student Assessment](#) webpage.

Communications and relevant information related to students identified as English learners/multilingual learners (ELs/MLs) are posted on the CSDE [English Language Proficiency Assessment](#) webpage, while non-secure information related to the administration of the LAS Links assessment is posted on the [Connecticut Data Recognition Corporation \(DRC\) LAS Links](#) website.

Update User Roles and Contact Information

Please take time this summer to review and update user accounts and contact information related to each assessment system (e.g., TIDE, Data Recognition Corporation InSight Portal). Delete accounts for inactive users. Please reference the [Test Information Distribution Engine \(TIDE\) User Guide](#) regarding viewing, adding, editing and deleting user roles. (Note: these updates do not apply to the College Board's TIDE system. Details about the College Board's TIDE system is forthcoming.) Please reference the DRC InSight Portal regarding [Determining User Roles for the LAS Links](#).

New Alternate Assessment

Beginning with the 2022-23 school year, the CSDE will incorporate a new alternate assessment into the existing Connecticut Alternate Assessment System. The Collaborative for the Alternate Assessment of English Language Proficiency (CAAELP) is designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities in Grades K-12 who are dually identified as an ELs/MLs and receive services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Eligible students, determined at each annual Planning and Placement Team (PPT) meeting, will participate in the appropriate assessments associated with their grade and EL/ML identification. In summary, Connecticut's Alternate Assessment System now includes:

- The Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA) for English Language Arts and Mathematics for eligible students in Grades 3-8 and 11; and
- The Connecticut Alternate Science (CTAS) Assessment for eligible students in Grades 5, 8, and 11; and
- The Collaborative for the Alternate Assessment of English Language Proficiency (CAAELP) for eligible ELs/MLs with the most significant cognitive disabilities in Grades K-12.

Updated Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form

The [Connecticut Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form](#), and associated [resources](#), have been revised for the 2022-23 school year to include the CAAELP. Please share these resources with relevant staff. Any eligibility determination for the Alternate Assessment System conducted during a PPT for the 2022-23 school year will use the updated Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form. This form is also available in the Connecticut Special Education Data System (CT-SEDS).

As in the past, teachers are required to complete training each year to qualify for trained (TEA) status. In addition to permission to administer the alternate assessments, trained TEAs must register eligible students for participation in the Alternate Assessment System by submitting the 2022-23 Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form into the Data Entry Interface (DEI) when it opens on November 14, 2022. **Eligibility forms completed in CT-SEDS must also be entered in the DEI. Please note, strict adherence to the submission deadlines is expected.** These deadlines allow the CSDE and local school districts to develop and populate the various student test files for each unique testing system. Missing these deadlines will potentially result in test irregularities and may have accountability implications.

Technology Preparations

Connecticut works closely with our test vendors to provide system enhancements and necessary updates to provide consistent access and security. Please be sure to watch for communications alerting districts to technology guidance, resources for system requirements, training, and secure browser information on the DRC INSIGHT Portal, the Connecticut DRC LAS Links Website, the Connecticut Student Assessment Website, College Board TIDE, and the Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program Website. This information should be shared with appropriate technology staff.

Summer Student Assessment Updates for the 2022-23 School Year

Contact Information

Contact	Email	Phone
Abe Krisst Bureau Chief, Performance Office	Abe.Krisst@ct.gov	860-713-6894
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Cristi Alberino Smarter Balanced Summative/Interim Assessments Appeals /Irregularities, LAS Links	Cristi.Alberino@ct.gov	860-713-6862
Jeff Greig NGSS Assessments	Jeff.Greig@ct.gov	860-713-6854
Michelle Rosado Connecticut SAT School Day	Michelle.Rosado@ct.gov	860-713-6748
Ada Kovaci-Kume Kindergarten Inventory CT-SEDS CAAELP	Ada.Kovaci-Kume@ct.gov	860-713-6855
Michael Sabados LAS Links	Michael.Sabados@ct.gov	860-713-6856
Student Assessment Office	Ctstudentassessment@ct.gov	860-713-6860
Cambium Assessment Incorporated (CAI) Connecticut Help Desk (Smarter, NGSS, CTAA/CTAS) Available Monday-Friday 7:00 AM-7:00 PM during testing	cthelpdesk@cambiumassessment.com	844-202-7583
College Board Connecticut SAT School Day Customer Support	SATSchoolDaySupport@collegeboard.org	855-373-6387
Data Recognition Corporation LAS Links	LASLinksHelpDesk@DataRecognitionCorp.com	866-282-2250

Critical Dates for State-Wide Assessments

The table below reflects critical dates related to student assessment that should be highlighted with the appropriate staff during district discussions and planning. Please disseminate these dates to your colleagues as applicable to develop systems that support communication and documentation regarding various student groups and testing programs. Additional content and associated dates will be provided in the months ahead.

Summer Student Assessment Updates for the 2022-23 School Year

SCHOOL YEAR 2022-23 KEY DATES STUDENT ASSESSMENT	
Assessment Window	Dates
English Language Proficiency Assessment-LAS Links	January 3-March 3, 2023
Smarter Balanced Assessments	March 27-June 2, 2023
Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Assessments	February 6-June 2, 2023 (Grade 11) March 27-June 2, 2023 (Grades 5 and 8)
Connecticut Alternate Assessment System	
CTAA	March 27-June 2, 2023
CTAS	Administered year round. DEI Upload Window: March 27-June 2, 2023
CAAELP (Collaborative for the Alternate Assessment of English Language Proficiency) NEW!	February 1-March 31, 2023
Connecticut SAT School Day	March 22-24 and March 28-29, 2023 Make Up Dates: April 25-28, 2023
Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment	Anytime during school year
Kindergarten Inventory	Snapshot Date: October 18, 2022 Submission Due Date: December 9, 2022
Assessment Systems	
Assessment Systems/Activities	Dates
Secure Browser GO Live (Interim Assessments, Smarter Balanced, NGSS, Connecticut Alternate Assessments)	August 10, 2022
Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) Go-Live (Interim Assessments, Smarter Balanced, NGSS, Connecticut Alternate Assessments)	August 25, 2022
Assessment Viewing Application (AVA) Go-Live	August 31, 2022
Smarter Balanced Interim Assessment (ICA and IAB); NGSS Interim Assessments Test Window	August 31, 2022-June 2, 2023
Data Entry Interface (DEI) Window	November 14- June 2, 2023
Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form Go- Live	November 14; must be submitted by established due dates
Centralized Reporting System (CRS)	Always open

Summer Student Assessment Updates for the 2022-23 School Year

SCHOOL YEAR 2022-23 KEY DATES STUDENT ASSESSMENT	
Other Critical Dates	
<p>Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form Submission Deadlines</p> <p>* Late submissions will only be permitted for those students newly identified for eligibility. In this case, submissions after March 1, 2023, will require the TEA to contact the Connecticut CAI Help Desk at 844-202-7583 to activate the Alt Flag Indicator. If this does not occur, students will only have access to the standard assessments (Smarter Balanced and NGSS Assessments).</p>	<p>DEI Submission Deadline:</p> <p>November 14-December 23, 2022, for the following students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students in Grade 11 who qualify for the Alternate Assessment System; and • Students in Grades K-12 who are dually identified as an English learner/multilingual learner (EL/ML) <u>and</u> receive services under IDEA who qualify for the CAAELP and/or CTAA/CTAS. <p>November 14, 2022-March 1, 2023, for the following students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students in Grades 3-8 who qualify for the Alternate Assessment System; and • Any new student in Grade 11 or a newly identified EL/ML who qualifies for the CAAELP and/or CTAA/CTAS.
<p>Special Documented Accommodations Submission Window for LAS Links</p>	<p>November 14, 2022-January 2, 2023</p>
<p>Special Documented Accommodations Submission Window</p>	<p>November 14, 2022-March 1, 2023</p>
<p>Connecticut SAT SSD ONLINE</p>	<p>November 2022-February 2023</p>
<p>ELAC Access to DRC Portal LAS Links Accommodations Entry Window Open</p>	<p>TBD</p>
<p>LAS Links Accommodations Entry Window</p>	<p>TBD</p>
<p>Required Alternate Assessment System Training Go Live</p>	<p>September 14, 2022</p>