Connecticut Alternate Assessment Updates

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Every child deserves a
champion
-- an adult who will
never give up
on them,
who understands the
power of
connection
and insists that they
become
the best that they can
possibly
be.
-- Rita F. Pierson

What is the Connecticut Alternate Assessment?

Components of Connecticut's Alternate Assessment System		
Content Area	**Alternate Assessment**	**Grades**
English Language Arts	Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA)	3–8 and 11
Mathematics	Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA)	3–8 and 11
Science	Connecticut Alternate Science (CTAS)	5, 8, and 11
English Language Proficiency	Collaborative for the Alternate Assessment of English Language Proficiency (CAAELP) for students who are dually identified as English learners/multilingual learners (ELs/MLs) with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) documenting a significant cognitive disability.	K-12

Which Students Qualify for the Alternate Assessment System?

Using the Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form, the PPT determines student eligibility based on the documented evidence within the Individualized Education program (IEP) of the following three indicators:

1. There is evidence of an intellectual impairment based on standardized, cognitive assessments/scores, or in the absence of standardized cognitive assessment data, other documentation that substantiates the presence of an intellectual impairment.

2. There are results of adaptive behavior assessment(s) (e.g., with a score more than 1.5 standard deviations below the mean score).

3. The student requires intensive instruction and significant supports.
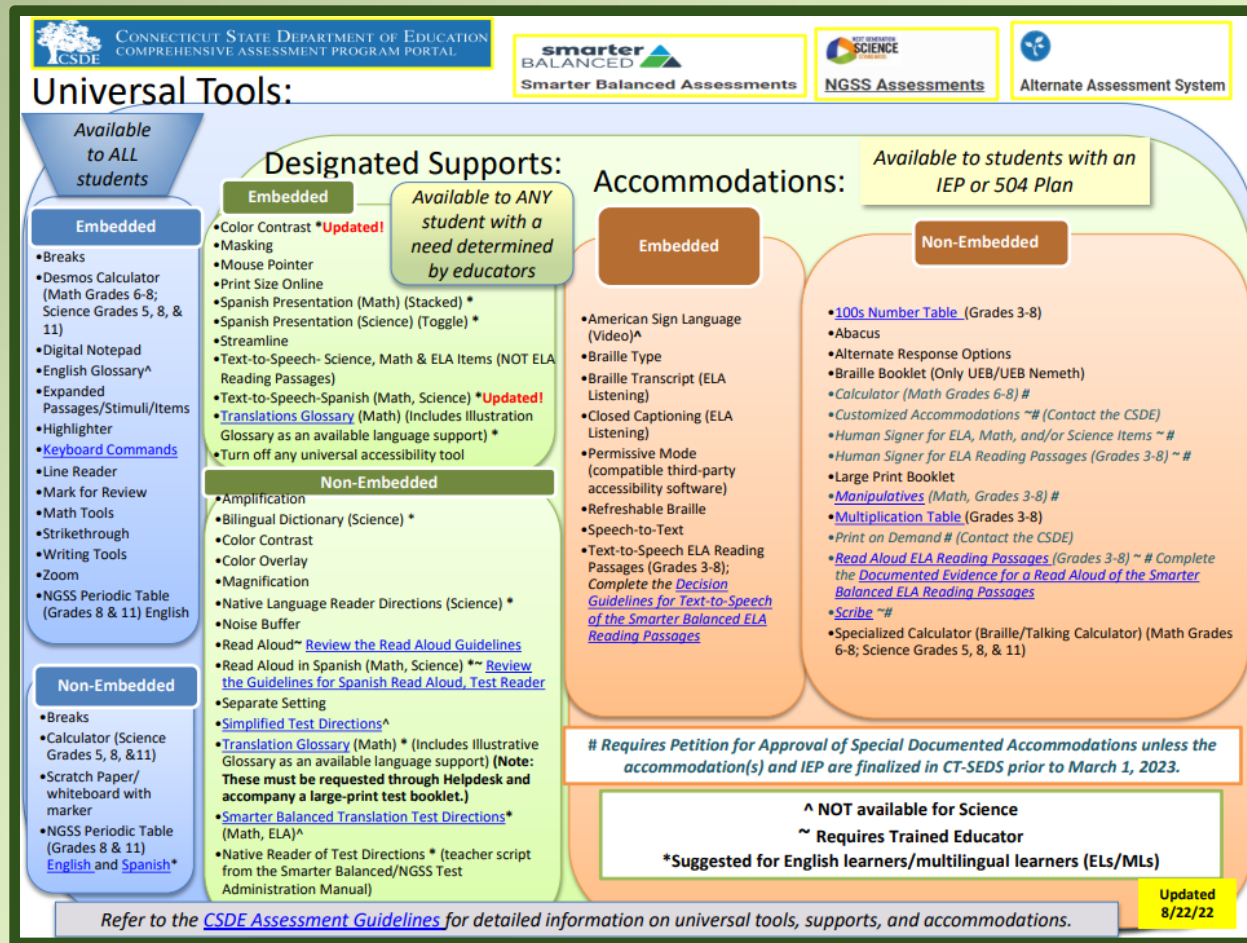
The Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal
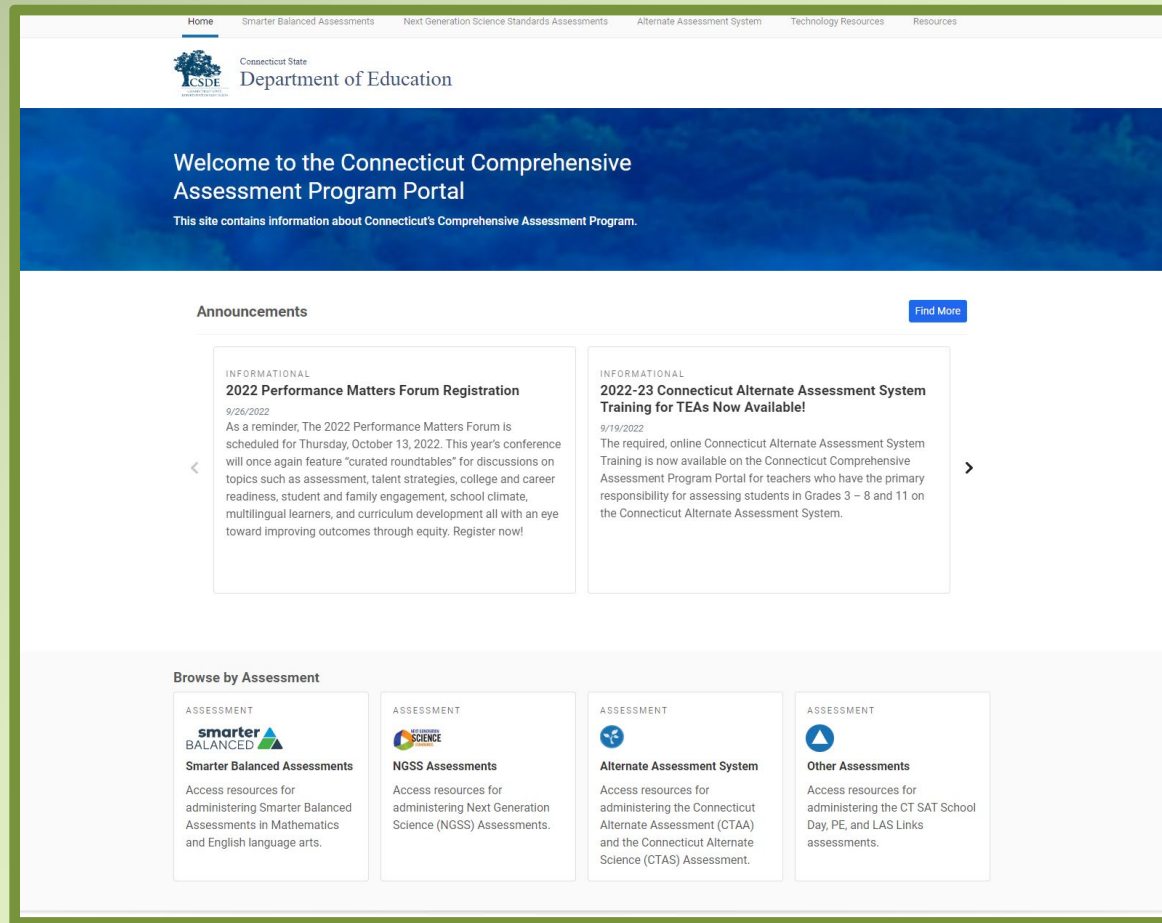
https://ct.portal.cambiumast.com/   Student Assessment Newsletter

Universal Tools, Designated Supports, and Accommodations

Resources are available on the portal: 2022-23 Accessibility Chart and the CSDE Assessment Guidelines.

Alternate Assessment Dates

Collaborative for the Alternate Assessment of English Language Proficiency (CAAELP)

- February 1– March 31, 2023
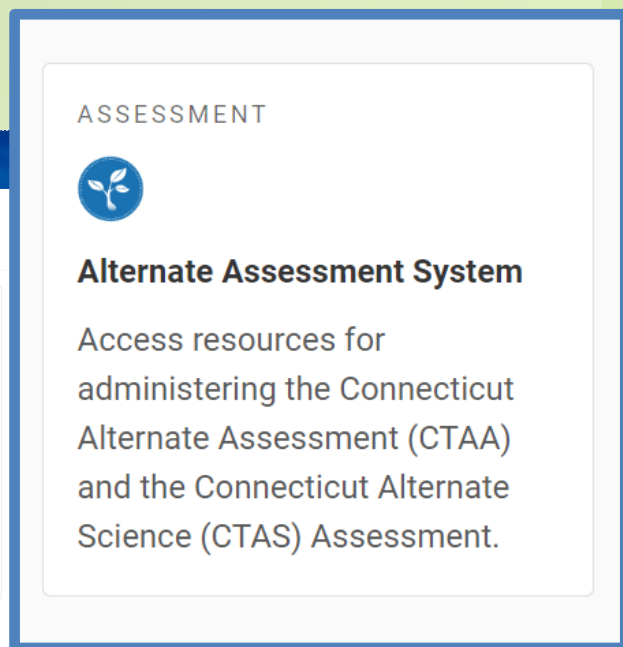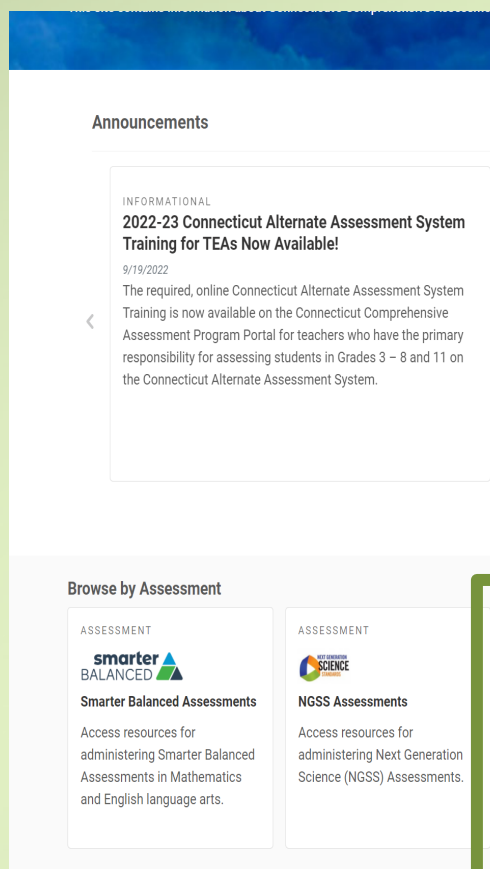
Connecticut Alternate Science (CTAS) Assessment

- Administered year round; submit CTAS Student Score Worksheet via the DEI March 27 – June 2, 2023

Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA) Math and ELA

- March 27-June 2, 2023

Required Online Training

- **Available now** on the Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal

- Teachers administering the Connecticut Alternate Assessments must have a TEA user role in TIDE

- Includes four training modules and a quiz

- A score of 80% or greater certifies a teacher as trained and grants access to the Data Entry Interface and other secure systems needed to administer the alternate assessments

Resources: Connecticut Alternate Assessment Training Overview for Teachers Administering the Alternate and Overview for District Administrators

Required Online Training Sessions

Session 1
Eligibility for the Alternate Assessments and the Role of the Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form

CTAA
Session 2
Administering the Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA)

Session 3
Administering the Connecticut Alternate Science Assessment (CTAS)
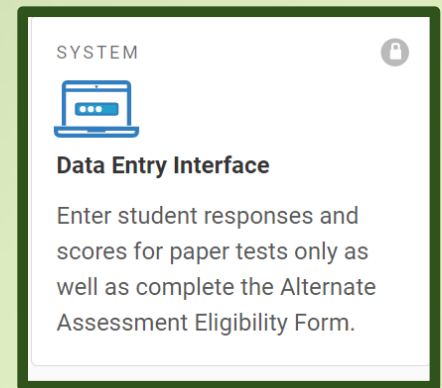
Session 4
Alternate Assessment System Resources and the Early Stopping Rule

Quiz
Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Training Quiz

Critical Dates for Submitting Eligibility Forms

SYSTEM

Data Entry Interface

Enter student responses and scores for paper tests only as well as complete the Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form.
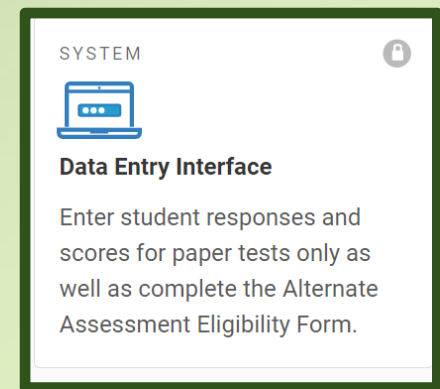
Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form Submission Dates through the Data Entry Interface (DEI)

November 14, 2022 – December 23, 2022

- Students in Grade 11 who qualify for the Alternate Assessment System.

- Students in Grades K-12 who are dually identified as EL/ML **and** receive services under IDEA who qualify for the CAAELP and/or CTAA/CTAS.

Critical Dates for Submitting Eligibility Forms

SYSTEM 🔒

Data Entry Interface

Enter student responses and scores for paper tests only as well as complete the Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form.

November 14, 2022 – March 1, 2023

- Students in Grades 3-8 who qualify for the alternate assessment system

- Any new student in Grade 11 or a newly identified EL/ML who qualifies for the CAAELP and/or CTAA/CTAS.

*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 Cambium Assessment Incorporated 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, NGSS, SAT School Day, and LAS Links Assessments).

Check the Alternate Assessment Indicator

SYSTEM

Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE)

Manage users, manage student information, and monitor test progress.

View/Edit Student: Fats Domino

Student Demographics

District: 9999999999 - Demo District 1

School: 9999999999-9999999992 - CSDE Training School

SSID: 11113

Reporting District:

Reporting School:

*Student's Last Name: Domino

*Student's First Name: Fats

Student's Middle Name:

Gender: ○ Male ○ Female

Birth Date (MMDDYYYY):

*Grade Level When Assessed: 04

Registration ID :

Recently Arrived EL:

Resident Town Code:

IDEA Indicator: ○ BLANK ● Yes

Economic Disadvantage Status: ○ BLANK ○ Yes

Language Code:

English Language Proficiency Level: ○ BLANK ○ Yes

Migrant Status: ○ Yes ○ No

First Entry Date into a US School (MMDDYYYY):

LEP Entry Date (MMDDYYYY):

LEP Exit Date (MMDDYYYY):

Title III Language Instruction Program Type: - Select -

Primary Disability Type: - Select -

Alternate Assessment Indicator: ● Yes ○ No

*Hispanic or Latino: ○ Yes ○ No

*American Indian or Alaska Native: ○ Yes ○ No

*Asian: ○ Yes ○ No

*Black or African American: ○ Yes ○ No

Alternate Assessment Online Systems

Preparing for Testing

SYSTEM 🔒

Alternate Assessment System Training

Access the Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Training Course Required for Teachers Administering the Alternate.

SYSTEM

Practice and Training Tests

Become familiar with the testing system, accommodations, and types of questions on the summative tests.

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TA Practice and Training Tests Site

Become familiar with Test Administrator (TA) Interface and proctor practice sessions for students and guest users.

SYSTEM 🔒

Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE)

Manage users, manage student information, and monitor test progress.

SYSTEM 🔒

Data Entry Interface

Enter student responses and scores for paper tests only as well as complete the Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form.

Administering the CTAA Math and ELA

Administering Tests

SYSTEM

Test Administration

Create and manage test sessions.

How do Teachers Help Students Access the Test?

SYSTEM

Secure Browsers

Install the secure browser on each student device used for secure student testing.

[Secure Browsers (cambiumast.com)](cambiumast.com)

Testing Systems

After Testing

SYSTEM 🔒

Data Entry Interface

Enter student responses and scores for paper tests only as well as complete the Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form.

SYSTEM 🔒

Centralized Reporting System

Access and download summative and interim assessment reports and results.

- [How to Access the Data Entry Interface Brochure](#)
- [Centralized Reporting System User Guide](#)

CAAELP

The Connecticut Alternate Assessment System (CTAA, CTAS and CAAELP)

- Overview
- CTAA Resources
- CTAS Resources
- CAAELP Resources
- Contact

Provided by:
Department of Education

CAAELP Resources

Beginning with the 2022-23 school year, Connecticut's K-12 students identified in the Public School Information System (PSIS) as English learners/ Multilingual learners and who have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) documenting a significant cognitive disability may be considered for the CAAELP Assessment.

Connecticut's CAAELP assessment may also be referenced as Alt ELPA is some resources. For Connecticut's testing purposes these are synonymous. If a Connecticut specific resource is available please consider it first because it includes Connecticut's policies and guidance.

The CAAELP Testing Window is February 1-March 31, 2023

Summer Student Assessment Update memo (7/1/22)

Parent Overview of Connecticut's Alternate Assessment System

Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Participation Guidance for Planning and Placement Teams

Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form

New Procedure for the Early Stopping Rule

- An SRC can be administered by the trained TEA between December 1, 2022, and February 1, 2023.
- For details, follow the guidance in this document.

Connecticut Alternate Assessment System

2022-23 Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Early Stopping Rule

Connecticut Alternate Assessments measure the knowledge and skills of students with significant cognitive disabilities as required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). They are designed to support student independence to the greatest extent possible by making academic and language content accessible and the expected achievement levels appropriate. The Connecticut Alternate Assessment System is comprised of the following assessments:

- The Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA)—aligned to the same Connecticut Core Standards (CCS) used to instruct and assess all of Connecticut's public-school students in Grades 3-8 and 11 in the subject areas of mathematics and English language arts.
- The Connecticut Alternate Science (CTAS) Assessment—aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and administered to students in Grades 5, 8, and 11.
- The Collaborative for the Alternate Assessment of English Language Proficiency (CAAELP)—designed for students with significant cognitive disabilities in Grades K-12 who are dually identified as English learners/multilingual learners (ELs/MLs) receiving services under IDEA. Content aligned to and derived from the Connecticut English Language Proficiency (CELP) standards define the tested domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Connecticut's Alternate Assessments vary in test design, format, and administration procedures. The CTAA and CAAELP are online, while the CTAS is a paper performance task-based assessment. Each assessment may be accessed by the student in various formats as needed. Generally, **students may access the test items by**:

- Listening to the teacher read the test
- Reading the test question independently if the trained teacher determines this is appropriate
- Having the test question signed by a qualified educator
- Listening to the recorded voice read the test question (applicable to the online CTAA only)

Students may respond to test items while the trained teacher records responses by:

- Verbalizing the answer
- Gesturing, signing, or pointing to the answer
- Using an eye gaze system to select the answer
- Using assistive technology (AT) to indicate the answer
- Circling or marking the answers on a paper copy of the test for educator transcription

Friendly Reminders

- Complete the required training as soon as possible.
- Submit your student's Connecticut Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form in the DEI by the grade and assessment-specific deadline.
- Plan early and administer the CTAS performance tasks as aligned to your curriculum (applicable to eligible students in Grades 5, 8, and 11).
- Refer to the Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Early Stopping Rule guidelines and follow the instructions and deadlines if applicable.

Resources

Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form

Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Annotated Eligibility Form

FAQ About the Connecticut Alternate Assessment System

FAQ About the Connecticut Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form

Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Participation Guidance for Planning and Placement Teams

Resources

CTAS Required Test Materials <u>webpage</u>

<u>CTAS</u> and <u>CTAA</u> Assessing Students who are Blind, Deaf, Deaf-Blind Additional Guidance

<u>CTAS</u> and <u>CTAA</u> TEA Responsibility Checklist

<u>Configuring Assistive Technologies</u>

Contacts

For questions about Connecticut Alternate Assessments:

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Thank you!