The Performance Office wishes you, your staff, and students the best this 2024-25 school year!

Assessment Updates from the Performance Office

EdSight

On August 27, 2024, the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) released chronic absenteeism data from 2023-24 along with results from the spring 2024 state summative assessments. The full release is available at https://portal.ct.gov/sde/press-room/press-releases/2024/improved-attendance-and-mathematics-and-science-scores. Additionally, individual and aggregate student assessment results from spring 2024 are available on EdSight Secure, an interactive data portal for Connecticut's public schools, districts, and programs. Please visit EdSight Public and EdSight Secure to view new data reports.

CT-SEDS Sync with the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE)

The updated CT-SEDS to TIDE Designated Supports/Accommodations Sync Frequently Asked Questions document provides Planning and Placement Teams (PPTs), Section 504 Teams, and educators with information about the syncing of accommodations and alternate assessment data from finalized and implemented plans with TIDE. Highlights from this document are included below.

- The CSDE preloaded K-12 student data from the Public School Information System (PSIS) into TIDE so that districts can access the optional Smarter Balanced and NGSS Interim Assessments when needed.
- The CSDE preloaded demographic information in TIDE for students identified in PSIS Registration testing demographics for spring 2024 as eligible for education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. After this one-time IDEA/504 indicator upload, student demographics from PSIS will update in TIDE in November (once districts sign-off on the Freeze Zero files).
- There is a daily sync from CT-SEDS to TIDE for students whose designated supports and accommodations are planned for the current grade of enrollment in a finalized and implemented plan. Note: This sync will only work for those students who were eligible for education services under IDEA and Section 504 in the spring PSIS registration file. (Verify if the IDEA/Section 504 indicator is activated in TIDE).
- Designated supports and accommodations will turn on and off in TIDE depending on PPT/Section 504 determination. Changes will not be visible in TIDE until the plan is finalized and implemented.

Please refer to the Documenting Designated Supports and Accommodations in TIDE brochure if your students are participating on interim assessments this fall. Refer to the Resources for PPTs and Section 504 Teams webpage for useful information regarding statewide assessments, accommodations, and document to support understanding Additionally, resources are embedded within CT-SEDS to support teams as they plan for statewide testing (on both the standard and alternate assessments).

The Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form Updates

Planning and Placement Teams complete the Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form for all grades spanning the duration of the IEP including the student's current grade of enrollment. Once the eligibility form is completed and verified in CT-SEDS, and the plan is finalized and implemented, the student's alternate assessment data will sync with TIDE and populate the Alternate Assessment Indicator. This rosters the student for the following assessments:

- Connecticut Alternate Assessments (CTAA) for Math and ELA (Grades 3-8 and 11)

- Connecticut Alternate Science (CTAS) Assessment (Grades 5, 8, and 11), and
- Connecticut Alternate Assessment of English Language Proficiency (CAAELP) (Grades K-12)

Alternatively, if in the rare case the team determines the student no longer qualifies for alternate assessments, they will update the eligibility form and plan for the standard assessments. Once the plan is finalized and implemented, the Alternate Assessment Indicator will be turned off in TIDE when the data syncs from CT-SEDS.

As a reminder to teams, the timeliness of PPT decisions in determining student eligibility for the Connecticut Alternate Assessments is critical in planning and administering these assessments. Given that the CSDE provides testing vendors, such as Cambium, Data Recognition Center, and the College Board, with student files in December, it is important to know which students qualify for a standard or alternate assessment. Therefore, the PPT must make every effort to meet these specified deadlines for each test and grade.

Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form Verification in CT-SEDS	
CT-SEDS Implementation Date	**Assessment**
Fully Implemented IEP by December 20, 2024	Eligibility forms must be approved, verified, finalized, and implemented within the IEP in CT-SEDS for the following assessments for the student to be correctly registered for: • CAAELP (students identified as EL/ML in Grades K-12); and • CTAA and CTAS (Grade 11)
Fully Implemented IEP by February 1, 2025	Eligibility forms must be approved, verified, finalized, and implemented within the IEP in CT-SEDS for the following assessments for students to be correctly registered for the: • CTAA (Grades 3-8, and newly identified students in Grade 11); and • CTAS (Grades 5, 8, newly identified students in Grade 11)

The Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Annual Training for Teachers Administering the Alternate (TEAs)
Opening in late September, the online Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Training will be available on the Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal for teachers who have the primary responsibility for assessing students in Grades 3-8 and 11 on the CTAA and/or CTAS.

A separate training using a different platform will be available in fall 2024 for teachers administering the Connecticut Alternate Assessment of English Language Proficiency (CAAELP), designed for eligible students in Grades K-12 identified as English learners/multilingual learners (ELs/MLs) with the most significant cognitive disabilities. For more information on CAAELP and CAAELP training please visit the CAAELP Resources page.

It is highly recommended that training be completed in the fall/mid-December. Additionally, training should occur early in the school year so that TEAs are prepared to administer the CTAS to students in

Grades 5, 8, and 11. This assessment consists of paper-based performance tasks and should be administered throughout the school year. For more information, refer to the:

- Alternate Assessment System Training Overview for DAs (in TIDE)
- Alternate Assessment System Training Overview for TEAs

English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessments (LAS Links and CAAELP) Reminders

Please collaborate with your EL/ML educators and English Learner Assessment Coordinator (ELAC) to determine if any kindergarten or newly arrived/enrolled students have been identified as EL/ML. These students will take the ELP Assessment (LAS Links) in winter 2025, unless the PPT determines that the dually identified EL/ML with a significant cognitive disability also qualifies for the CAAELP. PPTs should determine which ELP assessment is most appropriate for that dually identified student and any applicable accessibility features are documented within finalized and implemented plans prior to opening of the ELP assessment windows.

Update on the Connecticut Alternate Assessment of English Language Proficiency (CAAELP)

The CAAELP is one of the three components of the Connecticut Alternate Assessment System and is intended for eligible ELs/MLs with significant cognitive disabilities in Grades K-12. More information on CAAELP administration, training, and resources can be found within the SAN and on the CAAELP website. **Note the CAAELP window is updated to January 13-March 7, 2025.**

Key Assessment Dates

Assessment	Testing Window
LAS Links	January 2-March 7, 2025
CAAELP	January 13-March 7, 2025
Connecticut SAT School Day	March 3-April 23, 2025 (Within the test window, schools can choose primary and make-up test dates.)
NGSS	February 3-May 30, 2025 (Grade 11); March 24-May 30, 2025 (Grades 5-8)
Connecticut Smarter Balanced	March 24-May 30, 2025
CTAA	March 24-May 30, 2025
Connecticut Alternate Science Assessment (CTAS)	Upload Dates in the DEI: March 24-May 30, 2025 (The CTAS can be administered throughout the school year.)
Resources: Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal; Connecticut DRC LAS Links Website; Connecticut Student Assessment Main Page	
Register for email updates from the Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal at https://ct.portal.cambiumast.com/.	