



## STUDENT ASSESSMENT NEWS

August 21, 2018

[Archived Student Assessment News](#)

[CTStudentAssessment@ct.gov](mailto:CTStudentAssessment@ct.gov)

860-713-6860



### 2018 Connecticut SAT School Day Results on EdSight and EdSight Secure

Use the quick links below to access articles and/or sections included in this newsletter.

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Aggregate results from the 2018 Connecticut SAT School Day for the state, districts, schools, and student groups are available on EdSight at <http://edsight.ct.gov>. Student-level results are available to authorized users through [EdSight Secure](#). If you have any questions, please e-mail the EdSight helpdesk at [EDSight.SDE@ct.gov](mailto:EDSight.SDE@ct.gov). The 2018 reporting resources to support districts and schools are available on the Connecticut State Department of Education's [\(CSDE\) SAT web page](#).



### College Board Provides Unlimited SAT Score Sends for Low-Income Students

In [December 2017](#), the College Board announced that [CSS Profile](#) will be completely free for qualifying low-income students, starting in the 2018-19 school year. And, starting back in spring 2018, students who took the SAT, including the Connecticut SAT School Day, or the SAT Subject Tests with a [fee waiver](#), will be able to send their official score reports to as many institutions as they want, for free.



### NAEP Administrator Recruitment

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) will be administered to approximately 1 million students in 20,000 schools across the country in the upcoming school year. More than 270 Connecticut schools will be participating. To ensure a successful administration, the NAEP program is recruiting retired Connecticut educators and others who enjoy working in schools to join their field staff as assessment administrators. These are the individuals who administer the assessment to our Grade 4, 8, and 12 students. If you know people with whom you have worked over the years that might be interested in joining NAEP for the 2019 administration, please encourage them to learn more about this opportunity by visiting [www.workNAEP.com](http://www.workNAEP.com).



### 2018 Smarter Balanced Results Resources Available

Resources to support the release of 2018 Smarter Balanced results are available on the [CSDE's web site](#). These resources include [parent letter templates](#) and [2018 Interpretive Guide](#). Results will be posted to [EdSight](#) in late August. Paper individual student reports will be sent to districts in September.



Connecticut Alternate Assessment



Connecticut SAT School Day



# STUDENT ASSESSMENT NEWS

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### Special Populations Updates

#### 2018-19 Testing Designated Supports and Accommodations Form

The updated [2018-19 Testing Designated Supports/Accommodations Form: Students with an IEP, Students with a Section 504, and/or Students who are English Learners \(EL\)](#) is available both on the [Student Assessment webpage](#) and the [CT Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal](#).

There are **two** specific changes reflected in this updated form:

- Streamline, once an embedded accommodation, is now a designated support available to ANY student with a need determined by educators. This feature allows any text on a screen to be presented without a split screen. Items are presented sequentially below the stimuli. The streamline must be activated in the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) Test Settings.
- Burmese is now included as a language choice for the embedded and non-embedded translation glossary and the non-embedded translation test directions. It also must be activated in TIDE Test Settings.

Additionally, the 2018-19 form provides clarification related to specific accommodations requiring use of the *Permissive Mode* (see Embedded Refreshable Braille, Braille Embosser, and Permissive Mode) and the *activation of specific TIDE settings* (see Refreshable Braille, Braille Embosser and Streamline).

Also note that the *non-embedded specialized calculator* is now available on the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Assessment. This non-embedded calculator is for students requiring a specialized calculator, such as a braille calculator or a talking calculator, as described in their IEP or Section 504 Plan.

2018-2019 2018-2019

Testing Designated Supports/Accommodations Form: Students with an IEP, Students with a Section 504, and/or Students who are English Learners (EL)

Meeting Date		SASID	
Student's First Name		Student's Last Name	
Administrator/Designee		E-mail	
District		School	
This student has a (choose one):		<input type="radio"/> Special Education IEP <input type="radio"/> Section 504 Plan <input type="radio"/> Neither	
This student is an English Learner - EL		<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	

MATH=SMARTER BALANCED Grades 3-8 Mathematics ELA=SMARTER BALANCED Grades 3-8 English Language Arts - Includes Reading, Writing, Listening, Research SC= NGSS Science, Grades 5, 8, & 11 ONLY			
MATH	ELA	SC	PRESENTATION SUPPORTS/ACCOMMODATIONS ALL ▲ SPED/504 ■ EL ♦
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: Refreshable Braille ( <input type="radio"/> Contracted <input type="radio"/> Uncontracted ) Permissive mode required and Presentation must be set to 'Braille' in TIDE ■
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: Braille Embosser ( <input type="radio"/> Contracted <input type="radio"/> Uncontracted ) Permissive mode required and Presentation must be set to 'Braille' in TIDE ■
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Non-Embedded: Braille supplemental math booklet for online fixed form test ■
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: American Sign Language (ASL) - Video * (ELA-Listening only)
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Non-Embedded: * (Sign Language for test items, including directions by qualified staff) ■
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: Text-to-Speech (TTS) for ELA Reading Passages - (Grades 3-8) ■ Requires TTS in all subjects
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: Text-to-Speech (*Does NOT include ELA Reading passages) ▲
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: Print Size Online - <input type="radio"/> 21 point (Level 1) <input type="radio"/> 24.5 point (Level 2) <input type="radio"/> 35 point (Level 3) <input type="radio"/> 42 point (Level 4) <input type="radio"/> 70 point (Level 5) <input type="radio"/> 140 point (Level 6) <input type="radio"/> 210 point (Level 7) <input type="radio"/> 280 point (Level 8) ▲
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: Streamline (automatically enforced when Presentation is set to 'Braille' in TIDE) ▲

MATH	ELA	SC	DESIGNATED SUPPORTS EL ♦
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: Translation Glossary (Includes audio): <input type="radio"/> Arabic <input type="radio"/> Burmese <input type="radio"/> Cantonese <input type="radio"/> Filipino (Tagalog & Ilokano) <input type="radio"/> Korean <input type="radio"/> Mandarin <input type="radio"/> Punjabi <input type="radio"/> Russian <input type="radio"/> Spanish <input type="radio"/> Ukrainian <input type="radio"/> Vietnamese ♦
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: Translation (Stacked - Spanish only) Includes test directions ♦
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Non-Embedded: Native Language Reader Directions Only (Certified Staff or Non-Certified Staff) ♦
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Non-Embedded: Bilingual Dictionary - Word-to-Word ♦
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Non-Embedded: Read Aloud in Spanish (Trained and qualified human reader) ♦
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Non-Embedded: Translation Glossary - Only for large-print paper/pencil assessments: <input type="radio"/> Arabic <input type="radio"/> Burmese <input type="radio"/> Cantonese <input type="radio"/> Filipino (Tagalog & Ilokano) <input type="radio"/> Korean <input type="radio"/> Mandarin <input type="radio"/> Punjabi <input type="radio"/> Russian <input type="radio"/> Spanish <input type="radio"/> Ukrainian <input type="radio"/> Vietnamese ♦
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Non-Embedded: Translation Test Directions - <input type="radio"/> Arabic <input type="radio"/> Burmese <input type="radio"/> Cantonese <input type="radio"/> Dakota <input type="radio"/> French <input type="radio"/> Filipino (Tagalog & Ilokano) <input type="radio"/> Haitian-Creole <input type="radio"/> Hmong <input type="radio"/> Japanese <input type="radio"/> Korean <input type="radio"/> Lakota <input type="radio"/> Mandarin <input type="radio"/> Punjabi <input type="radio"/> Russian <input type="radio"/> Somali <input type="radio"/> Spanish <input type="radio"/> Ukrainian <input type="radio"/> Vietnamese <input type="radio"/> Yiddish ♦

2018-2019 2018-2019

Testing Designated Supports/Accommodations Form: Students with an IEP, Students with a Section 504, and/or Students who are English Learners (EL)

Meeting Date		SASID	
Student's First Name		Student's Last Name	
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MATH	ELA	SC	PRESENTATION SUPPORTS/ACCOMMODATIONS ALL ▲ SPED/504 ■ EL ♦
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: Refreshable Braille ( <input type="radio"/> Contracted <input type="radio"/> Uncontracted ) Permissive mode required and Presentation must be set to 'Braille' in TIDE ■
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: Braille Embosser ( <input type="radio"/> Contracted <input type="radio"/> Uncontracted ) Permissive mode required and Presentation must be set to 'Braille' in TIDE ■
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<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: American Sign Language (ASL) - Video * (ELA-Listening only)
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Non-Embedded: * (Sign Language for test items, including directions by qualified staff) ■
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: Text-to-Speech (TTS) for ELA Reading Passages - (Grades 3-8) ■ Requires TTS in all subjects
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: Text-to-Speech (*Does NOT include ELA Reading passages) ▲
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: Print Size Online - <input type="radio"/> 21 point (Level 1) <input type="radio"/> 24.5 point (Level 2) <input type="radio"/> 35 point (Level 3) <input type="radio"/> 42 point (Level 4) <input type="radio"/> 70 point (Level 5) <input type="radio"/> 140 point (Level 6) <input type="radio"/> 210 point (Level 7) <input type="radio"/> 280 point (Level 8) ▲
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: Streamline (automatically enforced when Presentation is set to 'Braille' in TIDE) ▲
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: Closed Captioning - * (ELA-Listening only) ■
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: Color Contrast - <input type="radio"/> Black on White <input type="radio"/> Yellow on Blue <input type="radio"/> Medium Gray on Light Gray <input type="radio"/> Reverse Contrast <input type="radio"/> Black on Rose ▲
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: Permissive Mode - Must be set in TIDE. Permits accessibility software such as text-to-speech, screen reader, Refreshable Braille Displays (RBDs), embosser, or magnifiers ■
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Embedded: Masking ▲
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Non-Embedded: Braille Ruler ■ <b>Note: TIDE Test Settings for version 1.1</b> ■

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**Special Populations Updates (Continued)**

**Accessibility Chart for Smarter Balanced Assessments and Next Generation Science Assessments**

The updated [2018-19 Accessibility Chart](#) identifies a range of universal tools, designated supports, and accommodations available to students when accessing the Smarter Balanced and the NGSS Science Assessments.

**Decision Guidelines for Text-To-Speech/Read-Aloud for the Smarter Balanced Reading Passages**

The decision to provide students in Grades 3-8 with text-to-speech or human read-aloud accommodations for the English language arts (ELA) reading assessment passages is a significant decision, one that has possible long-term implications for the child. The following updated guidance provides support for this accommodation decision.

[Decision Guidelines for Text to Speech for Smarter Balanced Reading Passages](#)

[Text-to-Speech and Read Aloud Accommodation For ELA Reading Passages Flowchart](#)

**Learner Characteristics Inventory (LCI)**

An updated version of the [Learner Characteristics Inventory \(LCI\)](#) has been released and is available for teacher access. The LCI will be used by Connecticut Teachers Administering the Alternate (TEA) to describe the population of students who are assessed with the Connecticut Alternate Assessments (the CTAA for ELA and Math, and CTAS the Connecticut Alternate Science). These students comprise less than 1 percent of the total tested student population and are students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. The LCI is required to support the determination of the appropriate assessment at the Planning and Placement Team (PPT) meeting and must be submitted in the Data Entry Interface (DEI) in order to register a student for participation in either alternate assessment (CTAA and CTAS).

**English Learner Identification Policy Update, Ordering Process for *pre*LAS Materials**

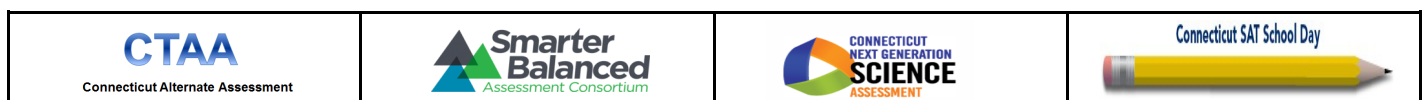
A [memo](#) was sent on June 13, 2018, to all English Learner Assessment Coordinators (ELACs), Title III Coordinators and District Administrators indicated in TIDE. The memo described an update to the English learner identification policy and the ordering process for *pre*LAS materials. The survey for ordering *pre*LAS materials is now closed. English Learner Assessment Coordinators (ELACs) may contact Janet Stuck at 860-713-6837 or [janet.stuck@ct.gov](mailto:janet.stuck@ct.gov) to place a new order. All *pre*LAS orders **must** be processed by November 28, 2018.

**Identification of English Learners for the 2018-19 School Year**

Administrators working with students enrolled in Grades K-12 will adhere to guidance provided in the [CSDE English Learner Identification Process](#). The required English language assessment used for initial identification is the LAS Links Placement Test 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition in English. The CSDE provides access to the digital version of the LAS Links Placement Test and training video at no cost to the district via the following links:

- Placement Test materials: <https://ctbmcgrawhill.sharefile.com/d-s409de0c987542cfa>
- Training video: [http://www.brainshark.com/ctb/LL\\_PT\\_2nd\\_Training](http://www.brainshark.com/ctb/LL_PT_2nd_Training)

Optionally, districts may place purchase orders for paper LAS Placement materials directly with Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) at their own expense.



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## Special Populations Updates (Continued)

### Confirming English Learner Assessment Coordinator Contacts

On July 18, 2018, English Learner Assessment Coordinators (ELACs) were e-mailed a request to confirm their status as the ELAC for the 2018-19 school year. If you did not receive or respond to this request, please contact Marlene Chameroy, at 860-713-6860 or [marlene.chameroy@ct.gov](mailto:marlene.chameroy@ct.gov) as soon as possible.



## Summative Assessment Updates

### Secure Browser and Secure Browser Installation Manual Available

The Secure Browsers for the 2018-19 school year are now available for download on the [Secure Browsers](#) page of the [Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal](#). **The new version of the secure browser is required for all 2018-19 online test administrations.**

The [Secure Browser Installation Manual](#) provides instructions for downloading and installing the secure browser on supported operating systems used for all Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program online assessments.

### Technology Coordinator Brochure Available

The [Technology Coordinator Brochure](#) provides a quick overview of the basic system and software requirements needed to administer the online tests.

### Technical Specifications Manual for Online Testing Available

The [Technical Specifications Manual for Online Testing](#) provides technology staff with the technical specifications for online testing, including information on Internet and network requirements, general hardware and software requirements, and the text-to-speech function. Connecticut Summative assessments delivered using the AIR Test Delivery System should follow these configurations.



## Summary of Timely/Accurate Due Dates & Freeze Dates

The Performance Office resource, [Summary of Timely/Accurate Due Dates & Freeze Dates](#), is available for the 2018-19 school year. This resource includes a chart listing each data collection with the associated collection dates.



## Updated Sample Items Web Site for Smarter Balanced

An updated [Smarter Balanced Sample Items Web site](#) is now available. A [Promotional Flier](#) and [blog post](#) explain the latest changes. On the site you can learn about question types, view sample items and explore accessibility functions.



Sample Items

CTAA

Connecticut Alternate Assessment



Connecticut SAT School Day



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### Interim Assessment Updates

The Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments test window will open on September 26, 2018. To prepare for the administration of these Interim Assessments, the systems that support test administration have scheduled maintenance periods that require system downtime. Please see the following maintenance periods for these systems, below:

- The Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) will be down for maintenance beginning September 4 and will return online September 18.
- The Practice Tests and the Assessment Viewing Application (AVA) will be down for maintenance beginning September 4 and will return online September 26.
- The Online Reporting System (ORS) will be down for maintenance beginning September 17 and will return online September 26.
- The AIR Ways Reporting System will be down for maintenance beginning September 17 and will return online October 2.

### Performance Matters Forum Registration Open

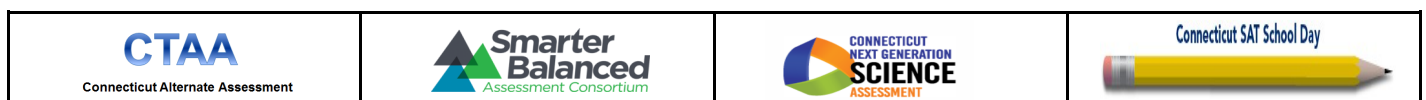
[Registration](https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Performance/Performance-Matters-Forum/2018/Performance-Matters-Forum-2018) for the 2018 Performance Matters Forum is now open. The forum is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 11, 2018**, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Red Lion Hotel (formerly the Radisson) in Cromwell, CT. Please visit the Forum site at <https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Performance/Performance-Matters-Forum/2018/Performance-Matters-Forum-2018> for detailed session information and registration.

This forum is an excellent opportunity to engage with CSDE staff on a variety of topics including assessment, research and accountability, EdSight, and data collections. Four 90-minute session blocks are offered with a choice from among seven sessions per block. It is also a great place to network with educators from around the state.

### 2018 PSAT for Alliance and CTECS Districts and 2019 AP Exam Fees for All Low-Income Students

The CSDE will cover the cost for the October 2018 administration of the PSAT for Grade 11 students who attend Alliance Districts and the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS). Additionally, the CSDE and College Board will cover the entire cost of the 2019 Advanced Placement (AP) exam fees for all low-income students who attend public school in Connecticut.

The CSDE has a process with the College Board to direct bill the CSDE for Grade 11 students who take the October 2018 PSAT from Alliance districts and the CTECS. Schools don't need to do anything other than test the students and the billing will take care of itself. **However, please make sure that Grade 11 students properly grid their year of graduation (YOG) on the PSAT answer sheet. Mis-grids and blank YOG will result in your school getting billed for those students.** Please order the exams as you would normally do. If you have any questions, contact [Michelle Rosado](#).



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**Smarter Balanced Video Series and Media Resources**

Smarter Balanced just released a new video series [Smarter Balanced in the Classroom](#), as well as a [Back-to-School Toolkit](#). Each video contains details about the district in which it was filmed. One [video](#) features educators in Lyme, Connecticut and their successful integration of the Interim Assessment Blocks. In the video, educators from Lyme explain how this tool supports them toward the ultimate goal of preparing their students for college and a career.

**Summative Assessment Calendar for 2018-19**

Assessment	Dates
English Language Proficiency LAS Links	January 2–March 8, 2019
Connecticut SAT School Day	<b>Primary Test Dates: March 27, 2019, or April 9, 2019*</b> <b>Makeup Dates: April 23 and 24, 2019</b>  <b>*Schools will complete a survey in September indicating which primary test date they choose.</b>
NGSS Standard Assessment	<b>February 4–June 7, 2019      (Grade 11)</b> <b>March 25–June 7, 2019      (Grades 5 and 8)</b>
Connecticut Alternate Science Assessment - CTAS	<b>March 25–June 7, 2019</b> <b>(Grades 5, 8, and 11)</b> <b>(Upload Window for Submission through the DEI)</b>
Connecticut Smarter Balanced	March 25–June 7, 2019
Connecticut Alternate Assessment - CTAA	March 25–June 7, 2019

**Want to find recent announcements regarding Connecticut’s assessments? Please visit the CSDE’s [Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal](#). You will find information about each assessment, as well as technology resources and information for students and families.**

**Register for email updates**

To automatically receive the *Student Assessment News* and/or other announcements, [register for e-mail updates](#) on the Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal.

