



STUDENT ASSESSMENT NEWS

May 25, 2017

[Archived Student Assessment News](#)

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Summative Assessment Updates

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

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Summative Testing Window Ends Friday and Update on Results Release

The Smarter Balanced Assessment testing window and the Connecticut Alternative Assessment testing window end on **Friday, May 26, 2017**. Districts must ensure that all students are tested by this date.

Please see page one of the [memo](#) sent by Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell on May 19, 2017, for an update on assessment results release dates.

2017 Next Generation Science Assessment Pilot Test Information

The test window for the [Next Generation Science Standards \(NGSS\) Assessment Pilot](#), ends on **May 26, 2017**. The following resources are available:

[The NGSS Sample Items](#) are available at the elementary-, middle- and high-school levels.

A guide, [How to Access and Score NGSS Sample Items](#), is also available to provide instructions on accessing and using the NGSS sample-item set.

A [Next Generation Science Standards Assessment Pilot Test Administration Manual](#) is available for Test Administrators.

Reminder Recently Sent to PSIS Coordinators

In addition to the Public School Information System (PSIS) information on Page 5 of the April 24, [Student Assessment News](#), the following reminder was recently sent to district PSIS Coordinators from the Performance Office.

Please review the "Missing CT Testing Demographic Status Values" report in the PSIS Registration and make the appropriate changes. If you discover a student is incorrectly listed on the report, please contact Kendra Shakir immediately at kendra.shakir@ct.gov. Student demographic values will be saved and the fields will be locked in PSIS on May 26, 2017. This report must be completed by noon on May 26, 2017. We will not be able extend this due date, so please work now to complete this report.

This report is located in the Reports section of the Registration module. In the download section you can also download the Active Registration (currently-registered students) with CT Testing Demographic Status Values. This download allows you to see the values being reported for students currently registered to your district in PSIS.

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Special Populations Updates

Changes to the Individualized Education Program Page 9, State and District Testing and Accommodations

On April 28, 2017, then Interim Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Isabelina Rodriguez, issued a memorandum to the Directors of Special Education and Pupil Services regarding changes to the Individualized Education Program (IEP) Page 9, STATE AND DISTRICT TESTING AND ACCOMMODATIONS. Please access the [Bureau Bulletin](#) for these important changes.

Text-to-Speech Julie Voice License Update (WINDOWS ONLY)



NeoSpeech and AIR provide the Julie voice pack for the English text-to-speech user for your students to use on Windows machines with the online tests provided by AIR's Test Delivery System. The license agreement between NeoSpeech and AIR was recently renewed and will extend through 2020. However, the current license files associated with the voice packs expired on May 3, 2017. Therefore, after May 3, 2017, districts need to copy a new license file to the appropriate folder on Windows machines used for student testing. Districts do not need to re-install the voice pack itself, if it is already installed; they only need to update the license file, or "verification.txt" file.

The new verification.txt files are posted in TIDE at the same location the voice pack(s) is/are posted. The complete voice pack package will also be updated to include the new verification.txt file for anyone installing the entire voice pack from scratch. Separate instructions for installing the new verification.txt file are provided, but general users will follow the same steps they did when they installed the verification.txt file initially.

In short, if the Julie voice packs are used for student testing, the existing verification.txt file(s) should be replaced with the new verification.txt file(s) on Windows machines. If the files are not updated, the Julie and Violeta voice packs will default to demo versions.

Please note: this is only for those who use Julie Voice Pack on the Windows machines. This does not affect other devices such as Chromebooks, iPads, Linux, Androids or Macs.

Instructions for replacing license agreement for Julie Voice:

1. Go to TIDE under:  download the new verification.txt by clicking: 

2. Save to your desktop.

3. Open the folder that contains the old verification.txt by clicking one of the links below:

Most Windows PC use:

[C:\Program Files \(x86\)\VW\VT\Julie\M16-SAPI5\data-common\verify](C:\Program Files (x86)\VW\VT\Julie\M16-SAPI5\data-common\verify)

Some use:

<C:\Program Files\VW\VT\Julie\M16-SAPI5\data-common\verify>

4. Copy the new verification.txt file from your desktop to the folder you have open that contains the old verification.txt file.

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English Learner Updates

English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessment Participation

Unlike in previous years, the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) will not collect student test information on those students who completed testing after the testing window closed on March 10, 2017. Only those students who are tested during the testing window will be reported. As described during training, if you had students during the testing window who were not able to access the speaking subtest because they are non-verbal, or the listening subtest because they are deaf or hearing impaired, please contact Janet Stuck at 860-713-6837. Additionally, if the English learner would qualify for the alternate assessment, if it were available, please contact Janet Stuck at 860-713-6837. This participation information is important for accurate scoring and for participation calculations, and will be collected until **June 1, 2017**.

Connecticut SAT School Day Updates

Connecticut SAT School Day Results

A [letter](#) was e-mailed on May 5, 2017, to schools regarding the release of results from the April 5, 2017, Connecticut SAT School Day. Student-level results were available on May 8, 2017, to students using their accounts through the College Board portal. Schools were able to download their data through the College Board portal on May 9, 2017. Results for students who took the test on April 25 or 26 will be available in mid-June. The CSDE expects to release preliminary aggregate statewide and school-level results from the April 5 administration sometime in June. A [Reporting FAQ](#) provides information on the distinction between the College Board Portal and the CSDE's EdSight reporting.

2016-17 Important Dates

Event	Dates
The secure browsers for the 2016-17 school year must be downloaded for all 2016-17 online test administrations	Currently available
Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments Testing Window (ICA and IAB) and Interim Assessment Teacher Hand Scoring System	October 18, 2016-June 9, 2017
Connecticut Smarter Balanced Assessment Window	Monday, March 27, 2017-Friday, May 26, 2017
Connecticut Alternate Assessment Window	Monday, March 27, 2017-Friday, May 26, 2017

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.

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