



Student Assessment News

Connecticut State Department of Education • Performance Office

February 4, 2022

[Archived Student Assessment News](#)
CTStudentAssessment@ct.gov

New Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Interim Assessment Items

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There are now 111 NGSS Interim Assessment clusters and standalone items across all three grade bands (elementary, middle and high school). Previously offered NGSS Interim Assessments have been re-named to align with the names of the new assessments. For more information on the NGSS Interim Assessments, please see the updated NGSS Interim Assessment [Quick Guide](#). This guide includes information on viewing the items in the Assessment Viewing Application (AVA), administering the NGSS interims with students, and accessing the results from the NGSS Interims in the Centralized Reporting System (CRS).

2020-21 Connecticut Alternate Assessment Results

The 2020-21 Connecticut Alternate Assessment results (including CTAA ELA and Math and the Connecticut Alternate Science [CTAS] Assessment) were recently released by the Performance Office. The results can be found on the [Statewide Summative Assessment Results – 2020-21](#) page. In particular, the CTAA and CTAS [data file](#) containing state and district results can be found on this page too.

Thank you for attending the **District Administrator Special Population Training** and/or **District Administrator General Summative Test Administration** Workshops last week. The recorded version of each session as well as a PowerPoint version of the slides is on our [web site](#).

Still have questions or are new to your role in assessment this year? We can meet with you individually or with your team. If you are interested in setting up a one-on-one session with the CSDE assessment staff, please contact [our office](#).



The CSDE Performance Office staff is hosting Office Hour virtual meetings during the 2022 testing window. On these, CSDE staff and their partner vendors will provide brief assessment updates and answer any questions regarding LAS Links, Smarter Balanced, NGSS, Alternative Assessments and Connecticut SAT. No registration is required.

- **Smarter Balanced, NGSS, and Alternative Assessments Office Hours will run every week on Thursday from 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. beginning on March 31, 2022. Additionally, two Office Hours focused on Connecticut Alternate Assessments/Accessibility and Accommodations will run on February 17, 2022, and March 17, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.**

To join the TEAMS meeting, [click here to join the meeting](#) or call in (audio only) 1 860-840-2075, with conference ID 825974607#.



Connecticut Alternate Assessment



Connecticut
Alternate
Science
Assessment



CONNECTICUT
SAT School Day

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Connecticut SAT School Day Updates

TIDE Access and Webinar Trainings

Connecticut SAT Coordinators and DAs will be receiving an email on **February 7, 2022, from Cambium Assessment, Inc.**, with access to the College Board's TIDE system. Two trainings are scheduled to provide test coordinators and SSD coordinators information about using TIDE as well as how to set test settings in TIDE for students who are approved in SSD for accommodations on the Connecticut SAT School Day. You must register in advance to attend the trainings. The sessions will be recorded and posted to the [CT SAT website](#).

TIDE Walk-through Webinar and Coordinator Reminders

February 10, 2022 from 1-2pm

Register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/9187083076067145743>

Entering Approved Accommodations into TIDE Overview Webinar

February 14, 2022 from 1-2pm

Register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8010835432277145101>

Do you have a student that requires a paper test, Braille or Large Print for the Connecticut SAT School Day as per their IEP or 504 plan?

There are no actions required to be taken in TIDE for any student testing on paper. **To receive paper test books**, test coordinators will need to contact College Board to request paper test books no later than March 16, 2022, at (855) 373-6387 or by email at SATSchoolDay@collegeboard.org.

Supports for Students

- Reminder: [Students will need a College Board account to access their scores from the CT SAT](#).
- College Board's Digital Testing for Students <https://digitaltesting.collegeboard.org/for-students>
- Free Practice on Khan Academy <https://www.khanacademy.org/sat>
- Student Scores <https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat/scores>
- [SAT Practice Test for Assistive Technology](#)
- [Preview of Student Digital Experience](#)

2022 Connecticut SAT School Day Digital Testing Resources

- College Board Digital Testing Portal: <https://digitaltesting.collegeboard.org/>
- Resources to Support Digital Testing: <https://digitaltesting.collegeboard.org/resources>
- College Board Test Administrator User Guide: <https://digitaltesting.collegeboard.org/pdf/test-administrator-user-guide.pdf>
- Digital Test Preview Guide: <https://digitaltesting.collegeboard.org/pdf/digital-test-preview-guide.pdf>
- Guide for Adjusting Test Settings in TIDE for Accommodations and Supports: <https://digitaltesting.collegeboard.org/pdf/guide-adjusting-test-settings-tide-accommodations-supports.pdf>



Connecticut Alternate Assessment



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SAT School Day

Connecticut SAT School Day Updates

Test Delivery System

The diagram illustrates the Test Delivery System components. On the left, the Cambium Assessment (CAI) logo is shown above a 'Proctor for Testing' interface. Below this is a 'Test Coordinator' icon. The central part shows the 'Test Administrator (TA) Interface' with a 'Proctors' icon, a 'Digital Test Preview' and 'TA Practice Site' interface, and a 'Secure Browser' interface with a 'Students' icon. The CollegeBoard logo is at the bottom left.

Test Coordinator Tasks within TIDE

- Activate your TIDE account and log into the TIDE interface
- Create staff accounts
- Verify student accounts
- Manage student test settings
- Create and print rosters
- Print Test Tickets
- Monitor Test Progress

CT SAT Coordinators
can access the
College Board's TIDE
on February 7!

Reminders for test coordinators after they get access to College Board's TIDE.

Scratch Paper and Testing Tools

For the 2022 Connecticut SAT School Day, in addition to a device, students will need **5 pieces of scratch paper** and a pencil or pen for their scratch work. Students may also bring a [College Board approved hand-held calculator](#) for the CT SAT. Students will have access to various Universal tools in the secure browser such as a clock, [Desmos calculator](#), zoom, answer eliminator, highlighter, etc., that enhance the test. Students also can flag questions and easily go back to them later. Students and school staff can preview the digital test experience including the Universal tools at [Preview of Student Digital Experience](#).

TEST TOOLS	INSTRUCTIONS
Line Focus 	To highlight an individual line of text in a passage or question, select Line Focus in the Test Tools menu.
Mark for Review 	To flag items for future review during the assessment.
Navigation Buttons 	To move between test pages, forward to the next question, or back to the previous question, use the Back and Next buttons in the upper left corner. If a test consists of only one question, clicking Next prompts you to end the test.
Notes 	To enter notes in an onscreen notepad, select NOTES in the Test Tools menu.
Questions Drop-down List 	To quickly navigate to a specific test question, select the question number from the drop-down list in the upper left corner. Questions that were marked for review display "(marked)" in this list.
Reference 	To view standard mathematical formulas for reference, select Reference in the Test Tools menu.
Strikethrough 	To eliminate answer choices that seem incorrect, select Strikethrough in the Context Menu.
Student Clock Tool 	The student clock tool displays the amount of time remaining in the test section, in minutes. Upon starting the test, the clock will begin to count down. You can choose to hide or unhide the clock throughout the test. At 5 minutes remaining in the section, you won't be able to hide the clock as the 5-minute warning appears.
System Settings 	To adjust audio volume, pitch, and rate during the test, select the Gear Wheel icon in the upper right corner. (This icon is available only when testing with text-to-speech.)
Zoom In/Zoom Out 	To enlarge the display size of the text and images on a test page, select Zoom In from the Test Tools menu. Multiple zoom levels are available. To undo zooming, select Zoom Out from the Test Tools menu.

Rigorous Coursework Letters to Students and Parents

The second round of Rigorous Coursework letters were sent January 24, 2022, to either parents, or to the eligible students. As mentioned previously, the list of eligible students is available in EdSight Secure. Please use the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) to address any inquiries from students and parents. A resources surrounding these letters are available for your information including the [recording](#) of a webinar, [sample student and parent letters](#) and [technical documentation of the underlying methodology](#). Please contact Chief Performance Officer [Ajit Gopalakrishnan](#) if you have any questions.

Special Populations Updates

Connecticut SAT School Day Accommodation Reminders

Process for Waiving Accommodations

A student who opts not to use his or her approved accommodation must provide a written note signed by the student's parent or guardian. The note must be kept on file at the school and they do not need to be returned to the College Board. No Irregularity Report (IR) form needs to be completed.

Accessing the Nonstandard Administration Report (NAR)

The NAR provides a list of all students with approved accommodations and will be available on February 16, 2022. From [SSD Online](#), SSD coordinators will select **Nonstandard Administration Report** from the navigation bar on the dashboard. Please note that a printed NAR won't be mailed to you.

College Board will process registration data and match it to the student information in SSD Online in order to populate the NAR for the school day administration. In some cases, you may have additional students approved for accommodations that we were unable to match to the provided pre-ID data. SSD coordinators will be able to add additional students with approved accommodations to the NAR, in order to build a complete list of those testing with accommodations. You will use this report to plan for testing, allocate accommodated test rooms, schedule proctors, and set digital accommodations on the College Board's TIDE system. SSD Coordinators will use the NAR to populate the student test settings in the College Board's TIDE system for those students approved for accommodations and English Learner 50% time and one-half.

Requests for Temporary Supports

If a student needs temporary assistance for an injury such as a broken arm or concussion, contact the SSD Office as soon as possible. The support must be requested and approved before test day using the Support for Students with Temporary Physical/Medical Conditions form and won't be requested in SSD Online.



Special Populations Updates

Petition for Special Documented Accommodations – Due March 1, 2022

Do you have students that are unable to access the Smarter Balanced or NGSS assessments with standard accommodations? For students requiring the provision of a human reader, human signer, or scribe (to mention a few), please have your District Administrator contact [Janet Stuck](#) or [Deirdre Ducharme](#) to discuss eligibility for Special Documented Accommodations. For more information, refer to Appendix C of the [Assessment Guidelines](#) for details.

Connecticut Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form Reminders

Please remind your trained Teachers Administering the Alternate Assessments (TEAs) to submit their student's completed Connecticut Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form using the Data Entry Interface by March 1, 2022. Cambium Assessments will continue to activate the Alt Flag Indicators on a weekly basis for submissions through March 1, 2022. For submissions after this date, please contact the Connecticut Help Desk at cthelpdesk@cambiumassessment.com for activation of the Alt Flag Indicator.

Next Generation Science Standards- Reminders for Non-Embedded Universal Tools and Designated Supports

As you prepare for NGSS testing, consider any additional tools your students might need.

- Download and print Periodic Tables for students in grades 8 and 11 who need a hardcopy. [Spanish](#) and [English](#) versions are available on the portal. As a reminder, the Periodic Tables are embedded in the Test Delivery Interface as a universal tool.
- [Bilingual Dictionaries and Glossaries Authorized for Use by English Learners](#) provides potential resources for English Learners on the NGSS assessment.
- Text-to-Speech is available in English and Spanish. For Spanish to work, set Presentation to Toggle for NGSS and activate Text-to-Speech for NGSS. For details, refer to page 26 of the Assessment Guidelines.

For more information, refer to the [Accessibility Chart](#) and the [Embedded and Non-Embedded Designated Supports for English Learners](#) brochure.

Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment (CPFA)

The CSDE has issued some clarifying policy regarding administering the Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment (CPFA) to students who do not identify as male or female (i.e., non-binary) **and** choose not to be evaluated on either of the gender-based standards of the CPFA. This policy ([See page 14 of CPFA Test Administration Manual](#)) was developed in close consultation with an advisory group of health and physical education staff from several districts across the state, and the CSDE's Title IX office. It allows districts to use a more personalized, goal-based approach to measuring progress on the CPFA without having to place the student into a fitness achievement level. Moreover, effective 2022-23, the CSDE will begin collecting **individual student assessment** results for the CPFA. This will enable the CSDE to recognize, for accountability purposes, the participation of non-binary students who are not formally rated on the CPFA. Please contact [Ray Martin](#) if you have any questions.

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Summative Assessment Calendar for 2021-22

Assessment	Dates
Connecticut SAT Accommodations Window	November 29, 2021-February 2, 2022 - Students with IEP or Section 504 Plan January 10– February 2, 2022– EL Students with Time and One-Half SSD Late Window– January 11, 2022
LAS Links	January 3-March 4, 2022
NGSS	February 7-June 3, 2022 (Grade 11) March 28-June 3, 2022 (Grades 5 and 8)
Connecticut SAT School Day (Digital Administration)	March 23-25 and 29-30, 2022 Make-up Window: April 26-28, 2022
Connecticut Alternate Assessment—CTAA	March 28-June 3, 2022
Connecticut Alternate Science Assessment—CTAS (Administered throughout the year)	(Upload Window for Submission through the DEI) March 28-June 3, 2022 (Grades 5, 8, and 11)
Connecticut Smarter Balanced Assessments	March 28-June 3, 2022
Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment	Anytime during the school year

Connecticut Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form	
Submission Dates Through the Data Entry Interface (DEI)	Student Subgroup
November 19, 2021 –March 1, 2022	Eligible students in Grades 3-8; Extended deadline for newly eligible Grade 11 students
June 3, 2022	DEI closes for the spring 2021-22 assessment window.

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.

