Student Assessment News

Connecticut State Department of Education • Performance Office

May 2023

Preliminary State Assessment Results

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State Summative Assessment Calendar for Connecticut public schools for the 2023-24 school year

The CSDE is providing *preliminary* state summative assessment results on a rolling basis for Smarter Balanced, NGSS, and Connecticut Alternate Assessments through Cambium Assessment Incorporated's Centralized Reporting System. Results are now available for any tests that have been *completed and scored*.

IMPORTANT: Please note that these are preliminary and not official results; therefore, they should not be disseminated publicly.

The NGSS and Connecticut Alternate Assessment results will be available after a student has taken the test, while it may take up to 10 business days for Smarter Balanced results to become available because of the human scoring of constructed response items. As in past years, the CSDE is targeting to have all preliminary results available in the Centralized Reporting System by mid-June. Official results will be confirmed later in the summer.

Summative Assessment Testing Window Closing June 2

As a reminder, the summative testing window closes **on Friday, June 2, 2023**, for the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments, NGSS Assessments, and CTAA/CTAS Assessments. It is important for districts and schools to track test completion for students. The Monitoring Test Progress: Test Status Code Report and Test Completion Rates brochure provides instructions for generating **Test Status Code Reports** and **Test Completion Rates** in TIDE. These reports are excellent tools that provide users the ability to track individual student test completion at both the district and school level. Please email ctstudentassessment@ct.gov with any questions.

Physical Fitness Assessment Data Collection

As previously shared, the CSDE is collecting individual student assessment achievement levels for the Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment (CPFA) in 2022-23. Districts are required to provide the achievement level attained for all four CPFA components for all students in tested grades through the CPFA Individual Student Collection by **July 6, 2023**. To further support this collection effort, the Performance Office hosted a webinar on May 19 to review the collection application. The training is posted on our website. Please email any questions to ctstudentassessment@ct.gov.

CTAA
Connecticut Alternate Assessment

Connecticut Alternate Science Assessment

Smarter Balanced
Assessment Consortium

CONNECTICUT NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE ASSESSMENT

CONNECTICUT
SAT School Day

Special Populations Updates

Reminder about Large Print and Braille Accommodations

When students complete testing using a large print or braille test booklet, please assign a trained teacher (or staff person) with TIDE permissions to transcribe all test responses into the Data Entry Interface. Student responses must be entered into the Data Entry Interface (DEI) by June 2, 2023, for scoring and reporting. For information on the DEI, refer to this guide: How to Access the Data Entry Interface (DEI). Additionally, please follow instructions included with the test kits to return all secure test material once testing is completed. Test Administration Manuals are not secure and can be shredded locally.

Medical Exemptions

In rare cases, there may be a student who experiences a medical emergency just prior to (or during) the testing window and the student is unable to receive hospital or homebound instruction due to the student's health condition. There is a process whereby the student may receive an exemption from testing due to the emergency nature of the medical condition, if the criteria for exemption are met. In Connecticut, the exemption determination for a medical emergency rests primarily on the following criteria: **The student is unable to attend school and is medically/emotionally unavailable for homebound/hospitalized instruction for the entire testing window.** Medical Exemption forms for the Smarter Balanced, the NGSS, and the Connecticut Alternate Assessments (CTAA/CTAS) are due by June 9, 2023. Please contact Janet Stuck or Deirdre Ducharme for more information.

Connecticut Alternate Science Assessment (CTAS) Reminders

√   Submit all student ratings on the Student Score Worksheets through the DEI no later than June 2, 2023.

√   If the student was not able to complete testing, enter any completed ratings in the DEI. Incomplete items should remain blank, and the test status should be maintained in a paused status.

√   If the student refused to respond to the test, the TEA should make a note in the Teacher Activity/Scoring Notes section of the Student Score Worksheet. The TEA should open the Student Score Worksheet in the DEI and pause the test. Keep the test in paused status.

√   The TEAs must save their hardcopy Student Score Worksheets for future reference.

√   Follow your district /school guidelines for the maintenance of CTAS materials as they are used each year for eligible students.

√   Remove any test related documents or materials from computers and assistive technology (if applicable).

> **These communications were recently sent to English Learner/ Multilingual Learner Assessment Coordinators:**
>
> ⇒   English Learner/Multilingual Learner Identification Screening Materials for the 2023-24 School Year
>
> ⇒   English Learner/Multilingual Learner Identification Process

Public School Information System (PSIS) and State Assessments

The Public School Information System (PSIS) provides data to test delivery systems for state summative assessments administered to Connecticut public school students. These assessments include the LAS Links, the Collaborative for the Alternate Assessment of English Language Proficiency (CAAELP), Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Assessment, Smarter Balanced, Connecticut Alternate Assessments (CTAA) in English language arts and mathematics, Connecticut Alternate Science (CTAS), and the Connecticut SAT School Day. **District PSIS Coordinators must work closely with Testing Coordinators, English Language Assessment Coordinators (ELACs), and SAT Test Coordinators to ensure that student information is being reported accurately.** The state relies on districts to provide accurate reporting of PSIS student-level data. Select fields such as English Learner status, Special Education status, and Section 504 status must be updated prior to testing to ensure students eligible for accommodations may access them. Data are used for public/secure reporting of statewide test results and as part of Connecticut's Next Generation Accountability System.

The PSIS Registration module has been updated to include the following Testing Demographic fields:
- Special Education Status,
- Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) Status,
- English Learner/Multilingual Learner (EL/ML) Status,
- Military Family,
- Homeless,
- Recently Arrived EL/ML, and
- Section 504 Status.

These seven values must reflect the student's status at the time of testing for the 2022-23 school year. The Special Education, FRL, EL/ML, Military Family, and Homeless values were loaded with the values reported in the October PSIS Collection Freeze Zero file (i.e., freeze file from the collection generated on November 3, 2022). The values for Recently Arrived EL and Section 504 were not pulled from Freeze Zero because these data are not reported in the PSIS October collection. These values have been set to "No" in the Registration Module and must be updated in the PSIS Registration Module for testing and reporting purposes.

Please note, that if the status of any the first five fields changed from the value reported in the October PSIS Collection Freeze Zero, or if the student being tested was not in the PSIS October Collection Freeze Zero, the District PSIS Coordinator must update the student's record in the PSIS Registration Module. Changes to the Testing Demographic data can be made via the "Edit Registration/ Unregister" page in the PSIS Registration Module or by batch. The Testing Demographics Record Layout for batch uploads can be found in the PSIS Reference Guide located on the PSIS help site.

District PSIS Coordinators must make all changes to student enrollment and demographic information directly into the PSIS Registration Module. Student demographic values will be saved and the fields will be locked in PSIS on the following dates for accountability calculations:

- **March 3, 2023,** for LAS Links;
- **March 31, 2023,** for the Collaborative for the Alternate Assessment of English Language Proficiency (CAAELP);
- **April 27, 2023,** for the Connecticut SAT School Day; and
- **June 2, 2023**, for Smarter Balanced Assessments, the Next Generation Science Standards Assessments, and the Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Assessments (CTAS and CTAA).

The Missing Connecticut Testing Demographic Status Values report is available in PSIS Registration Module, and the Active Roster download has been updated to include the Testing Demographic values. Data from the PSIS Registration Module are updated on a nightly basis in both the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) and DRC's INSIGHT System. Again, these seven fields in the PSIS Registration Module must reflect the student's status at the time of testing.

Summative Assessment Calendar for 2022-23

Assessment	Dates
NGSS	February 6-June 2, 2023 (Grade 11) March 27-June 2, 2023 (Grades 5 and 8)
Connecticut Alternate Assessment—CTAA	March 27-June 2, 2023
Connecticut Alternate Science Assessment—CTAS (Administered throughout the year)	(Upload Window for Submission through the DEI: CTAS Student Score Worksheet) March 27-June 2, 2023 (Grades 5, 8, and 11)
Connecticut Smarter Balanced Assessments	March 27-June 2, 2023
Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment	Anytime during the school year

The CSDE launched a new website to serve as a clearinghouse of information about dual credit opportunities in Connecticut. The site offers information on topics like student eligibility, instructor credentials, registration and fees, and contacts for 19 public and private institutions of higher education (IHEs). It also includes the latest news and events about the recently released Dual Credit Expansion Grant program.

New Digital SAT

A webinar was held recently regarding the changes to the 2023-24 CT SAT. Copies of the slides and the recording of the webinar are available on our website. Here is the link to the College Board's website https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/digital Questions can be directed to Michelle Rosado.

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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CONNECTICUT NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE ASSESSMENT

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