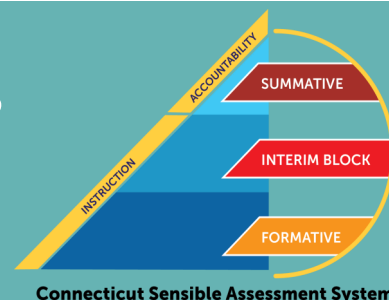




Student Assessment News

Connecticut State Department of Education
Performance Office



Connecticut Sensible Assessment System

March 2025

CTStudentAssessment@ct.gov

Summative Assessment Attestation Page

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

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The attestation page displayed here will appear when administering the summative assessment in the TIDE Test Administration System. Test Administrators will be required to complete this verification to ensure they are administering the correct assessment before they can advance and begin creating test sessions. This enhancement is intended to reduce errors and appeals.

Important!

WARNING! YOU ARE ABOUT TO ADMINISTER A STATE SUMMATIVE (END-OF-YEAR) TEST.

All test items and test materials are secure and must be handled appropriately. Educators who administer Connecticut's summative assessments (e.g., Smarter Balanced, Connecticut Alternate Assessment, NGSS Assessments, and Connecticut Alternate Science) are required to maintain security of the tests, the testing materials, and the testing environment. Maintaining the security and integrity of the entire assessment process is vital to ensuring the reliability of the results and the validity of the inferences made about student performance.

Connecticut's test security requirements are outlined in the respective Test Administration Manuals listed below:

Smarter Balanced Test Administration Manual (see pages 2-4, 31 and 35)
Connecticut Alternate Assessment Test Administration Manual (see pages 25-29)
NGSS Assessment Test Administration Manual (see pages 9-12, 45)

If you have any questions, please contact your School or District Coordinator.

WARNING! You are in the process of selecting a State Summative (End-of-Year) Test. Students only have one opportunity to take this test. Please confirm your selection below and click OK to continue. If you are ready to administer the SUMMATIVE TEST, type **Summative** in the box.

OK Cancel

Student Assessment Scrum TEAMS Meetings

The Performance Office will be hosting weekly **Student Assessment Scrum TEAMS Meetings** starting Thursday, March 27, at 3:00 P.M. and running every Thursday until May 29, 2025. At these scrums, the Performance Office team and partner vendor, Cambium Assessment Inc., will be available to answer any questions or concerns about Smarter Balanced, NGSS, CTAA, and CTAS assessments. We will also share any testing updates throughout the testing window. A link to the TEAMS Meeting can be found [here](#).

Spring Assessment Tips for Test Coordinators

- Provide practice opportunities for students and test administrators.
- Work with your DA for testing to ensure that paper materials are ordered in advance of testing (e.g., Large Print and Braille).
- Refer to the Technology Guide available on the [Technology webpage](#) on the portal for assistive technology details.
- Work with Case Managers to cross-check designated supports and accommodations in CT-SEDS with those in TIDE prior to testing. (Refer to the [Cross-Checking Student TIDE Test Settings and CT-SEDS](#) brochure for details.)
- Work with EL/ML Coordinators/teachers to ensure that appropriate language supports used during instruction are considered and made available if applicable. (Refer to the [Embedded and Non-Embedded Designated Supports for English Learners/Multilingual Learners](#) brochure for more information.) If your EL/ML is dually identified under IDEA or Section 504, designated supports **should not** be manually entered in TIDE. All designated supports and accommodations in finalized and implemented plans will sync to TIDE from CT-SEDS.
- Schedule test sessions—allow for extended time if needed.
- Arrange for coverage for TEAs who are administering the CTAA/CTAS.
- Set up a practice test session for students and show them how to navigate the online test platform and use tools and specific designated supports/accommodations (if applicable). Check out the [Five Built-in Test Tools Students Should Know \(and Use!\)](#). [Item Type Tutorials](#) are also an available resource for teachers to review the different types of items students may see on the assessments (e.g., hot text, multi-select, table item).

Special Populations

Connecticut SAT School Day

The CT SAT School Day testing window opened on March 3rd and closes on April 23, 2025. Schools can test students and schedule make-up testing anytime within this window.

To view Test Coordinator Workshop materials, visit the [Connecticut SAT School Day-Related Resources](#) webpage. The following additional topic focused slides are available:

- [Digital Readiness Check](#)
- [Proctor Screens](#)
- [Student Test Day Screens](#)

CT SAT School Day Accommodations

Refer to the [Proctor Manual](#) for explicit information about testing policies, procedures, and configuring test rooms for students testing with accommodations.

CT SAT School Day Requesting Temporary Accommodations

Accommodation requests for students with temporary injuries, such as concussions or broken hands/arms, should be entered in SSD by selecting New Request and then selecting Request Temporary Impairment Support. Documentation can be uploaded through SSD online, and the students will appear in the schools SSD Online dashboard. Refer to the [Temporary Medical Conditions Eligibility – Accommodations | College Board](#) for more information.

CT SAT School Day Late Accommodation Requests in SSD Online

If you recently submitted a new/updated accommodation request in SSD, expect up to four weeks for review and approval. Requests are reviewed in the order received. Coordinators should plan to test the student later in the test window. Please contact [Deirdre Ducharme](#), (860)713-6859 if you have students with pending requests or questions about accommodations.

CT SAT School Day Reminders about Test Time Configurations for Approved Accommodations

- Students approved for extended time for reading, including English Learners/multilingual learners (ELs/MLs) approved for 50% time and one-half, must receive up to that extended time on all sections of the test. Other students may have approval for math-only extended time (Section 2).
- Students with extended time will receive an additional break after the first module in the relevant test sections.
- Students in the same group type may be timed differently if students have different break times. To minimize disruptions and students testing on varying schedules, you may want to organize students in rooms with similar break times instead of relying only on group types.
- Students approved for Screen Reader (non-embedded) will automatically be approved for Reading: Up to Time and One-Half (50%).
- Students approved for the embedded Text-to-Speech in SSD Online after December 13, 2024, will not have automatic approval for extended time. If needed, extended time should be requested as a separate accommodation in SSD Online.
- In preparation for test day, coordinators should review approved accommodations and timing charts when configuring test rooms.
- Students testing with extended time have the option to move on when ready once the full standard time has elapsed on the module or section they are currently taking. This means that break times may be less coordinated than in the past, and students may end the test at different times.
- For students approved for up to more than double time or limited time testing, the student's decision letter will indicate how long the student is approved to test and over how many days. If testing for over

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2 days, Bluebook will automatically break the test between sections.

- Refer to the Appendix of the Proctor Manual to access the [Timing Charts](#) for CT SAT School Day.

What to do in SDMS if a Student's Approved Accommodations in SSD Online do not Appear in Their Record

For eligible students, approved accommodations in SSD Online will appear automatically on the SDMS roster and student profile.

However, because this information comes from two different sources and there may have been a significant amount of time between entries, these records may have differences that do not permit the system to automatically match registration and accommodation data (e.g., if the student's name in SSD Online is different from the name provided in the student's test registration). In such cases, SDMS would require authorized personnel to verify that these two records belong to the same individual. This verification is called "force matching."

- Force matching SSD IDs in SDMS makes it easy for a school-level Test or SSD Coordinator to match the student test registration to their SSD accommodations using the SSD ID number.
- To find a student's record, Test Coordinators and SSD Coordinators should search for the student using the Student Roster in SDMS. See image.
- Enter the student's SSD ID into the SSD ID field in the student's detailed record in SDMS. See image.
- Contact the Connecticut SAT Help Desk at 866-609-2205 or via email at ctsat@collegeboard.org with any questions.

- Use the filters on the left or scroll through the (alphabetical) roster.

- Click the **+** sign to expand the student record and scroll to the **Testing Information** section.

Last Name	First Name	SS	State Student ID	Acc.	Date of Birth	MI	Grade	Gender
Braun	Scott		341061		11/1/2007	E	11	M
Guzman	Ronald		341064		11/1/2008	A	10	M
Goeglein	Maggie		1254		11/1/2007	E	11	M

After the SSD ID is entered, the save button will turn blue

Click the blue **Save** button

In the pop-up that appears, confirm that the SSD ID number you have entered for this student is accurate and push the blue **Force Match** button

Testing Information

SS ID: [input field]

Accommodation: [input field]

Save

Are you sure?

The entered SSD ID will be used to match this student to a student record in SSD Online. You should confirm this is the student's accurate SSD ID from SSD Online before proceeding to ensure a student receives their correct accommodations on test day.

Cancel

Force Match

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Special Populations

CT SAT School Day Supports Available for ELs/MLs

Some ELs/MLs may be approved in SSD Online to use up to 50% time and one-half on the CT SAT School Day. Additionally, the following language supports are available if they are needed by the student. (Note: Only students identified as EL/ML in PSIS who need and use the language supports are eligible to use them on the CT SAT School Day.)

- [SAT Bluebook Translated Test Directions](#) (download, print, and make available to students at time of testing)
- [College Board-approved list of Bilingual Word-to-Word Glossaries](#) (Students using this support should be using the word-to-word glossary on a regular basis during instruction. The word-to-word glossary (without definitions) must be on the College Board's list of approved glossaries.)
- A native language reader for oral translation of test directions ONLY may be used if the student's native language is not included in the current list of translated test directions.
 - ◆ Translated versions provided by College Board can be found at [SAT Suite: Translated Test Directions](#).
 - ◆ Ensure that translators do not add instructions or content that is not in College Board's approved translated test directions.
 - ◆ The translator must be a staff member of the administering school or district.
 - ◆ The native language reader cannot be a family member.

Important Dates

	Deadline	Delivery Method
Designated Supports	For eligible students who do not have an IEP/Section 504 Plan – manually enter or submit designated supports via batch upload in TIDE prior to testing. Refer to the Documenting Designated Supports and Accommodations in TIDE brochure for details.	TIDE Test Settings and Tools (Reminder: Do not include records for students with IEPs/Section 504 Plans in the file upload to TIDE.)
Medical Exemptions	Emergency Medical Exemption Forms LAS Links and CAAELP - March 14, 2025 Connecticut SAT School Day - May 2, 2025 Smarter Balanced, NGSS, and CTAA/CTAS - June 6, 2025	The District Administrator (DA in TIDE) or School Coordinator for the CT SAT School Day must contact Deirdre Ducharme, deirdre.ducharme@ct.gov , 860-713-6859 or Katie Seifert, katherine.seifert@ct.gov , 860-713-6722.

Special Populations Updates

Alternate Assessment System Reminders

Eligible students identified during a Planning and Placement Team (PPT) meeting to participate in the Connecticut Alternate Assessment System (CTAA and CTAS) must have the Connecticut Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form completed in CT-SEDS. When the IEP is finalized and implemented, please allow 48 hours for the alternate assessment data to sync from CT-SEDS to TIDE. Once the sync is successful, the student's Alternate Assessment Indicator will be activated to "Yes". If "No" is active on the Alternate Assessment Indicator, check with the student's Case Manager to ensure that the form was completed in CT-SEDS and that the plan has been finalized and implemented. Delay testing the student if the indicator in TIDE is not marked appropriately.

Alternate Assessment Indicator: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Early Stopping Rule Indicator: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Additionally, prior to administering the Connecticut Alternate Assessments (CTAA and CTAS) TEAs should review and verify both the Alternate Assessment Indicator and the Early Stopping Rule Indicator. If the Early Stopping Rule is set to "Yes", the TEA will not test the student. When a student is approved for the ESR, Cambium Assessment Inc., will close out the student's test and the student will be counted as a participant on the Connecticut Alternate Assessment System (CTAA, CTAS, and CAAELP, if applicable). However, if a TEA has submitted the Early Stopping Rule Request and Attestation form to their DA, and the Early Stopping Rule Indicator is not set to "Yes", the TEA should reach out to their DA regarding the status of the submission in TIDE (approved, rejected, or needs additional information). The TEA should not test the student until they have received confirmation from the DA on the status of the submission.

Smarter Balanced and NGSS Paper Material Orders

The District Administrator (DA) in TIDE is responsible for ordering paper materials for students requiring Large Print or Braille test booklets. DAs can now go into the TIDE system to order paper materials for the NGSS and Smarter Balanced Assessments.

Remember that although the English Language Arts Performance Task (PT) may appear in the paper materials, it should NOT be administered. Additionally, all student responses for Large Print and Braille must be transcribed into the Data Entry Interface (DEI) for scoring no later than May 30, 2025, prior to returning the secure paper documents to Measurement Incorporated. Please contact [Deirdre Ducharme](#) or [Katie Seifert](#) with any questions.

Special Documented Accommodations Resources for Proctors Providing Non-Standard Accommodations

When the PPT/504 team determines that a student's documented needs cannot be met through the provision of standard supports/accommodations (specified by the [CSDE Assessment Guidelines](#)), non-standard, special documented accommodations might be appropriate. Teams should review the descriptions and policies related to the purpose and eligibility of non-standard accommodations as part of the determination. Once the team agrees that a non-standard accommodation is needed, the teacher/test administrator providing the accommodation must be trained and review the guidelines associated with that accommodation (e.g., human reader/human signer, scribe). Refer to the [Special Documented Accommodations Overview](#) for details about specific non-standard accommodations and test security/confidentiality forms that must be reviewed and signed prior to test administration.

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2024 - 25 State Summative Assessment Calendar			
Content Area(s)	Assessment	Grade(s)	Testing Window
English Language Proficiency: Speaking, Listening, Reading, and Writing	LAS Links	K-12	January 2 - March 7, 2025
	Connecticut Alternate Assessment of English Language Proficiency (CAAELP)	K-12	January 13 - March 7, 2025
English Language Arts (ELA) & Mathematics	Connecticut Smarter Balanced	3-8	March 24 - May 30, 2025
	Connecticut SAT School Day	11	March 3 - April 23, 2025*
	Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA)	3-8 and 11	March 24 - May 30, 2025
Science	Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Assessment	5, 8, and 11	February 3 - May 30, 2025 (Grade 11) March 24 - May 30, 2025 (Grades 5 and 8)
	Connecticut Alternate Science Assessment (CTAS)	5, 8, and 11	Dates to upload to the DEI: March 24 - May 30, 2025 The CTAS can be administered all year.
Physical Fitness	Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment	4, 6, 8, and once during high school	September 3, 2024, to May 30, 2025
Language, Literacy, Numeracy, Physical/Motor, Creative/Aesthetic, and Personal/Social	Kindergarten Entrance Inventory	Kindergarten	Snapshot Date: October 17, 2024 Submission Due Date: December 13, 2024

*Within the testing window, schools can choose their primary and make-up test dates. Schools can use as many or as few days in the testing window as they would like. They can choose to test all students on a single day, or they can test smaller groups of students over multiple days.

Connecticut Summative Assessment Calendar for 2025 - 26

Register for email updates

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

