



Assessment News

August 12, 2016

Top News This Week

1. A Special "Aloha Nui Loa" to School, Complex Area, and State Level Staff Members!

Aloha and welcome to the new school year! The Assessment Section staff look forward to working with all school, complex area, and state level staff members who have a role in coordinating the administration of this year's statewide assessments to students in grades 3-8 and 11 at all public and public charter schools. We know that the work you do to ensure the fidelity of the administration of the statewide assessments is in addition to your other areas of responsibility and we want you to know that your efforts are very much appreciated! Without your hard work and commitment, the Department would not have student results that can be used for valid and reliable purposes. Your role in preparing for and administering these important statewide student assessments is invaluable and the Assessment Section staff stand ready to support you in your efforts!

2. Fall 2016 Trainings for the Smarter Balanced Assessments, HSA-Alt, and the WIDA Access for ELLs 2.0 Early Adopter Program Online Administration

The Assessment Section is providing trainings in August and September for (1) new Smarter Balanced test coordinators, (2) new HSA-Alt test administrators and (3) WIDA Access online test coordinators and ELL coordinators. Click on the links below to register for these trainings. The due date to register for each training is **Thursday, August 18, 2016 by 5:00 p.m.** For information regarding each training, see memos that have been posted to the DOE Memos & Notices page in Lotus Notes. You may also view these memos via the Hawai'i Statewide Assessment Program Portal at alohahsap.org.

Fall 2016 Smarter Balanced Training Registration Link

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ecyfntnoa3a996b3>

Fall 2016 HSA-Alt Online Test Administration Training Registration Link

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ecyayaqm50b5134b&oseq=&c=&ch=>

Fall 2016 WIDA Online Test Administration Training Registration Link

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ecyh5mpg21054490>

3. Assessment Section Office Hour

The Assessment Section will be hosting it's first Office Hour for SY 2016-17 on **Thursday, August 25, 2016, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.** The Office Hour is a webinar hosted by the Assessment Section in which updates related to statewide testing are presented and then participants may have their questions answered. More information regarding the Office Hour will be forthcoming via the Assessment News and email messages.

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4. Granting New Test Coordinators Access to TIDE

In order to be able to view reports in the Online Reporting System (ORS) and enter new Test Administrators (TA) in the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE), new test coordinators will need to be identified in the TIDE system. Principals can log into TIDE and identify the school level staff member who will serve as the Test Coordinator (TC). Principals who need assistance in completing this task may contact the HSAP Help Desk at 1-866-648-3712.

5. New TIDE

The TIDE (Test Information Distribution Engine) has been updated and has a new look and feel this school year. The new TIDE User Guide will be posted to the alohahsap.org portal by **Friday, August 19, 2016**. The TIDE User Guide provides schools with the information they need to navigate, explore, and become familiar with the new and enhanced TIDE site.

6. Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments

The Smarter Balance Interim Assessments for the 2016-2017 school year are now available. Interim Assessments are designed to support teaching and learning throughout the school year by providing feedback about student performance to inform instruction that includes:

- measuring of early and midyear progress;
- identifying specific areas of strength and weakness; and,
- assessing the skills of incoming students.

The 2016–17 interim assessments will:

- include more unique items across the ICA and IABs
- include more IABs to measure a greater breadth of content
- include some revised IABs to measure the content with more specificity

Types of Interim Assessments

Interim Comprehensive Assessments (ICAs) are assessments that measure the same content as the summative assessment. Therefore, the ICAs may be helpful for purposes such as determining the knowledge and skills of students who are new to the district or the state, enrolled in non-tested grades (e.g. grades 9 and 10) and providing interim information after a significant period of instruction.

A complete ICA includes the Interim Computer Adaptive Test (CAT) and Interim Performance Tasks (PT) in the respective content areas. Both components and the hand scoring of constructed response items, if any, must be completed before student results will appear in the Online Reporting System.

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Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs) are assessments that can be used throughout the school year to focus on sets of related concepts in mathematics and English language arts (ELA). Since the IABs are more focused than the ICA, educators are able to administer them during the school year in a manner more consistent with the sequence of their curricula.

The Interim Assessment blueprints for the 2016–17 mathematics and ELA ICAs and IABs are now available for download from alohahsap.org. The blueprints provide information on the claims and targets assessed within each block, the types of items, and the depth of knowledge for the items.

Administering the Interim Assessments

Interim Assessments are administered online through the Test Delivery System (TDS) using the TA Live Site and the same secure browser as Summative Assessments and other statewide assessments. Students, based on their individual needs, will have access to the universal tools, designated supports, and/or accommodations that have been set for them in TIDE. In addition, the Interim Assessments provides students the option of testing outside grade level when appropriate and set in TIDE. Test Administrators need to be identified in TIDE and complete the online certification course to administer Interim Assessments.

Reports will be posted in the Online Reporting System (ORS) after tests are submitted and hand scoring using the interim Teacher Hand Scoring System (THSS) has been completed by school staff (where applicable).

The interim assessments are considered non-secure and non-public. This designation provides educators the flexibility to access the questions and their students' responses to the questions. They can be discussed by groups such as school data teams, grade-level teams, and, with discretion, with students. Interim Assessment items should not be posted electronically and if hard copies are made they should be appropriately disposed of after use.

More detailed information regarding the Interim Assessments can be found at alohahsap.org.

7. HSA-Alt Field Test for Writing

Phase II of the HSA-Alt Independent Field Test (IFT) for Writing will be administered to HSA-Alt eligible students in grades 4-9, and 12 during a four-week testing window from September 26 through October 28, 2016. All HSA-Alt eligible students, as identified in their IEPs, in these grades need to participate in the IFT.

This field test will only be administered to students online, so no paper/pencil testing materials will be available. Test Coordinators (TCs) need to check with their Test Administrators (TAs) to ensure all iPads used for testing have been updated with the most current supported operating system and secure browser. To find out which operating systems and browsers are current, please refer to the [2016-2017 HSAP System Requirements for Online Testing](#) document, posted on the alohahsap.org web portal in the Technology Coordinators Resources section. If you have any questions regarding the HSA-Alt IFT for Writing, please contact Carol Anton in the Assessment Section at 808-733-4100 or by e-mail at carol_anton@notes.k12.hi.us.

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8. ACT Assessments

The ACT Aspire (Grades 8, 9 and 10)

ACT Aspire Upcoming Information and Customer Service Hours

ACT Aspire test coordinators at schools planning to administer the ACT Aspire assessments are encouraged to review information posted at the ACT portal for Hawaii: www.act.org/aap/hawaii. In the event you have a question or need support in regards to the ACT Aspire Assessment, please call the ACT Aspire Customer Service at 888-802-7502 Monday-Friday, 2:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Hawai'i Standard Time. If you need further support, please contact Kuaanaai Lewis of the Department's Assessment Section at 808-733-4100 or via Lotus Notes.

The ACT (Grade 11)

The ACT Upcoming Information and Customer Service Hours

The ACT test coordinators are encouraged to review information posted at the ACT portal for Hawaii: www.act.org/aap/hawaii. In the event you have a question or need support in regards to the ACT Assessment, please call the ACT Customer Service at 800-553-6244 ext 2800 for general inquiries, or 800-553-6244 ext 1788 for information about accommodations, Monday-Friday, 2:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Hawai'i Standard Time. If you need further support, please contact Kuaanaai Lewis of the Department's Assessment Section at 808-733-4100 or via Lotus Notes.

9. In the News

- [Passed Smarter Balanced? Colleges say skip placement tests](#) (The Bulletin)
- [Nine Times Diane Ravitch Was Wrong About Common Core in the New York Times](#) (For Student Success)

Please contact the Assessment Section at (808) 733-4100 if you have any questions about the information included in this Assessment News.

"When we unite with the success of our students in mind, great things are possible." - Superintendent Kathryn Matayoshi