



Assessment News

November 3, 2017

Top News This Week

Smarter Balanced

1. Block Schedule Assessment Window

The Grade 11 Summative Assessment Testing Window will open on *November 27, 2017 for all schools on a Block schedule*. The Smarter Balanced Assessments may be administered to grade 11 students who have completed the course work in ELA or mathematics for the school year. Prior to the opening of the testing window, test coordinators should review the test administrator assignments in [TIDE](#) and confirm that all scheduled test administrators have passed the [online certification](#) test.

2. Supported Operating Systems

School technology coordinator should go to the [Secure Browsers](#) page on alohahsap.org for a list of supported operating systems for the Secure Browser. Technology coordinators are reminded that Mac OS 13 (High Sierra) and Windows 10S are *not* supported at this time. If Mac operating systems are updated to High Sierra, users will get an unsupported software error message when a student attempts to log in to start testing.

3. Accommodations Request Forms

Test coordinators must submit [Accommodations Verification Forms](#) (Appendix Q in the Test Administration Manuals) to the Assessment Section for verification of accommodations at least *one month prior* to the opening of the test window for each assessment. Accommodations verifications for the Smarter Balanced Summative assessments should be submitted before Winter Break (December 22nd) to ensure that the appropriate accommodations can be set in TIDE prior to the deadline.

The ACT

4. Test and Shipping Date Selection

Test coordinators should designate their school's test date, shipping date and other participation information in PANext by *December 1, 2017*. If a school will not be participating, test coordinators are required to indicate this and the reason for non-participation in PANext. More information, including links to instructions, links and resources can be found in the Configuration section of the [State Testing](#) website and in the email to ACT Test Coordinators dated Monday, November 6, 2017.

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5. ACT Test Accommodations

The window for submitting requests for accommodations for students who may require accommodations or supports for the ACT will open on *November 6, 2017*. Instructions on the process and a timeline of events were sent in an email to test coordinators from the ACT on Thursday, *November 2, 2017*. The ACT will also hold an online Question & Answer session on ACT Accommodations on *December 5, 2017* at 2:30 p.m. for test coordinators. Registration is available online [here](#). Requests are submitted through the [Test Accessibility and Accommodations](#) (TAA) system. The deadline to submit requests for the February 27 test date is *January 12, 2018*.

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0

6. Preparing Students for Online Testing

Test coordinators, test administrators and teachers can find resources for preparing students for testing at the [Preparing Students](#) page on the wida.us website. Students are expected to be given the opportunity to practice and familiarize themselves with the technology, such as the headset and test device, prior to being administered the summative assessments. Technology coordinators should attend the [Technology Coordinator Support for Test Administration](#) webinar on *Thursday, November 9, 2017* from 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. to learn about technology requirements for the WIDA ACCESS online assessment.

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

"Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself." John Dewey