

Attention Public School Principals, Public Charter School Directors, VPs (involved with testing), Test Coordinators, Technology Coordinators, Student Services Coordinators, and Curriculum Coordinators

(This message is also being sent to Complex Area Superintendents, Complex Area Support Team Leaders, and Information Technology Managers.)

Assessment News

Monday, October 21, 2019

Top News This Week

General Information

1. Test Coordinator Office Hour

The Assessment Section will host an office hour to answer questions about test administration on *Thursday, October 31, 2019, from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.* Click [here](#) to join the meeting and the password for this webinar is 1234. Viewers without computer audio may call in to 1-213-306-3065 and the access code is 801 584 778.

Smarter Balanced

2. Updated Smarter Balanced Practice Tests Available for 2019-2020

The updated Smarter Balanced Practice Tests for 2019-20 are now available at alohahsap.org > Smarter Balanced > Students and Families > Training & Practice Tests. The Practice Tests provide students an opportunity to experience the Smarter Balanced Assessment, including the universal tools, designated supports and accommodations, prior to the actual summative assessment.

HSA-Alt

3. HSA-Alt Stakeholder Committee - December 5, 2019

Registration is now open for the December 2019 HSA-Alt Stakeholder Committee. The Assessment Section is accepting applications from accessibility experts at the state, complex area, and complex levels, HSA-Alt teachers, special education advocates, and parents of children with significant cognitive disabilities. Applicants for the HSA-Alt Stakeholder Standing Committee will be selected to ensure that the committee accurately reflects Hawaii's diverse

population. The meeting will be held on *Thursday, December 5, 2019*, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Honolulu at the Hawaii Department of Education, Diamond Head Annex, 475 22nd Avenue, Ewa Building, Room B4. Please click the button on the right-hand side of the HSA-Alt home page on alohahsap.org to access the online registration form, or click [here](#) to access the form directly. Registration deadline is *Friday, November 15, 2019*. Full information about the committee can be found in the [October 21, 2019 DOE memo](#).

HSA Science (NGSS)

4. NGSS Interim Assessments Test Administration Guide 2019-2020

The [HSA Science \(NGSS\) Interim Assessments Test Administration Guide](#) provides an overview of how to prepare for and administer the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Interim Assessments.

5. EOC Biology 1 (NGSS) Training Tests and Answer Keys Available

The HSA Science (NGSS) and Biology 1 (NGSS) Training Tests are now available on alohahsap.org > EOC Exam > Students and Families > Training and Practice Tests. Each of the tests consists of several “clusters” and several “stand-alone items” to offer students an opportunity to experience all response types on the NGSS-aligned assessments. These are quite different from the items on previous science assessments so it is important that students have this experience with the Training Tests. The [Answer Keys](#) can be found on alohahsap.org.

EOC Exams

6. EOC Exam Eligibility

Eligibility for the End-of-Course (EOC) exams will be set in [TIDE](#) for the fall testing window on *Tuesday, November 5, 2019*. Test coordinators should make sure that student information is updated in eCSSS for IDEA/504 and ELL students, and designated supports have been entered into TIDE. If accommodations are needed, submit the [Accommodations Verification Form](#) to the Assessment Section for verification of the student’s need. Test coordinators should also confirm with technology coordinators that the updated Secure Browser has been installed prior to the start of testing.

Technology Coordinators

7. Mac OS 10.15 (Catalina) update and AIR Secure Browser

Earlier this month Apple released the updated Mac OS 10.15 (Catalina) operating system, which if installed on student Mac test devices, will cause the AIR Secure Browser to fail to launch. ***School TAs and/or Technology Coordinators should not update any Mac computers being used for testing until the AIR software review team has confirmed Mac OS 10.15 is compatible with AIR testing systems.*** Another announcement will be posted once compatibility has been confirmed.

8. Mac OS 10.15 (Catalina) update and ACCESS for ELLs Online Assessments

DRC recommends that HIDOE schools using Mac computers as test devices for the ACCESS For ELLs Online test should not run the auto update to Mac OS 10.15 until thorough testing has been performed by DRC. Mac computers that have been updated to Catalina will display a yellow icon when running the System Readiness check to denote that this OS is in the process of being certified to work with INSIGHT and the COS software.

"Education is not only a ladder of opportunity, but it is also an investment in our future." - Ed Mark

Assessment Section, Hawai'i State Department of Education, (808) 307-3636

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HSAP Help Desk: Phone: 1-866-648-3712 Email: HSAPHelpDesk@air.org