

ACCESSIBILITY RESOURCES: TEST ADMINISTRATIONS COMPARISON

This document provides a reference for implementation of the accessibility resources for the 2020-2021 test administration. Tables listing the Universal Tools, Designated Supports, and Accommodations show any updates that were made to a resource following the 2019-2020 Test Administration.

There is a table for each category of Accessibility Resources: Universal Tools (Table 1), Designated Supports (Table 2), and Accommodations (Table 3). Each table identifies whether a given resource was available for the 2019-2020 test administration and is available for the 2020-2021 test administration. Each table also includes details on the updates to the implementation of a given accessibility resource. Updates are in highlighted cells within each table. Full descriptions of the accessibility resources are found in the [Usability, Accessibility, and Accommodations Guidelines](#). Brief definitions are available here:

- **Universal tools** are accessibility resources that are available to **all** students, based on student preference and selection.
- **Designated supports** are those features that are available for use by **any student** (including English learners (ELs), students with disabilities, and ELs with disabilities) for whom the need has been indicated by an educator (or team of educators with parent/guardian and student input as appropriate).
- **Accommodations** are changes in procedures or materials that increase equitable access during the Smarter Balanced assessments by generating valid assessment results for students who need them and allowing these students to show what they know and can do. Smarter Balanced members have identified digitally-embedded and non-embedded accommodations for students for whom there is documentation of the need for the accommodations in an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 plan.

Appendix A highlights the updates available for the 2020-2021 embedded calculator.

Table 1: Universal Tools Available on the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 Test Administrations

Universal Tool	2019-2020	2020-2021
Embedded		
Breaks	Yes	Yes
Calculator (for calculator-allowed items only, grades 6-8 and HS) (See Non-embedded Accommodations for students who cannot use the embedded calculator)	Yes	Yes Changed from “grades 6-8 and 11” to “grades 6-8 and HS”

Universal Tool	2019-2020	2020-2021
Digital notepad	Yes	Yes
English dictionary (for ELA performance task full writes)	Yes	Yes
English glossary	Yes	Yes
Expandable passages and/or items	Yes as “Expandable Passages”	Yes Updated verbiage <u>underlined</u> (Description): “Each passage/stimulus <u>and/or associated item</u> can be expanded so that it takes up a larger portion of the screen.”
Global notes (for ELA performance tasks)	Yes	Yes
Highlighter	Yes	Yes
Keyboard navigation	Yes	Yes
Line reader	Yes	Yes
Mark for review	Yes	Yes
Math tools	Yes	Yes
Spell check	Yes	Yes
Strikethrough	Yes	Yes
Thesaurus (for ELA performance task full writes)	Yes	Yes
Writing tools	Yes	Yes

Universal Tool	2019-2020	2020-2021
Zoom	Yes	Yes
Non-Embedded		
Breaks	Yes	Yes
English dictionary (for ELA performance task full writes)	Yes	Yes
Scratch paper	Yes	<p>Yes</p> <p>Updated verbiage <u>underlined</u>: <u>Students may use blank scratch paper to make notes, write computations, record responses, or create graphic organizers.</u> Only plain paper or lined paper is appropriate for ELA. Graph paper is required beginning in sixth grade and can be used on all math assessments. A whiteboard with a marker may be used as scratch paper. As long as the construct being measured is not impacted, assistive technology devices, including low-tech assistive technology (Math Window), are permitted to make notes, including the use of digital graph paper. The assistive technology device needs to be familiar to the student and/or consistent with the child's IEP or 504 plan. Access to internet must be disabled on assistive technology devices.”</p>
Thesaurus (for ELA performance task full writes)	Yes	Yes

Table 2. Designated Supports Available on the 2019-2020 and the 2020-2021 Test Administrations

Designated Support	2019-2020	2020-2021
Embedded		
Color contrast	Yes	Yes
Illustration glossaries (for math items)	Yes	Yes
Masking	Yes	Yes
Mouse pointer (size and color)	Yes	Yes
Streamline	Yes	Yes
Text-to-speech (for math stimuli and items and ELA items, not for reading passages) (See Embedded Accommodations for ELA reading passages)	Yes	Yes Updated verbiage <u>underlined</u> (Recommendations for Use): “Students who are struggling readers may need assistance accessing the assessment by having all or portions of the assessment read aloud. This support also may be needed by students with reading-related disabilities, or by students who are blind and do not yet have adequate braille skills. <u>Students would need to use this support regularly during instruction to meaningfully benefit from it on assessments.</u> Students who use text-to-speech will need headphones unless tested individually in a separate setting.”
Translated test directions (for math items)	Yes	Yes
Translations (glossaries) (for math items)	Yes	Yes

Designated Support	2019-2020	2020-2021
Translations (stacked) (for math items)	Yes	Yes
Turn off any universal tools	Yes	Yes
Non-Embedded		
Amplification	Yes	Yes
Bilingual dictionary (for ELA performance task full writes)	Yes	Yes
Color contrast	Yes	Yes
Color overlays	Yes	Yes
Illustration glossaries (for math items, paper/pencil assessment)	Yes	Yes
Magnification	Yes	Yes
Medical supports	Yes	Yes
Noise buffers	Yes	Yes
Read aloud (for math stimuli and items and ELA items, not for reading passages) (See Non-embedded Accommodations for ELA reading passages)	Yes	Yes
Read aloud in Spanish (for mathematics, all grades)	Yes	Yes

Designated Support	2019-2020	2020-2021
Scribe (for all items except ELA performance task full writes) (See Accommodations for ELA performance task full writes)	Yes	Yes
Separate setting	Yes	Yes
Simplified test directions	Yes	Yes
Translated Test Directions	Yes	Yes
Translations (glossaries) (for math items, paper/pencil assessment)	Yes	Yes

Table 3. Accommodations Available on the 2019-2020 and the 2020-2021 Test Administrations

Accommodation	2019-2020	2020-2021
Embedded		
American Sign Language (ASL) (for ELA listening items and math items)	Yes	Yes
Braille	Yes	Yes
Braille transcript (ELA listening passages)	Yes	Yes
Closed captioning (for ELA listening items)	Yes	Yes
Text-to-speech (available for ELA reading passages, all grades)	Yes	Yes

Accommodation	2019-2020	2020-2021
Non-Embedded		
100s number table	Yes	Yes removed grade levels
Abacus	Yes	Yes
Alternate response options	Yes	Yes
Braille (paper/pencil assessment)	Yes	Yes
Calculator (for calculator allowed items only, grades 6-8 and HS)	Yes	<p>Yes</p> <p>Changed from “grades 6-8 and 11” to “grades 6-8 and HS”</p> <p>Updated verbiage <u>underlined</u> (Description): “A non-embedded, <u>stand-alone</u> calculator for students needing a <u>specialized</u> calculator, such as a braille calculator or a talking calculator, currently unavailable within the assessment platform.”</p> <p>Updated verbiage <u>underlined</u> (Recommendations for Use): “Students who are unable to use the embedded calculator for calculator-allowed items will be able to use the calculator that they typically use, such as a braille calculator or a talking calculator. Test administrators should ensure that the calculator is available only for designated calculator items and that calculator functions are consistent with those of the embedded calculator for each grade level. <u>The non-embedded calculator should have no internet or wireless connectivity, and all security procedures need to be followed.</u>”</p>

Multiplication table	Yes	Yes removed grade levels Updated verbiage <u>underlined</u> (Description): “A paper-based multiplication table <u>containing numbers 1 – 12</u> will be available from Smarter Balanced for reference.”
Print on demand	Yes	Yes
Read aloud (for ELA reading passages, all grades) (See Designated Supports for ELA items and math items)	Yes	Yes
Scribe (for ELA performance task full writes) (See Designated Supports for math and other ELA items)	Yes	Yes
Speech-to-text	Yes	Yes
Word prediction	Yes	Yes

Appendix A. Calculator Updates

Grade	Calculator Type	2020-2021 Updates
Grade 6	Basic Calculator	Keypad styling Braille input and output
Grades 7-8	Scientific Calculator	Keypad styling updated Braille input and output
High School	Graphing Calculator	Keypad styling updated Braille input and output Cube root shortcut Five number summary Spearman's correlation coefficient