

HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

FAQS: SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS - SPRING 2021



The Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and answers below are provided to clarify concerns and expectations for the Spring 2021 administration of statewide summative assessments.

General

1. Can distance learning students be administered summative assessments during breaks/holidays, after school hours, and on weekends?

Administration of statewide summative assessments is allowed during breaks/holidays, after school hours, and on weekends. It is a school-level decision to schedule. Prior to scheduling, please check with the Assessment Section to make sure there are no maintenance or updates going on during the proposed testing days.

2. Do ALL teachers/test administrators have to remove or cover instructional materials on walls if the material is not ELA, mathematics or science-related? For example, does a mathematics teacher/TA have to cover math materials while administering the ELA assessment?

Teachers/TAs must cover any instructional materials that may give students an unfair advantage or potentially affect student test performance, test security, or test validity regardless of what test they are administering.

Smarter Balanced Assessments

TECHNICAL (VALIDITY, COMPARABILITY)

3. What are the differences between the Smarter Balanced shortened summative form and the full form blueprints for the summative assessments?

There are approximately 40 percent fewer items in CAT for the shortened summative form versus the full form blueprint of the Smarter Balanced summative assessment. The item pools are identical for both blueprints, except that 24 ELA passage sets included in the pool for the full blueprint are not included in the pool for the shortened summative blueprint.

An artifact of reducing the total number of passages present on a student's test (as found in the shortened summative blueprints in ELA/literacy) is that now individual passage and items sets must have all the target coverage required by the shortened summative blueprint. Twenty-four passages do not meet this required target coverage and are therefore removed from the pool for the shortened summative blueprint.

4. How was the shortened summative blueprint for the 2021 summative assessment created?

Smarter Balanced partnered with Cambium Assessment to pull 50% less items in each claim from the full item pool. The algorithm for selecting items from the pool on the Computer Adaptive Test (CAT) remains the same. The ELA performance tasks have not been changed.

5. Does the summative assessment shortened summative form blueprint cover the same content?

Yes, the reduction in items on the shortened summative form is a proportional representation of the full blueprint of the summative assessment. Once data is available, Smarter Balanced will conduct a series of validity studies to verify that the shortened summative blueprint measures the same math and ELA/literacy content as the full form blueprint.

6. Is Smarter Balanced field testing new items in spring 2021?

No, there will be no field testing of new items in spring 2021. The decision to cancel field testing this spring is the result of weighing multiple factors that reduce the likelihood of a successful field test. These factors include the possibility of reduced participation in summative testing across member states as well as the representativeness of the field test sample.

7. How will Smarter Balanced examine validity/reliability for spring 2021 testing?

Smarter Balanced will evaluate the 2021 data (e.g., demographics, test logistics, contextual variables, test performance) using data from prior years as a comparison, to identify potential validity concerns, or effects associated with the shortened summative blueprint, remote administration, or other 2021-specific factors. Weighting will be considered to ensure that student demographics are consistently represented between the 2021 test results and test results from previous years. In addition, if states re-administer items from the 2019 field test in the 2021 test, Smarter Balanced staff will compare the item statistics from 2019 and 2021 as an additional indicator of the degree to which the 2021 results support valid inference.

ASSESSMENT CONTENT

8. Can a Test Administrator (TA) administer a paper-pencil test remotely?

To date, none of the member states who are allowing flexibility to administer the summative assessment remotely are allowing for the remote administration of paper-pencil tests.

9. Is there a paper-pencil version of the summative assessment for the shortened summative form blueprint?

No, a shortened summative blueprint paper-pencil form is not available for the spring 2021 summative test administration. Members are discussing whether to make this form available in future testing years.

TEST ADMINISTRATION LOGISTICS

10. What are the estimated average testing times for the ELA/literacy and mathematics summative assessments aligned to the Smarter Balanced-approved shortened summative form summative assessment blueprints?

The estimated testing times for the summative assessments aligned to the Smarter Balanced-approved shortened summative form blueprints are available in the [Smarter Balanced Test Administration Manual \(TAM\)](#), p. 32. The estimated times for the shortened summative form were

calculated based on the shortened summative form Computer Adaptive Test (CAT) items taking about half the amount of time as the full form CAT items, since there are about 50% fewer CAT items on the shortened summative form than the full form. The ELA performance task times are the same for the full form and shortened summative form. The estimated times for the full form summative assessment blueprint are based on average times for students to complete the performance tasks.

11. Will HIDOE track/keep record of students who do not take the summative assessment for a reason related to COVID-19?

Test coordinators are required to submit Reasons for Non-participation for each student who does not participate in a required statewide assessment. A new category has been created for this year titled "Refusal – Parent (b): A parent or legal guardian refuses to allow a student to be tested due to concerns related to COVID."

ACCESSIBILITY

12. What accessibility resources are available on the summative assessment shortened summative form blueprint?

The [Usability, Accessibility, and Accommodations Guidelines \(UAAG\)](#) describe the Smarter Balanced universal tools, designated supports, and accommodations, as well as related policies for each tier of resources available for the Smarter Balanced assessments. The UAAG also applies to the shortened summative form blueprints.

13. Is there a braille hybrid adaptive test (HAT) for the shortened summative form blueprint?

For 2020-2021 testing, HIDOE continues to offer the Braille Hybrid Adaptive Test (HAT) for the full-form online summative mathematics assessment. Because of design functionality of the Braille HAT, a shortened summative Braille HAT is not recommended. Students who read braille can still benefit from the full form summative mathematics assessment, the shortened summative form mathematics assessment, or the paper version of the summative mathematics assessment.

INTERIM ASSESSMENTS

14. Can the interim assessments be administered remotely?

The interim assessments can be administered remotely. Test administrators use the TA Live Site to administer the desired interim assessment. Students use the Mobile Launchpad to take the interim assessment, not the secure browser. The URL to the Mobile Launchpad is <https://mobile.tds.cambiumast.com/Launchpad>. Refer to the [Guide to Remotely Administering Interim Assessments](#) and the [Remote Administration Webinar](#) for guidance and more information on the remote administration of interim assessments.

15. Can students be administered interim assessments on their personal computers?

Students may use their personal computer to take an interim assessment. Test administrators need to ensure that students have a compatible browser. Unlike the summative Smarter Balanced

Assessments, students need to use the Mobile Launchpad to take the interim assessment, not the secure browser.

OTHER QUESTIONS

16. How is Smarter Balanced supporting Consortium members in collecting contextual data related to the 2020-21 school year experience?

Smarter Balanced asked Consortium Members how to best support efforts associated with gathering contextual information for the 2020-2021 school year experience. Members states identified areas where Smarter Balanced could help and Smarter Balanced has agreed to offer this support. Smarter Balanced has created an easy-to-access bank of questions for student survey creation. HIDOE will administer student survey questions at the end of each assessment.

17. Which states and territories are administering the shortened summative form blueprint?

As of February 11, 2021, California, Delaware, Idaho, Washington, and US Virgin Islands are using the shortened summative form summative assessment blueprint with no variations. Hawaii is using the shortened summative blueprint with variations (no short-answer items and no math Performance Tasks).

HSA-Science (NGSS) Assessments

18. Is the Biology 1 End-of-Course Exam optional?

The Biology 1 End-of-Course Exam is required of all students enrolled in a Biology 1 course

HSA-Alt Assessments

19. Are medically fragile students or students that are located in a care facility with other COVID high-risk individuals required to be tested?

Students who are medically fragile or located in a care facility with other COVID high-risk individuals may qualify for a Significant Medical Emergency Exemption. A note from the student's doctor or medical provider stating that the student has a significant medical emergency is required. In the case of a student in a care facility that does not allow the student to be tested at the school and does not allow a test administrator to enter the site to administer the alternate assessment, a note from the student's doctor explaining the situation is required.

ACT

20. What are the three test windows for SY 2020-21?

Test Window 1 = Feb 23, 2021

Test Window 2 = March 23, 2021

Test Window 3 = April 6, 2021

For information about online and accommodated test windows, refer to the [ACT Schedule Of Events](#).

21. How do I order test materials for Test Windows 2 & 3?

Test coordinators may only order materials for one window at a time, i.e., test materials for the April 6th window cannot be ordered until March 23rd. Test coordinators should treat each test window like a makeup test, i.e., you cannot order materials for the next test until the current window has closed.

22. How can students view their scores?

Students may view their scores on the MyACT portal, using the accounts they created for statewide testing.

23. Which students are eligible for the statewide administration of the ACT?

As per the June 2nd [HSAP Memo](#), the ACT is to be administered to all students enrolled in grade 11 (as defined by credit count in the Student Information System) who have not been administered the test in a prior year (i.e., students repeating grade 11 who have taken the test in a previous year are not to be administered the assessment)

WIDA Access

24. What would a school need to do with the test materials used in a session where a student or TA tests COVID positive at a later date? For example, if a school has a testing group of six 1st grade students who take the Writing test on January 22, and one of those students gets a positive COVID test result on January 29. What should the school do with the student response booklet(s) for that positive child? What about the booklets for the other 5 students in the group? What about the TA script and manual the TA used?

25. Is there WIDA guidance on transferring of test materials should a student transfer schools after the student has used the booklet (with or without a confirmed case of COVID).

There is no requirement for quarantining of test materials. Follow safety procedures that have been shared during training and FAQ sessions. Refer to WIDA's Assessment Best Practices during COVID document when preparing for transferring of student test materials (refer to section 6.e of the Assessment Manual).

26. If a school completes their testing before the extended end date of March 10, then can they return all of their materials to DRC early or do you want them to keep the materials until March 10 in case there are new students or transfer students who enter the school before March 10?