

# Assessment News

Monday, August 23, 2021

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## Top News This Week

### General Information

#### 1. Annual Hawaii State Assessment Program Training Conference - Virtual

Principals, Complex Area Staff, Test Coordinators, Student Service Coordinators, Test Accommodations Coordinators, and HSA-Alt Test Administrators are invited to attend the virtual 2021-22 Hawaii State Assessment Program Training Conference on September 13 and 14, 2021.

There will be over 26 sessions, including a keynote and plenary presentations, covering a wide variety of topics helpful to test coordinators, DATA team members, Student Services Coordinators, and school administrators. Time will be provided at the end of each day for attendees to take part in Q&A sessions with the various presenters. A memorandum with more information including a registration link and an agenda is forthcoming. Sessions will be recorded for those who are unable to attend, or have overlapping sessions they are interested in attending. School teams may wish to meet and discuss the agenda so they can plan to attend sessions accordingly.

### Smarter Balanced

#### 2. Fall 2021 Accessibility and Accommodations Virtual Training and Office Hours

The Assessment Section has scheduled the Accessibility and Accommodations virtual trainings and office hours for special education educators and other staff who serve on the school IEP/504 Plan teams. To attend the 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. training on Tuesday, August 24, 2021, refer to the Webex information provided on the [Accessibility and Accommodations \(A&A\) Webinar Training sessions Schedule Fall 2021](#) page or the [Important Dates calendar](#) on the [alohahsap.org](http://alohahsap.org) website. A recording of the trainings will be posted on the same [A&A Webinar site](#) soon after the training. *No registration of the training or the office hours is required.* For more information about these events, refer to the [August 12, 2021 Department memo](#).

#### 3. Assistive Technology Manual and Braille Resources 2021-2022

To support students' use of assistive technology on state assessments, the Assistive Technology Manual (Manual) provides an overview of the embedded and non-embedded assistive technology tools that can be used by students to access their tests in the Test Delivery System (TDS), including those students who require the Braille accommodation. This document describes the supported devices and applications and setup instructions to enable the assistive

technology features in the TDS. Refer to this [page](#) on [alohahsap.org](http://alohahsap.org) for the Manual and other Braille resources that are available for the Hawai'i Smarter Balanced Assessments.

## HSA-Alt

### 4. Test Administration Resources Available

HSA-Alt test administration resources for the 2021-22 school year have been posted on the [alohahsap.org](http://alohahsap.org) portal. To access the [HSA-Alt Participation Guidelines](#), [HSA-Alt Test Administration Manual](#), [HSA-Alt Test Administrator Informational Brochure](#), or [IDEA Parent Letter](#), click on the title links.

### 5. HSA-Alt Interim for Students in Grades 5 and 6 Available in November

An HSA-Alt Interim is under development and will be ready for students in grades 5 and 6 this November. Information on the Interim can be found in the [HSA-Alt Test Administration Manual](#). Teachers in grades 5 and 6 who would like to use this interim assessment with their students will be provided test administrator training during the Fall Intersession. The tentative hold date for this optional training for elementary school test administrators is Tuesday, October 12, 2021. More information on the HSA-Alt Interim will be available in the coming months.

## The ACT

### 6. Test Accessibility and Accommodations Availability

ACT's [Test Accessibility and Accommodations](#) (TAA) system, which will be used to request accommodations and supports for the spring 2022 administration of the ACT, will open on September 13, 2021. ACT will host a training session for test coordinators and Test Accommodations Coordinators (TAC) on *Thursday, October 28, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. HST*. Test coordinators and Test Accommodations Coordinators can register for the webinar using this [link](#). Included in this webinar will be information about EL supports requests and any changes or updates to the request procedures. Staff who submit accommodations requests should confirm their access to the [TAA system](#) prior to the webinar.

### 7. MyACT PreTest Information

Prior to the spring 2022 administration of the ACT, students will once again complete the non-test (demographic and interest inventory) activity online via their MyACT account. ACT will distribute personalized non-test instructions approximately four weeks prior to Test Window One. The non-test instructions will be designed to help examinees establish their MyACT student account, and conduct the non-test activity prior to the designated deadline date. The state use questions have been discontinued as of last year. Test coordinators should expect that test times will be shortened by approximately 30-45 minutes by removing these tasks from the day of testing.



*"I am not a perfectionist, but I like to feel that things are done well. More important than that, I feel an endless need to learn, to improve, to evolve." - Cristiano Ronaldo*

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