

Assessment News

Monday, November 8, 2021

Top News This Week

Smarter Balanced

1. Remote Test Administration Office Hour Webinar

On Wednesday, November 17, the Assessment Section will host an [Office Hour webinar](#) covering the *option* of remote test administration of the summative Smarter Balanced and NGSS Science Assessments. While it is recommended that all statewide summative assessments be administered in-person and on the school campus, the option of remote testing is allowed for special circumstances, such as schools with distance learning students whose parents insist that their child be administered the summative Smarter Balanced and NGSS Science Assessments, but for safety or other reasons, will not allow their child to test in-person and on campus. The decision to allow remote testing is a school-level decision.

- Test coordinators should share the technology requirements (covered in the presentation) with their school technology coordinators prior to making the decision to test remotely to ensure that the test administrator and students will have the technology required to administer the summative assessments remotely.
- The option of remote testing will be available for *block scheduled schools* administering the summative Smarter Balanced and NGSS Science assessments at the end of the Fall 2022 semester.
- Please note that other assessments, such as the ACCESS for ELLs, KĀ'EO and The ACT are not available for remote testing at the time of this announcement.

Interim Assessments

2. Interim Assessment Availability

Smarter Balanced and NGSS Science Interim Assessments are now available for administration. Test administrators need to complete the [Online Test Administrator \(TA\) Certification course](#) prior to administering the assessments. Test coordinators should advise test administrators to be careful when selecting and opening assessments to ensure that they are administering the Interim assessments instead of the Summative assessments. Any accidental administrations of summative assessments are considered Testing Incidents and a [Testing Incident Report Form](#) should be completed and submitted to the Assessment Section at hsa@k12.hi.us, and reported as a Testing Incident in TIDE.

HSA-ALT

3. HSA-Alt Guidelines, Documentation, and Summative Test Selection in eCSSS

The HSA-Alt Participation Guidelines, Decision Making Questions and Examples, and Decision Making FlowChart are available [here](#) or via alohahsap.org > HSA-Alt > Resources. These documents, along with the Factors and Red Flags on the Road to HSA-Alt Student Identification, provide information to support Individualized Education Program (IEP) team

decision-making and documentation when considering alternate assessment student identification.

Upon determination for a student with an IEP to take the HSA-Alt summative assessment, the school IEP team should inform their school Test Administrator (TA) of their decision and request the TA to select the “*Alternate Assessment*” option under the “*Statewide Assessment*” tab in the student’s IEP (stored in the electronic Comprehensive Student Support System ([eCSSS](#))). If you require assistance with entering data into the eCSSS, please contact support within your school; if school support is not available, please contact your District Special Education Resource Teachers.

4. Required Completion of the LCI and HIORA Before HSA-Alt Summative Testing

The Learner Characteristics Inventory (LCI) and the Hawaii Observational Rating Assessment (HIORA) are required to be completed before administering the HSA-Alt summative assessments. The LCI/HIORA will be available on *December 7, 2021*, before the opening of the HSA-Alt summative test window on *February 22, 2022*. Test Administrators (TAs) must arrange to have the combined LCI/HIORA form completed for each student to be tested in the HSA-Alt summative assessments. The responses should be completed by the school faculty member who is most familiar with the student. *Students will not be able to complete the summative administration login process and begin content area testing until the two-part LCI and HIORA form have been completed and submitted for each content test.*

For more information about completing the LCI and HIORA, refer to Appendix A of the HSA-Alt Test Administration Manual [here](#) or via [alohahsap.org](#) > HSA-Alt Assessment > Resources. After the LCI/HIORA is completed, then the TA, who has been certified (completed the [online HSA-Alt Test Administration Certification course](#)), will be able to set up the live summative test session for the student. To set up test sessions, refer to the [SY 2021-22 Guide to Navigating the Online HSA-Alt and the associated Quick Start Guide](#).

5. Accommodations for the HSA-Alt

Accommodations for the HSA-Alt do not require the submission of an HSA-Alt Accommodation Verification Form. Test Administrators (TAs) are able to set the accommodations that their students need directly in the [Test Information Distribution Engine](#) (TIDE) with one exception. The one exception is the paper/pencil test kit. The paper/pencil form setting will continue to be controlled and set by the Assessment Section in TIDE after receiving the [Paper/Pencil Test Kit Request Form](#) and verifying student need in the IEP.

All accommodations should continue to be recorded in the IEP record. For the students who take the HSA-Alt, these accommodations should be listed on the *Services* page under “*Clarification of Supports and Services*” or “*Supplementary Aids and Services*.” *All accommodations listed in the student IEP must be provided during summative testing.* If the accommodation that the student requires is not found on the list (pages 52-55) of HSA-Alt Accommodations in the [HSA-Alt Test Administration Manual](#) (HSA-Alt TAM), the school’s Test Coordinator should submit the [Unique Accommodations Request Form](#) (Appendix L of the HSA-Alt TAM) at least one month prior to the opening of the test window.

The ACT

6. PANext Availability

[PearsonAccessNext](#) (PANext) is now available for the Spring 2022 administration of the ACT. Test coordinators should verify that they are able to access this site in order to perform the [Prepare for Testing](#) tasks in the [Schedule of Events](#) on the ACT Hawaii website. Test coordinators should ensure they have selected the Spring 2022 administration in PANext. The online PANext User Guide will also be helpful in completing the Test Date Selection tasks. Please keep in mind that Hawai'i has no District Test Coordinators (these tasks will be completed at the state level).

7. ACT Customer Support

Test coordinators calling the ACT Customer Support Desk for problems related to access, Trusted Agent status, Manage Participation, or Test Accessibility and Accommodations are still being instructed to contact their District Test Coordinator, Complex Area Superintendent (CAS), or Charter School Commissioner. *This is still incorrect, and the CAS or Charter School Commissioner should not be contacted for issues related to the ACT.* If given these instructions, test coordinators should email bruce.hirotsu@k12.hi.us with the issue, the Customer Support agent's name and date/time of call to assist the ACT in identifying Customer Support employees who may need additional training.

8. ACT Hawaii Webpage

Test coordinators are encouraged to bookmark the [ACT Hawaii website](#) as a valuable resource for ACT test preparation and administration. Information on ACT and PreACT administration is available on this page. Hawai'i-specific information (test windows) is available on the [The ACT](#) page on this website, including a link to the online [Schedule of Events](#) and links to tasks and resources needed to complete these tasks in chronological order (scroll down).

Technology

9. WIDA Updated Supported Software Requirements

Updated [Supported System Requirements for ACCESS for ELLs Online and WIDA Screener Online](#) have been posted to WIDA AMS. These system requirements are valid for October 2021 – February 2022.

Please keep in mind that just because Windows 11 and iPadOS 15 will be supported for the ACCESS For ELLs Online assessment (INSIGHT Secure Browser, Central Office Services device) does **not** mean that they are compatible with secure browsers for other assessments (i.e., Smarter Balanced Secure Browser). Updates will be posted in the weekly Assessment News as information becomes available for the other secure browsers.

Technology coordinators should contact DRC Customer Support at wida@datarecognitioncorp.com or 855-787-9615 with any questions.

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