

Assessment News

Monday, October 11, 2021

Top News This Week

Smarter Balanced

1. Virtual Training on State Test Administration with the Braille Accommodation

The Assessment Section, with its partner Cambium Assessment Inc. (CAI), will conduct a virtual training on test administration with the braille accommodation for teachers for the visually impaired, District Special Education Resource Teachers (RTs), Test Coordinators, and/or other school testing support staff. The same training will be held from *9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.* on the following two days: *October 28 and October 29, 2021* (participants are to attend one of the two days). The training will provide a general overview of test administration with the braille accommodation and answer questions about test administration with braille, using embossers, creating and/or loading braille files, and setting up and configuring assistive technology devices to enable online testing with braille. Also, after the meeting, participants can meet with the CAI staff to address their specific concerns with enabling devices for testing with the braille accommodation. *Please note the training sessions will not be recorded.* To register for either training date, please contact Kathleen Hughes at kathleen.hughes@cambiumassessment.com. The deadline to register for one of the two sessions is *Monday, October 25, 2021*. Questions about the training should be sent to Elaine Lee by email at elaine.lee@k12.hi.us.

2. Smarter Content Explorer

The Smarter Content Explorer gives teachers more resources for checking learning and planning instruction. When teachers understand grade-level expectations based on state standards, they are able to align instruction to the state standards more effectively. Access assessment blueprints, accessibility guidelines, scoring rubrics, and much more at contentexplorer.smarterbalanced.org or download the [Smarter Content Explorer handout](#).

KĀ‘EO

3. Haumana Kaiapuni Designation in Infinite Campus

Schools may need to review student data in Infinite Campus regarding a student's status as a kaiapuni student. There are two indicators in Infinite Campus that mark a student as being enrolled in a Kaiapuni school. The first is attached to the student's enrollment and is rolled forward from year to year as long as the student remains in the same school. The second is a flag similar to the POA and TRO flags that needs to be updated year after year. The reason for this second flag is so that the indicator is readily visual to the user. Please review [Haumana Kaiapuni Indicator Instructions](#) to learn about

how to turn the appropriate flag on or off as applicable to the student's status in Infinite Campus.

4. School Contacts List

Kaipuni school testing staff should visit their appropriate [school contacts list](#) page and update all applicable test coordinator information, including updating the KĀ'EO test coordinator role with the appropriate name and contact information.

5. KĀ'EO Independent Field Test - Fall 2021

The KĀ'EO in Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science will have an independent field testing window in Fall 2021. The administration of independent field tests will yield a short summary report for each student in order to support teaching and learning. Independent field testing is conducted to bolster the assessment item pool and is essential to maintain the quality of Kaipuni assessments. For more information, please review the [October 8, 2021 DOE memo](#) for more information about the independent field test. For additional support, please contact the Kaipuni Help Desk at kaiapuni@hawaii.edu.

The ACT

6. Accommodations Requests for ACT

The October 4 email from ACT to test coordinators details the procedures for requesting accommodations for the ACT. *The deadline to request accommodations is January 7, 2022.* Resources and documentation can be found in the [Accommodations](#) section of the [ACT Hawaii](#) testing webpage. For schools with multiple ACT test coordinators, it is important to remember that email blasts from ACT are only sent to one test coordinator. Test coordinators who receive these email blasts are encouraged to share them with the other test coordinators or the test accommodations coordinator, if applicable.

7. ACT Webinars

On Thursday, October 28th from 9:30 - 10:30 HST, ACT will host an accommodations training webinar for test coordinators and test accommodations coordinators. Test coordinators and/or test accommodations coordinators may register [here](#).

8. ACT Office Hours

ACT will host open Office Hours sessions for test coordinators. Test coordinators may log in to these sessions with questions for ACT staff. ACT test coordinators may wish to review the [Preparing for State Testing](#) page on the ACT Hawaii website to view the steps they will need to take in the initial planning stages. The Schedule of Events on the ACT Hawaii website will be updated when it becomes available.

Office Hours – Administration: Wednesdays, 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.. HST | [Register Here](#)

Office Hours – Accommodations: Tuesdays, 7:00 - 8:00 a.m. HST | [Join Office Hour](#)

Technology Coordinators

9. Operating System Upgrades

Technology coordinators are reminded that per the test vendors, major upgrades to operating systems (i.e., iOS/iPad OS 15.x, Windows 11, Mac OS 12 (Monterey) should be avoided as the vendors cannot confirm the functionality of the secure browsers (i.e., Smarter Balanced Secure Browser, INSIGHT Secure Browser) with these upgraded operating systems.

*"Education is a continual process, it's like a bicycle. If you don't pedal, you don't go forward."
- George Weah*

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