

# Assessment News

Monday, February 7, 2022

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## Top News This Week

### Smarter Balanced

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

This 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. It includes lists of supported devices and applications for each type of assistive technology that students may need, as well as setup instructions for the assistive technologies that require additional configuration to be compatible with the TDS. These documents and other related resources can be found [here](#) or at [alohahsap.org](http://alohahsap.org) > Smarter Balanced > Resources > “Accessibility and Accommodations” folder.

#### 2. Questions about eCSSS

For assistance with entering data and other applications in the electronic Comprehensive Student Support System (eCSSS), first contact your SSC or someone within your school who is familiar with eCSSS. If support is not available at your school, contact your District Special Education Resource Teachers (RTs) or the IT Help Desk [online](#) or by phone at (808) 564-6000.

#### 3. Test Coordinator Training Recording

Slides and the recording of the Spring 2022 Test Coordinator training are now available in the Smarter Balanced > Resources > Trainings and Webinars > [Webinars](#) folder on the [alohahsap.org](http://alohahsap.org) website.

### HSA-ALT

#### 4. HSA-Alt Test Administration Manual

The HSA-Alt TAM contains updated policies and procedures for this year's alternate assessments. HSA-Alt accommodations can be set directly in TIDE by school test administrators and test coordinators. The HSA-Alt Test Administration Manual can be accessed [here](#) or via [alohahsap.org](http://alohahsap.org) > HSA-Alt > Resources > “Test Administration” folder.

#### 5. HSA-Alt Training Tests

The HSA-Alt Training Tests offer a range of item types by grade-level, including multiple-choice and animations. HSA-Alt teachers and Test Administrators are encouraged to familiarize their students with the test format and design prior to testing. The Training Test site can be accessed [here](#) or via [alohahsap.org](http://alohahsap.org) > HSA-Alternate Assessments > Students and Families > Student

Training and Practice Tests. Refer to the [Quick Start Guide to the Online HSA-Alt Training Test](#) for guidance.

## Science

### 6. New NGSS Interim Assessments Available

New and enhanced NGSS-aligned Interim Assessments are now available using the [Test Delivery System](#). The Interims consisting of a single item cluster are still available but there are now single item interims containing standalone items as well as testlets containing multiple items related to a single disciplinary core idea such as Structure and Properties of Matter or Earth and the Solar System.

The [NGSS-Aligned Interim Assessments Fact Sheet](#) found on [alohahsap.org](http://alohahsap.org) provides additional information on the interim assessments that are available and how they may be used.

These items will also be added to Checkpoint in the near future.

### 7. Multiple Opportunities for Grades 5 and 8 HSA Science

Students in grades 5 and 8 will have two opportunities to take the respective assessments. Students are only required to take the test once but you have the option of providing a second opportunity if you wish and have the capacity to do so. Keep in mind that there is currently a 14 calendar day wait period between opportunities. There is no wait period between April 25 and the close of the test window on May 27.

## The ACT

### 8. Materials to Support Students in Conducting Non-Test Activity in MyACT

The personalized non-test instructions forms, which will contain a student specific code that is needed to connect the examinees MyACT account with this spring's administration cycle, should have arrived with the boxes of test materials during the designated material receipt week (either week of Jan 31 or week of Feb. 7). These forms, as well as a copy of the *Taking the ACT* booklet should be distributed to students. These resources contain the directions and information students will need to utilize when creating their new MyACT account, or updating an existing account, prior to testing.

The website for account creation is available now, but students should refrain from creating accounts until they have the letter with their unique student code and instructions for conducting the non-test activity within MyACT. Students who do not create their accounts prior to sitting for an administration of the ACT will have up to 48 hours after the test to create their accounts and conduct the non-test activity which includes selecting up to four schools to receive their ACT scores.

Students who do not have a MyACT account that is linked to this spring's administration will still have their answer document scored, but will not be notified when their scores are available, and

will not be able to provide colleges, universities, scholarship agencies, etc. with their scores free of charge.

## 9. ACT Online Test Administration Manuals

There are separate ACT administration manuals based on the test delivery mode (Paper and Online). Manuals that align with the test format associated with the students at your school will be included in your initial materials shipment.

Should you find that you need additional Online manuals, please note that they may not be requested via additional orders in PANext and must be downloaded. You can find the [Online administration manual](#) posted to the ACT hosted website. The following screenshot provides a list of the online-focused materials that may be requested via an additional order:

Description
ACT S/D ONLINE TESTING MATERIALS RETURN KIT (See PANext User Guide for kit contents.)
ACT S/D TA FORMS STD TIME ONLINE TESTING
ACT S/D TA FORMS ACCOMS ONLINE
ACT S/D PROCESSING ENVELOPE - ONLINE

Please note that manuals, regardless of test mode, can be utilized across testing windows and should be destroyed after all testing is complete this spring.

## 10. PreACT Materials Ordering Window Open

HIDOE will continue to offer the *optional* PreACT assessment to schools to administer to their 9th and 10th grade students, as defined by credit count in the Student Information System (Infinite Campus). The test window for the Spring 2022 PreACT is from February 28 - April 1, 2022. The PreACT will be available in paper format only. For more information, test coordinators may visit the [PreACT page](#) on the [ACT Hawaii website](#). *The window for ordering materials will run from January 31 - March 11, 2022.*

Due to possible shipping delays due to COVID and other factors beyond the control of the ACT, it is recommended that schools place their orders as soon as possible to ensure that materials arrive before the opening of Test Window 1 for the ACT. The use of Chrome or Firefox browsers are highly recommended for accessing the PreACT website, as users of Internet Explorer or Microsoft Edge have reported problems accessing the site.

## WIDA

### 11. Return of Grades 1-3 Writing Materials

Schools have received an email from WIDA regarding returning writing materials as students complete the Writing Domain. It is recommend that all schools keep their writing materials and

box them up, along with other materials to be returned, when you are done with testing and send them back in the yellow box it came in towards the end of the test window. This will help to prevent any materials being misplaced or lost.

## **12. ACCESS for ELLs Online Test Window Extended**

Updated dates for the Spring 2022 ACCESS for ELLs Online test window:

- The window for the assessment has been extended to *March 9, 2022*.
- The deadline for shipping materials back to DRC has been extended to Friday, *March 11, 2022*. Failure to ship materials back to DRC by this date may result in delays of score reports for the entire state.

For more information, please refer to the upcoming DOE memo titled ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Testing Window Extension School Year 2021-22.

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