



Hawaii State
Department
of Education



HSAP

Hawaii Statewide Assessment Program

Hawaii State Department of Education
[Archived Assessment News](#)

Assessment Section

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Assessment News

January 9, 2015

Top News This Week

Technical Specifications Manual for Online Testing

This manual is currently available on the Smarter Balanced Technology Coordinators' Resources page in the User Guide section at alohahsap.org.

[Technical Specifications Manual for Online Testing](#) [pdf]

These documents for Technology Coordinators provide information on hardware and software requirements for online testing, and guidelines for online testing environments.

Contact Information for Accessing and Navigating on the Smarter Balanced Digital Library Effective January 7, 2015

For all Digital Library questions, please contact the HSAP Help Desk at 1-866-648-3712 or hsaphelpdesk@air.org. The Help Desk hours are 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Hawaii Standard Time Monday - Friday except holidays.

New Equation Response Editor Tool for Smarter Balanced Mathematics Assessment

The [Equation Response Editor](#) tool is available for students to preview and practice using outside the testing environment. The tool is not a calculator and will not perform calculations for elementary, middle, and high school students. The tool is designed to allow students to enter answers to questions that are numbers, expressions, or equations. Students may enter their answer using a keyboard, an on-screen keypad, or a combination of both. The student tutorial is available at https://tds2.airws.org/EQTutorial/?c=HAWAII_PT.

Administering and Scoring the Interim Comprehensive Assessments for ELA/Literacy and Mathematics

The Interim Comprehensive Assessments (ICAs) are currently available for administration to students at alohahsap.org using the Test Administrator (TA) Live Site that can be accessed on the Test Coordinators/Administrators page at alohahsap.org. Students' answers for the multiple-choice and constructed response items that do not require typing will be scored electronically. Students' answers for items that require typing must be hand scored by the teachers. The Teacher Hand Scoring System will be available on Monday, January 19th on the Test Coordinators/Administrators page. This system includes directions, scoring rubrics, and rated student responses for each raw score point included in the scoring rubric for each item. Students' scores for the ELA/Literacy or Mathematics Assessment will only be posted in the Online Reporting System after the scores for all hand scored items have been entered in the system by the teachers and combined with the electronically scored items.

Assessment News

January 9, 2015

Announcements

New information posted to the Smarter Balanced website (Repeat)- New resources are now available on the Smarter Balanced website. The [Practice and Training Test page](#) now includes an Elementary Writing Factsheet that provides an overview of the assessment and scoring of writing in grades 3-5 on the summative assessment. The [Interim Assessments page](#) now includes an updated Interim Assessment Statement of Purpose.

Achievement Level Setting Video posted to the Smarter Balanced website (Repeat) – A video explaining the process that Smarter Balanced used to develop the achievement levels and scores approved by member states is now available on the [Smarter Balanced website](#). This video features educators and other key stakeholders from across the Consortium.

In the News

Hawaii State Department of Education, 1/8/15

Article: “At Lanakila EI, parents get first hand look at new test”

<http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/VisionForSuccess/SuccessStories/Schools/Pages/SBpreviews.aspx>

The Oregonian, 1/6/15

Op-ed: “Smart choices for education: Editorial Agenda 2015”

http://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/01/smart_choices_for_education_ed.html

Education Week, 1/5/15

Op-ed: “Department of Defense Schools Shine”

http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/walt_gardners_reality_check/2015/01/department_of_defense_schools_shine.html?qs=Common+Core

EdSource, 1/4/15

Article: “EdWatch 2015: 10 issues to watch”

http://edsources.org/2015/edwatch-2015-10-issues-to-watch/72145#.VKrPO2TF_pA

Honolulu Civil Beat, 1/4/15

Op-ed: “Better Standards Are the First Step Toward Better Schools in Hawaii”

<http://www.civilbeat.com/2015/01/better-standards-are-the-first-step-toward-better-schools-in-hawaii/>

Vox, 1/1/15

Article: “Why 2015 is a crucial year for Common Core”

<http://www.vox.com/2015/1/1/7477495/common-core-2015>

Politico, 12/30/14

Article: Testing under fire http://www.politico.com/story/2014/12/testing-under-fire-113807.html?hp=t4_r

Hartford Sentinel, 12/29/14

Assessment News

January 9, 2015

Article: “Year in Review: Common Core standards” http://hanfordsentinel.com/news/local/year-in-review-common-core-standards/article_4ff63763-e21b-57bf-9347-b9a8a345a13f.html

Corvallis Gazette-Times, 12/29/14

Article: “New year, new test” http://www.gazettetimes.com/news/local/education/new-year-new-test/article_238ee7d5-29bf-535d-92c1-5695d97a8ff4.html

Las Vegas Review-Journal, 12/28/14

Op-ed: “New Smarter Balanced tests mark critical, positive step”

<http://www.reviewjournal.com/opinion/new-smarter-balanced-tests-mark-critical-positive-step>

Resources

Data Quality Campaign Factsheet on Education Data—The Data Quality Campaign produced a report outlining myths and facts about the assessment consortia and data privacy. The comprehensive report “Getting the Facts Straight about Education Data” can be accessed here: <http://www.dataqualitycampaign.org/files/Facts%20about%20EdData-CCSS%20Assessments.pdf>.

CCSS Forward—CCSS Forward, a section of the CCSSO website, is designed to provide updates on new resources and shine a spotlight on state leadership with Common Core implementation. It can be found at http://www.ccsso.org/CCSS_Forward_State_Resources_and_Success_Stories_to_Implement_the_Common_Core.html.

Khan Academy Common Core resources—Khan Academy has free online resources and exercises that align with the Common Core and that can be personalized to the needs of individual students. The resources can be found at <https://www.khanacademy.org/commoncore>.

A Primer on Common Core–Aligned Assessments—Education First developed a briefing for state policymakers and advocates about Common Core–aligned assessment systems, including Smarter Balanced. The presentation can be found at http://www.education-first.com/files/A_Primer_on_Common_Core-Aligned_Assessments_Education_First.pdf.

Key Facts about the Common Core State Standards—Alliance for Excellent Education publications on the CCSS can be found at the following links: <http://www.all4ed.org/files/CCSSFacts.pdf> and <http://www.all4ed.org/files/CommonCore101.pdf>.

Follow Smarter Balanced on Twitter—Follow @SmarterBalanced for resources and links to the latest news about the Consortium.

Smarter Balanced Hawaii—Information and resources related to the administration of the Smarter Balanced assessments in Hawaii is located at the statewide testing portal: <http://AlohaHSAP.org>.