



Assessment News

January 23, 2015

Top News This Week

The information provided below has been recently posted under "[Recent Announcements](#)" on the Smarter Balanced homepage at alohahsap.org.

Measurement Incorporated (**Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.**) is attempting to hire certified teachers who are interested in participating in the scoring of the Smarter Balanced Summative items. Recruitment information can be found by visiting the following job posting: [Teachers Only – Work from Home](#).

The Teacher Hand Scoring System (THSS) is now live. It can be accessed by clicking on the Teachers or Test Coordinators/Administrators cards and selecting the Interim Teacher Hand Scoring System which is secure and requires users to enter their username (work email address) and password.

The Online Reporting System (ORS) will be offline due to scheduled maintenance on Friday 1/23 and Monday, 1/26. The Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs) and ORS will be available on **Tuesday, 1/27**.

The documents provided below have been recently posted in the "[General Information](#)" section on the Smarter Balanced Resources page at alohahsap.org.

Read Aloud Guidelines [pdf]	When a student cannot access text-to-speech, an embedded resource available on the Smarter Balanced Assessment, the student may be eligible to work with a test reader. A test reader is an adult who provides an oral presentation of the assessment text to an eligible student. The test reader must be trained and qualified and must follow the <i>Smarter Balanced Guidelines for Read Aloud, Test Reader</i> .
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Scribing Protocol [pdf]	Scribes are allowable on Smarter Balanced Assessments as a documented accommodation for ELA writing, and a designated support for mathematics and ELA non-writing items. The scribe must be trained and qualified and must follow the <i>Scribing Protocol for Smarter Balanced Assessments</i> .
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ISAAP Tool [xlsx]	The ISAAP tool is designed to facilitate selection of the Designated Supports and Accommodations that match student access needs for the Smarter Balanced assessments, as supported by the <i>Smarter Balanced Usability, Accessibility, and Accommodations Guidelines</i> . The ISAAP Tool should be used in conjunction with the <i>Smarter Balanced Usability, Accessibility and Accommodations Guidelines</i> and state regulations and policies related to assessment accessibility as a part of the ISAAP process.
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The documents provided below have been recently posted in the "User Guides" section on the Smarter Balanced Resources page at alohahsap.org.

2015 Guide to Navigating the Online HSAP Administration [pdf]	This user guide provides instructions on how to use the online system applications, including the Test Administration Site and Student Testing Site.
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2014-2015 HSAP TIDE User Guide [pdf]	This document provides instructions on navigating and entering 2014-2015 data into TIDE.
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In the News

The Kingsburg Recorder (CT), 1/21/15

Article: "Workshop prepares parents for Common Core testing"

http://hanfordsentinel.com/kingsburg_recorder/news/workshop-prepares-parents-for-common-core-testing/article_75231e68-7c98-597e-bc70-845955f017fa.html

U.S. Senate HELP Committee, 1/21/15

Video: "Full Committee Hearing – Fixing No Child Left Behind: Testing and Accountability"

<http://www.help.senate.gov/hearings/hearing/?id=1ad5f642-5056-a032-52f2-57297bf23f2b>

Council of Great City Schools, 1/20/15

Video: "Conversation: A Three-Minute Video on Common Core State Standards"

<http://www.cgcs.org/Page/467>

The Argus Observer (OR), 1/20/15

Article: "Teacher: Anyone can be a math person"

http://www.argusobserver.com/news/teacher-anyone-can-be-a-math-person/article_38264a02-a0ce-11e4-b58a-af23dfca1665.html

Las Vegas Review Journal, 1/19/15

Op-ed: "Common Core the path to success for Nevada students"

<http://www.reviewjournal.com/opinion/common-core-path-success-nevada-students>

The Sacramento Bee, 1/17/15

Op-ed: "The real test of Common Core is about to begin"

<http://www.sacbee.com/opinion/editorials/article7134272.html>

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>.

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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>.