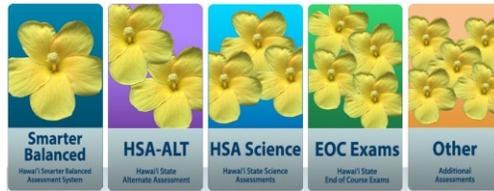




Hawaii State
Department
of Education



HSAP

Hawaii Statewide Assessment Program

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

Assessment Section

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Assessment News

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Top News This Week

Schools that are administering the Interim Assessments during the second semester will find the information provided below useful.

Scoring Students' Typed Answers for Identified Constructed Response Items

Teachers in any grade may assist with the scoring of grades 3-8 and 11 students' typed responses for the Interim Comprehensive Assessments (ICAs) and the Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs) without taking the online TA (Test Administrator) Certification Course. Only staff members who meet the criteria to serve as test administrators must take the course in order to access the Live Test Site to administer the ICAs and IABs to students.

Teachers, i.e., TEs in the TIDE (Test Information Distribution Engine) System, must access the "Interim Teacher Hand Scoring System" using their TIDE username, i.e., school email address, and password. If a teacher has not updated his/her password for 2014-15 or is a new user who did not have a username and password during 2013-14, please call (1-866-648-3712) or email (hsaphelpdesk@air.org) the Help Desk staff to request assistance. They are on duty Monday - Friday, except holidays, from 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Hawaii Standard Time.

The "Interim Teacher Hand Scoring System" can be access at www.alohahsap.org.
Click on the Smarter Balanced portal card.
Click on the "Teacher" or Test Coordinator/Administrator" user group on the homepage.
Click on the "Interim Teacher Hand Scoring System" card on the next screen and enter your username and password.

Blueprints for the Interim Comprehensive Assessments

These blueprints are the same as the preliminary blueprints created for the Summative Assessments during 2014. Since the Interim Comprehensive Assessments are fixed form, i.e., all students answer the same set of questions, and were created during late fall 2014 before the final blueprints were created for the Summative Assessments during early February 2015, the minor adjustments made to the final Summative Assessment blueprints are not reflected in the Interim Comprehensive Assessments.

<p>ELA Smarter Balanced Preliminary Blueprint [pdf]</p>	<p>The Smarter Balanced ELA/literacy preliminary blueprint describes the content of the ELA Summative Assessment in grade 3-8 and 11, and how that content will be assessed to reflect the depth and breadth of the performance expectations for the CCSS.</p>
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Mathematics Smarter Balanced Preliminary Blueprint [pdf]	The Smarter Balanced mathematics preliminary blueprint describes the content of the mathematics Summative Assessment in grade 3-8 and 11, and how that content will be assessed to reflect the depth and breadth of the performance expectations for the CCSS.
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Blueprints for the Interim Assessment Blocks

ELA Interim Assessment Blocks Blueprint [pdf]	This document summarizes the ELA/literacy Interim Assessment Blocks available at each grade level.
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Mathematics Interim Assessment Blocks Blueprint [pdf]	This document summarizes the mathematics Interim Assessment Blocks available at each grade level.
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Good News for School Level Staff Members Who Are Entering Students' Designated Supports in the TIDE System

The ELA "text-to-speech" designated support for only the reading items can now be selected for a student who is identified by one or more of the teachers providing services for him/her as a struggling reader during classroom instruction and needs to use this designated support during the administration of the Smarter Balanced ELA/Literacy Assessments.

The ELA "text-to-speech" accommodation for only the reading passages may be provided for an IDEA-eligible or 504 student who has a severe reading disability. A school test coordinator must complete and submit a request form that indicates an IDEA-eligible or 504 student's severe reading disability which requires this accommodation. The Department's Assessment Section will consult with the school regarding the request. Note: The request form for the ELA "text-to-speech" accommodation will be included in an addendum to the 2015 Summative Smarter Balanced Test Administration Manual that will be available for access in the User Guide folder on the Smarter Balanced Resources page by Monday, February 23, 2015.

Current Status of Four Embedded Designated Supports in the Test Information Distribution (TIDE) System

Audio Glossary

Current Status: Not Visible in TIDE

Schools will be informed when this embedded designated support can be selected for identified students who need this language support.

Students will be able to select an audio version of the English language glossary.

Translated Test Directions

Current Status: Not Visible in TIDE

Schools will be informed when this embedded designated support can be selected for identified students who need this language support.

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Translation of test directions is a language support available to a student prior to beginning the actual test items. There are 11 supported languages: Spanish, Vietnamese, Arabic, Tagalog, Ilokano, Cantonese, Mandarin, Punjabi, Korean, Russian, and Ukrainian. Students who have limited English language skills can use the translated directions support. However, this support should only be used for students who are proficient readers in the other language and not proficient in English.

Translations (Stacked) - Allowed only for Math Items

Current Status: Not Visible in TIDE

Schools will be informed when this embedded designated support can be selected for identified students who need this language support.

A full translation in Spanish is provided above the original item. Use of the stacked (dual language) translation may be appropriate for students whose primary language is not English and who use dual language supports in the classroom. This support will increase reading load and cognitive load.

Turn Off Designated Supports

Current Status: Not Visible in TIDE

Schools will be informed when this embedded designated support can be selected for identified students.

Any universal tools that might be distracting or that students do not need to use or are unable to use are turned off. Students who are easily distracted (whether or not designated as having attention difficulties or disabilities) may be overwhelmed by some of the universal tools. Knowing which specific tools may be distracting is important for determining which tools to turn off.

Current Status of Two Non-Embedded Accommodations in the Test Information Distribution (TIDE) System

Noise Buffers

Current Status: Not Visible in TIDE

Schools will be informed when this non-embedded accommodation can be selected for identified students.

Ear mufflers, white noise, and/or other equipment used to block external sounds. One student (not groups of students) wears equipment to reduce environmental noises. A student may have these testing variations if regularly used in the classroom. A student who uses noise buffers will need headphones unless tested individually in a separate setting

Read Aloud

Current Status: Not Visible in TIDE

Schools will be informed when this non-embedded accommodation can be selected for identified students.

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Allowed for ELA passages, grades 6-8 and 11, and for students who are blind in grades 3-8 and 11 and who do not yet have adequate braille skills. Text is read aloud to the student by a trained and qualified human reader who follows the administration guidelines provided in the Smarter Balanced Test Administration Manual. All or portions of the content may be read aloud. This accommodation is appropriate for a very small number of students (estimated to be approximately 1-2% of students with disabilities participating in the general assessment). For students in grades 3 -5, read aloud will not be an available accommodation. For students in grades 6 - 8 and 11, read aloud is available as an accommodation for students whose need is documented in an IEP or 504 plan. Readers should be provided to students on an individual basis - not to a group of students. A student should have the option of asking a reader to slow down or repeat text.

Summative Smarter Balanced Parent Information Booklet and Parent Letters

The English Parent Information Booklet that includes information about the grades 3-8 and 11 Summative Smarter Balanced ELA/Literacy and Mathematics Assessments and the grades 4 and 8 Hawaii State Science Assessments is currently posted on the Smarter Balanced Resources page in the General Information folder. Schools will receive one copy of this English booklet for each student enrolled in the tested grades during the last week in February or the first week in March 2015. The specific time frame for the delivery of the translated Parent Information Booklets in the 14 languages has not been finalized at the current time. Schools will be informed when these translated booklets are ready for shipment.

2015 Smarter Balanced Parent Information Booklet [pdf]	<p>The Parent Information Booklet (PIB) includes information for the grades 3-8 and 11 Smarter Balanced ELA/Literacy and Mathematics Assessments and the grades 4 and 8 Hawaii State Science Assessments. Printed copies of one English PIB per student will be shipped to each school during the last week in February or the first week in March.</p> <p>This Parent Information Booklet (PIB) in English will also be available in 14 languages in March 2015. One translated PIB for identified ELL students whose parents have indicated their home language is a language other than English in the eSIS home language file will be shipped to each school during March 2015</p>
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The English Parent Letters for 12 student populations, e.g., ELL, IDEA-eligible, 504, general education, home-schooled, are currently posted on the Smarter Balanced Resources page in the General Information folder. Each school may decide which parent letter(s) it wants to download and send to the families of various students after inserting it's testing schedule and the principal's signature in the letter(s) before printing copies. Some schools send the general education letter to all parents along with the Parent Information Booklet. The specific time frame for posting the set of parent letters for 12 student populations that are being translated into the 14 languages has not been finalized at the current time. Schools will be informed when these translated parent letters have been posted.

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2015 Smarter Balanced Parent Letters [docx]	Participation and non-participation letters that schools may send to parents along with the Parent Information Booklet about the grades 3-8 and 11 Smarter Balanced ELA/Literacy and Mathematics Assessments and the grades 4 and 8 Hawaii State Science Assessments are currently available in English. Parent Letters will also be available in 14 languages for 12 student populations in March 2015. Schools will be informed when the translated parent letters are available.
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In the News

The Bismarck Tribune (ND), 2/11/15

Article: "Effort to eliminate Common Core defeated in house"

http://bismarcktribune.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/house-rejects-bill-to-eliminate-common-core/article_f1789d86-1fca-576d-8ca3-321c9db349b8.html

Aberdeen News (SD), 2/11/15

Article: "Neville: Understanding the new education assessments"

http://www.aberdeennews.com/news/local/education/neville-understanding-the-new-education-assessments/article_1304d23d-821a-5b78-b209-068c0bce7c8a.html

Huffington Post, 2/9/15

Blog: "Common Core Testing Teaches Tots to Type"

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jason-saltmarsh/common-core-testing-teach_b_6646698.html?utm_hp_ref=education&ir=Education

Education Week, 2/9/15

Article: "Three States to Decline Use of Adaptive Feature in Common-Core Tests"

http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/state_edwatch/2015/02/three_states_wont_use_adaptive_testing_feature_of_common-core_assessments.html

DelmarvaNow, 2/6/15

Article: "New Delaware student tests will be more rigorous"

<http://www.delmarvanow.com/story/news/local/delaware/2015/02/06/new-delaware-student-tests-will-rigorous/22976473/>

CDAPress.com, 2/6/15

Op-ed: "Nothing to fear with Common Core"

http://www.cdapress.com/columns/my_turn/article_91121025-b430-56b8-bc23-41bfd775049a.html

San Jose Mercury News, 2/5/15

Article: "Fremont schools see drop in expulsions, suspensions, mirroring statewide decreases"

http://www.mercurynews.com/ci_27467016/fremont-schools-see-drop-expulsions-suspensions-mirroring-statewide?utm_medium=email&utm_source=cfss&utm_content=30+-

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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>.