Hawaii State Department of Education

Hawaii Statewide Assessment Program

Assessment News

May 1, 2015

Top News This Week

Users Can Now View the April 30, 2015 Online Reporting System Webinar PowerPoint and Audio

This webinar PowerPoint and audio are currently posted in the "Trainings" folder on the Smarter Balanced Resources page at alohahsap.org.

Online Reporting System Webinar PowerPoint [pptx] Online Reporting System Webinar Audio [wav]	This webinar provided information about the Online Reporting System for the 2014-2015 assessments.

The ORS User Guide includes two important features.

1. **Score Reports**: Provides score data for each HSAP assessment or exam. You can compare score data between individual students and the school, complex area, or overall state average scores. The ORS also provides information about performance on claims or reporting categories. Score reports are made available for students who have completed an assessment or exam.

2. **Test Management Center:** Provides participation data for students taking HSAP assessments and exams. You can determine which students need to complete testing and which students need to start testing. You can view participation summary statistics (count and percentages) of students who tested in a selected subject and grade level. You can also download student data files. Participation information for all assessments or exams is made available for any student who was present in the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE).

The ORS provides dynamic data that can be used to gauge students' achievement on various assessments and exams. **However, the data in this system are not to be used for official Strive HI school accountability purposes. The Hawai'i Department of Education provides official Strive HI school accountability data.**

A Test Administrator Must Complete the Read Aloud or Scribe Protocol Training Before an Identified Student is Tested to Prevent the Invalidation of Scores

Read Aloud

The non-embedded "read aloud" designated supports for the ELA items in the CAT and PT and the Mathematics items in the CAT and PT may be provided for a general education, ELL, IDEA-eligible, or 504 student who is a struggling reader, has reading related disabilities, or is blind and does not yet have adequate braille skills. If read aloud is not used regularly during instruction, this support is likely to be confusing and may impede the student's performance on the assessments. A human reader must be provided on an individual basis and may not be provided for a group of students. A student may ask the human reader to slow down or repeat text.

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The non-embedded "read aloud" accommodation for the ELA CAT reading passages may only be provided for IDEA-eligible or 504 students who have a documented reading disability included in their IEP or 504 Plans.

The test administrator who will serve as the human reader must independently review two documents on the Smarter Balanced Resources page and sign a Security/Confidentiality Agreement form which needs to be faxed to the Department's Assessment Section at 808-733-4483 before the student can be tested.

1. Read Aloud Guidelines are located in the "User Guides" folder.

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 *Smarter Balanced Guidelines for Read Aloud, Test Reader.*

2. Read Aloud Narrated Training Module PowerPoint is located in the "Trainings" folder.

Read-Aloud Training Module [pptx]	This training module is designed to help the read-aloud test reader understand the guidelines for the Read-Aloud designated support and accommodation when administering the Smarter Balanced Assessments.

3. The Security/Confidentiality Agreement Form is on page 8 in the Read Aloud Guidelines document.

The student must be tested in an individual setting for each ELA and Mathematics CAT and PT test so the non-embedded "separate setting" designated support needs to be activated in TIDE for the student by the test coordinator or test administrator.

Scribe

The non-embedded "scribe" designated support for the ELA non-writing (typing) items in the CAT and PT and the Mathematics items in the CAT and PT may be provided for a student who has documented significant motor or processing difficulties, or who has had a recent injury (such as a broken hand or arm) that makes it difficult to produce responses may need to dictate his/her responses to a human, who then records the student's responses verbatim. It is important that the student be able to develop planning notes via the human scribe, and to view what he/she produces while composing via dictation to the scribe.

The non-embedded "scribe" accommodation for the ELA CAT and PT writing (typing) items may only be provided for a student who has documented significant motor or processing difficulties, or who has had a recent injury (such as a broken hand or arm) that makes it difficult to produce responses may need to dictate his/her responses to a human, who then records the student's responses verbatim. It is important that the student be able to develop planning notes via the human scribe, and to view what he/she produces while composing via dictation to the scribe.

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The test administrator who will serve as the human scribe must independently review two documents on the Smarter Balanced Resources page and sign a Security/Confidentiality Agreement form which needs to be faxed to the Department's Assessment Section at 808-733-4483 before the student can be tested.

1. Scribing Protocol is located in the "User Guides" folder.

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 *Scribing Protocol for Smarter Balanced Assessments.*

2. Scribing Protocol Narrated Training Module PowerPoint is located in the "Trainings" folder.

Scribing Protocol Training Module (Narrated) [pptx]	This module is designed to help the adult who acts as a scribe for a student understand the guidelines for the scribe designated support and accommodation when administering the Smarter Balanced assessments.

3. The Security/Confidentiality Agreement Form is on page 5 in the Scribing Protocol document.)

The student must be tested in an individual setting for each ELA and Mathematics CAT and PT test so the non-embedded "separate setting" designated support needs to be activated in TIDE for the student by the test coordinator or test administrator.

In the News

Statesman Journal (OR), 4/29/15
Article: "Assessing the core of education"
http://www.statesmanjournal.com/story/news/local/stayton/2015/04/29/assessing-core-education/26593903/

Rancho Santa Fe Review (CA), 4/28/15
Article: "Rancho Santa Fe School District readies for new Common Core state assessment test"
http://www.ranchosantafereview.com/news/2015/apr/28/Common-Core-Rancho-Santa-Fe/

Cape Gazette (DE), 4/27/15
Article: "Four Delaware colleges to use Smarter Balanced Assessments in lieu of separate placement tests"
http://capegazette.villagesoup.com/p/four-delaware-colleges-to-use-smarter-balanced-assessments-in-lieu-of-separate-placement-tests/1335042

Palo Alto Online, 4/26/15
Article: "Palo Alto students take new tests"
http://paloaltoonline.com/news/2015/04/25/palo-alto-schools-usher-in-new-era-of-testing

Greenwich Time (CT), 4/25/15
Article: "Greenwich school board approves Common Core testing benchmarks"
http://www.greenwichtime.com/local/article/Greenwich-school-board-approves-Common-Core-6223995.php

New Tests Raise the Bar for Kids, and that's a Good Thing, Whatever the Scores
For the first time this year, states are administering assessments that measure students' college and career readiness at each grade level to ensure they are on track to develop the skills necessary to succeed at high levels of learning. The transition represents a reset in the baseline of student expectations, but will help parents and teachers better identify student needs. New exams like PARCC and Smarter Balanced will help hold all students to high academic expectations and help prepare more students to be college and career ready upon graduating high school.

Stop Underestimating Out Students
Chris Hayes, a second-grade teacher in Washoe County, Nevada, writes that even young students are excited about learning and "hungry for more" due largely to Common Core State Standards. "I have never seen such a spark in all of my 20 years as an educator," Hayes says. "None of this would have been possible without the rigor of the Common Core State Standards and the strong teacher and administrative leadership in our district."

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.