

# 2016 Assessment and Accountability Information Meeting

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## California Spanish Assessment

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**TOM TORLAKSON**  
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

# Primary Purposes of California Comprehensive Assessments

The primary purposes include:

- Assisting teachers, administrators, and pupils, and their parents
- Improving teaching and learning
- Promoting high-quality teaching and learning using a variety of assessment approaches and item types.



# Development of the High-Level Test Design

- Consulted with stakeholders, including assessment and English learner experts, to determine the content and purpose
- Developed the high-level test design
- Approved by the State Board of Education (SBE) on September 9, 2016

# California Spanish Assessment (CSA) Design Team

- Nationally recognized experts in linguistics, Dr. Kenji Hakuta and Dr. Guadalupe Valdés
- Educational Testing Service, contractor, assessment development experts, psychometricians, and research scientists



# Recommended CSA Test Purposes(s)

- Measure a student's competency in Spanish language arts and provide student-level data in Spanish competency
- Evaluate the implementation of Spanish language arts programs at the local level
- Provide a high school measure suitable to be used, in part, for the State Seal of Biliteracy

# Target Population

The target population will be:

- students receiving instruction in Spanish in California; and/or
- students seeking a measure that recognizes their Spanish-specific reading, writing, and listening skills.



# Key Assumptions of the Proposed High-Level Test Design

- Aligned with the Common Core State Standards for ELA en Español
- Computer-based assessment
- Assess reading, writing, and listening
- Administered in grades 3–8 and high school
- Accessible to students with disabilities

# Key Assumptions of the Proposed High Level Test Design (cont.)

- Optional
- Test blueprint will be aligned with general performance level descriptors
- Fair, valid, and reliable
- No human scoring



# Benefits for LEAs

- Recognize the value of bilingualism and biliteracy
- Develop literacy at a deeper level
- Inform instructional practices and, as a result, increase learning
- View CSA results in combination with English Language Arts (ELA) results
- May be added to Local Control and Accountability Plans

# Educator Reflections on Test Development

The focus was on all of our students who come from different populations with varying specific needs.”



“Brainstorming and making well-informed decisions take time.”

“I feel privileged to learn and understand how the assessment development process works and the amount of time, work, review, and effort that come with it.”

“We feel a strong sense of purpose!”

# Upcoming Educator Opportunities 2016

- October 11-14, 2016:  
Passage and Item Review Meeting

Submit an  
application at:

<http://caaspp.org/reviewers.html>



# High-Level Proposed Timeline



September 2016	SBE Approved the Proposed High-Level Test Design for the CSA
March 2017	SBE action on the Proposed Test Blueprints and General Performance Level Descriptors
Fall 2017	Administration of the pilot test
Fall 2018	Administration of the field test
Spring 2019	Operational test

# Contact Information



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