

Available Resources

FOR THE

Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments

The following resources are designed for classroom educators to support their understanding of the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments for English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics. Additional resources are provided for site administration to use when communicating to parents/guardians about the assessments.

Fact Sheet

Answers general questions about various aspects and objectives of the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments.

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/documents/sbsummativefactsheet.pdf>

Overview Video

A three-minute video about how these assessments are based on the Common Core State Standards for ELA and mathematics.

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/castpilotvideo.asp>

Practice and Training Tests

Opportunities to become familiar with the types of test questions that may appear on the ELA and mathematics summative assessments.

- Online Practice and Training Test Portal
Direct access to the practice and training tests, available for all subjects and grade levels.
<http://www.caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html>
- How to Start a Training Test
Step-by-step instructions for how to access and start a training test.
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/documents/summativeqrgtraining.pdf>
- How to Start a Practice Test
Step-by-step instructions for how to access and start a practice test.
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/documents/summativeqrgpractice.pdf>
- Take a Practice Test with Your Child
A flyer that can be shared with parents/guardians who ask how they can learn more about the type of test questions their child might see on the summative assessments.
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ai/documents/caaspppractice.pdf>

Sample Items

Smarter Balanced website designed to provide examples of test questions used on the ELA and mathematics tests; provides sample test items by grade and subject.

<https://sampleitems.smarterbalanced.org/>

Parent Guide to Understanding

Designed for parents/guardians to address basic questions, such as who takes the assessments, why, when, and how; can be shared during back to school night, at teacher conferences, with the letter that notifies parents/guardians that their child will be taking yearly assessments, or with the annual Student Score Reports.

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/documents/sbsummativepgtu.pdf>

Resources for Parents Flyer

Designed for parents/guardians to provide general information about the CAASPP system; directs them to available resources for additional information that will give them a better understanding of their child's performance and progress.

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/documents/caasppparentres.pdf>

How to Start a Test Session

Step-by-step instructions for how to access and start a test session.

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/documents/summativetestsessionqrg.pdf>

For Site Administrators

Talking About the CAASPP System (Coming Soon)

Series of PowerPoint templates for site administrators to use when talking about the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments, the California Science Test, Student Score Reports, and results.

- Talking to Parents
- Talking to Educators
- Talking About the Student Score Reports
- Talking About Results

Parent Notification Letters

Sample letter templates to serve as notice to parents/guardians of the yearly statewide assessment and when sharing information about student scores.

- Notice of Administration
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/caasppadminnftyltr.asp>
- Student Score Report Letter Template
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/caasppprtscrptltr.asp>

