

Update: Smarter Balanced Assessments

Presentation to the California State Board of Education



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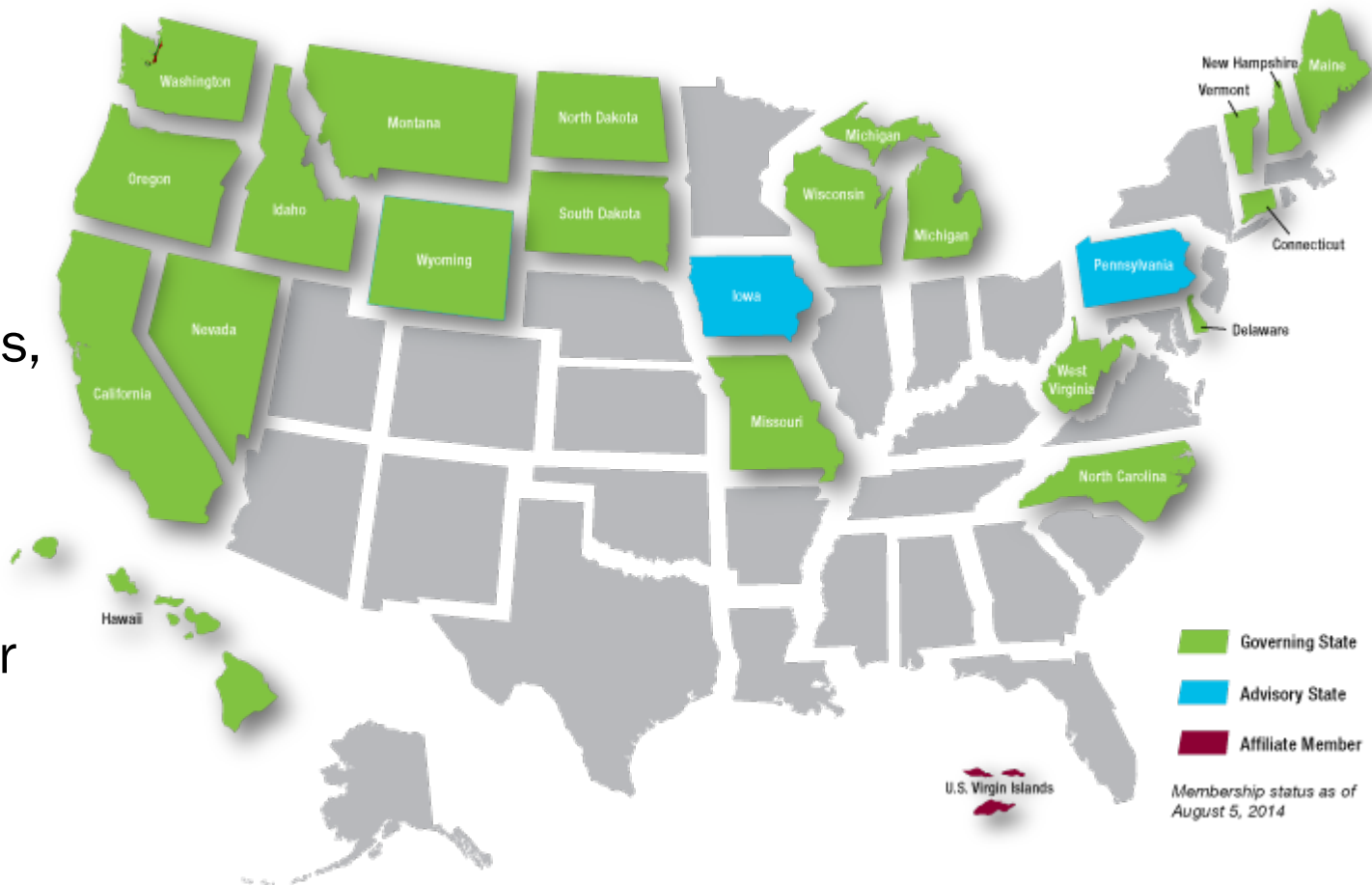


Topics

- Quick Overview – How many states?
- Transition from 2011 MOU to UCLA/CRESST MOU
 - Status of Federal Grant -- no-cost extension
 - State and Smarter Balanced (SB) roles in assessment implementation
 - Governance and Sustainability of Smarter Balanced Consortium
- The *Complete Assessment Package* and the 1 million student cap
- Paper and pencil options

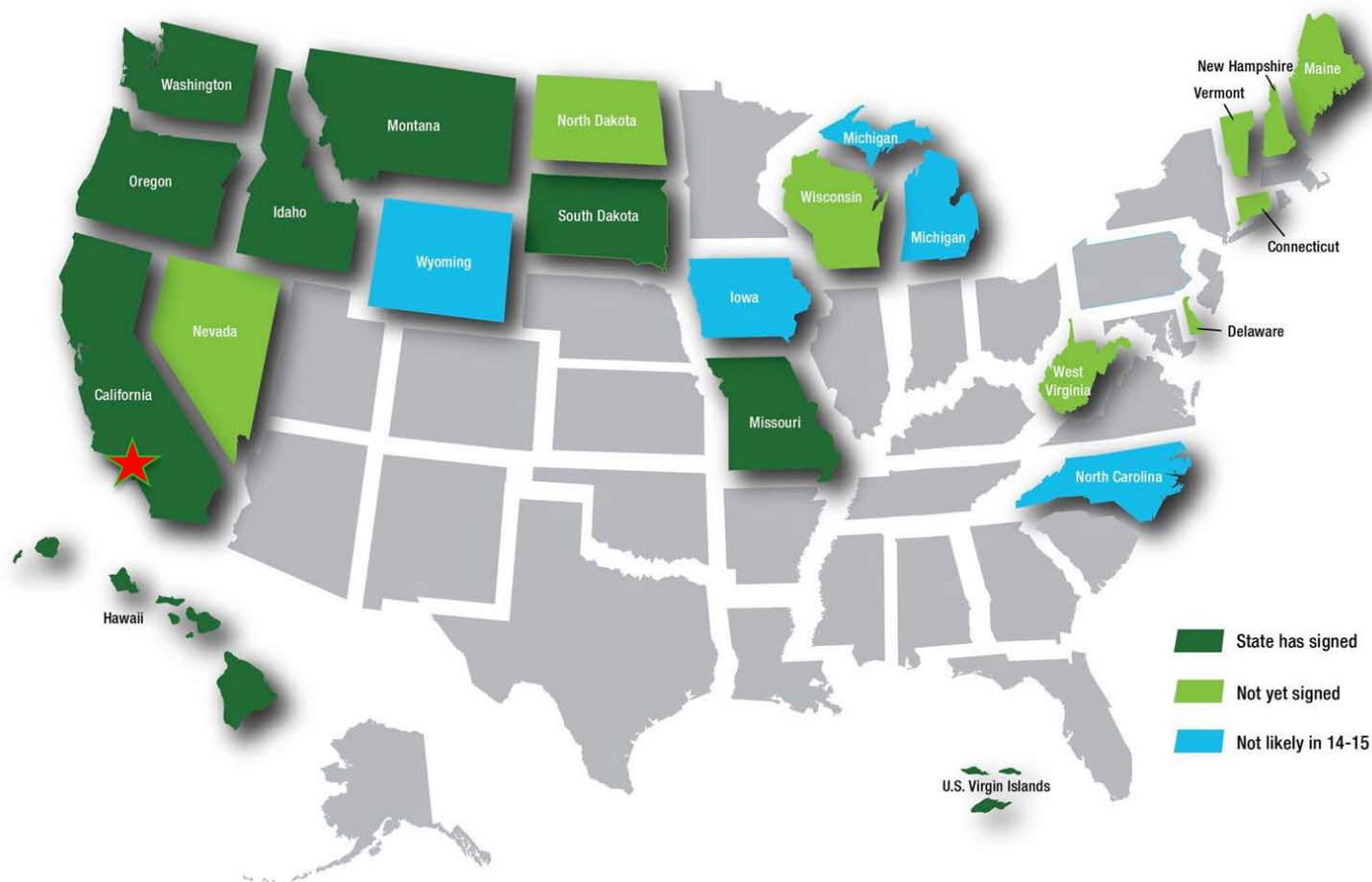
A State-Led Consortium

- 23 member states and territories
- 20 Governing States, 2 Advisory States, 1 Affiliate Member
- Washington is fiscal agent for USED grant



Moving Forward with UCLA

- With today's Board action 9 members will have signed the MOU with UCLA
- 9 more ready to sign this fall
- UCLA is home for Smarter Balanced



Changing from a Development Grant to an Operational Organization

What stays the same?

What changes?

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| Governance | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- States collectively govern, set direction and make policy decisions for SB<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Executive Committee makes logistical decisions- Staff provide support services to states |
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- No longer defined by USED
- Each member state receives support and technical services from UCLA

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| Finances | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- SB budget and staffing authorized by member states |
|-----------------|--|
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- SB activities now funded by states, not by USED
- Fiscal responsibility shifts from state of WA to UCLA

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| Assessment Operations | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Each state implements its own ESEA testing through a service provider- Each state fulfills its own ESEA requirements |
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- Each state starts using SB as its ESEA assessment
- SB provides support for ESEA requirements

2011 Memorandum of Understanding (USED Grant)

- 2011 MOU – States agreed to conditions to participate in SB development activities
- Original USED grant to Smarter Balanced
 - Purpose: Multi-state collaboration for assessment development
 - Grant period: 10-1-2010 thru 9-26-2014
 - No-cost extension granted through 12-31-2014
 - No additional federal funding
- “Governance Document” defines decision-making, officers, engagement, financial authority, etc.

UCLA/CRESST Memorandum of Understanding

- States and UCLA agree on fees in exchange for services and access to resources
- States retain autonomy to select own service provider for test administration, scoring and reporting
- SB (now at UCLA) provides services and resources common to all states:
 - Test delivery system and permission to use SB items;
 - Support of Digital Library and Interim Assessments;
 - Technical analyses for Peer Review, validity studies;
 - Ongoing item development and system enhancements;
 - Etc.
- “Governing Board Procedures” (to be approved by SB Governing States) defines decision-making, officers, engagement, financial authority, etc.

A Few Clarifications

- The “1 million student” cap
 - All member states pay the same per-student fee. For large states, the Gr. 3-8 and 11 fee is capped at 1 million students; meaning CA will receive services for all students, but only pay for the first million.
- Availability of Paper/Pencil tests
 - Paper/Pencil forms will be available for 3 years.
 - Smarter Balanced will design test booklets for use in all states, and will equate the P/P and online forms.
 - States (through their contractors) are obligated to pay for printing, distribution, and scanning of P/P forms.