***\*\*\*DRAFT\*\*\* Executive Summary*** imab-adad-nov21item01a01

***California Assessment System #CN220002*** Attachment 01

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# Attachment 1: Executive Summary for the ETS Contract to Deliver the California Assessment System from 2022–2023 through 2026–2027

Since 2015, the California State Board of Education (SBE) and the California Department of Education (CDE) have developed and implemented a statewide assessment system for California's schools and districts that provides data and resources in support of teaching and learning. The SBE and the CDE, with assistance from Educational Testing Service (ETS) and its partners, have sought to be as flexible and responsive as possible in meeting the changing needs of local educational agencies (LEAs) and serving the State’s students. This was done while continuing to improve the validity, reliability, and utility of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) and the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) California Assessment System—collectively known as the California Assessment System.

At the January 2021 meeting, the SBE authorized CDE for stage three to request from the potential contractors a formal written submission containing a proposed scope of work, a draft proposed budget, and a transition plan, contingent on the availability of an appropriation for this purpose. The CDE received approval from the SBE to include the following goals and priorities in the stage three draft scope of work from the potential contractors:

1. Enhance the development and administration of high-quality assessments of the California Assessment System through the 2022–27 school years (e.g., summative, interim, and formative assessments).
2. Continue to improve the robust assessment system to ensure efficient, effective, and accurate results with enhancements to support multiple administration modes.
3. Explore and advance technology solutions that meet system capacity, performance, and usability to the greatest extent possible.

In July 2021, the SBE directed the CDE to negotiate a new contract with ETS for five test administrations of the CAASPP and ELPAC systems beginning July 1, 2022, and continuing through December 31, 2027. ETS has committed to meeting the goals as stated by the SBE during its January 2021 and July 2021 meetings, as described below.

## Goal 1: Enhance the development and administration of high-quality assessments of the California Assessment System through the 2022–2027 school years (e.g., summative, interim, formative assessments).

Since 2015, ETS and its partners have successfully developed and administered high quality assessments of CAASPP and ELPAC to support the teaching and learning of California’s academic standards. In the new contract, ETS will:

* Provide ongoing development, administration, scoring, and reporting of the California Spanish Assessment (CSA); California Science Test (CAST); California Alternate Assessments (CAAs) for English language arts/literacy (ELA), Mathematics, and Science; Initial and Summative English Language Proficiency Assessment for California (ELPAC); and Initial and Summative Alternate ELPAC
* Target test development on content standards that need more items and accessibility supports for CSA, CAST, CAAs, ELPAC, and Alternate ELPAC
* Expand the CSA to assess speaking and writing in Spanish
* Design and develop new interim assessments for both the CAST and the ELPAC, along with training, local scoring, and reporting to the California Educator Reporting System (CERS)
* Provide administration, scoring, and reporting of Smarter Balanced Summative and Interim Assessments ELA and mathematics, as well as provide support to California educators to the formative resources available in Tools for Teachers
* Support test delivery of the California Assessment System to service at least two million concurrent users
* Enhance LEA outreach and support through increased training and professional learning opportunities
* Enhance the student score reports (SSRs) that improve the effectiveness of communications to parents and guardians
* Envision, develop, or provide for assessment innovations for CAST performance tasks embedded in learning, contingent on SBE approval

## Goal 2: Continue to improve the robust assessment system to ensure efficient, effective, and accurate results with enhancements to support multiple administration modes.

The California Assessment System provides key data to parent/guardians, educators, policy makers, and others to inform student progress and learning. The accuracy and timeliness of the results, as well as the effectiveness in how the results are communicated, is a central focus of this contract. In the new contract, ETS will:

* Develop, operate and maintain the California Reporting Datawarehouse (CARD)—a data warehouse customized to California’s requirements that will provide LEAs and the CDE with actionable and reliable data in one place to enable users to quickly access the information they need at the time when they need it, as feasible
* Continue to improve the accessibility and integration of assessment data to CDE and state data systems such as the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS), the California School Dashboard, and the California Cradle-to-Career Data System
* Conduct regular data-driven enhancements or, if needed, redesign the scoring and reporting tools as the assessments evolve
* Collaborate with the CDE to analyze and report the California growth model data visualization tools
* Pilot test and scale, as appropriate, new assessment types and features that transform the California Assessment System, such as providing scores from in-classroom performance tasks that may be combined with scores from end-of-year summative tests, contingent on SBE approval
* Reporting additional reading and mathematics measures as Lexiles and Quantiles, respectively, for students who take the Smarter Balanced Summative and Interim Assessments for ELA and mathematics
* Provide training and professional learning opportunities to LEAs about the assessments and the use of assessment data results to support teaching and learning
* Conduct special research studies to support the validity of the assessment system (e.g., process data analysis)
* Use automated, real-time information tools and business analytics to support LEAs with the progress of their test administration efforts

## Goal 3: Explore and advance technology solutions that meet system capacity, performance, and usability to the greatest extent possible.

The California Assessment System has evolved to provide the CDE and LEAs with the tools and resources to manage, administer, and to meet the needs of all assessments initially developed for CAASPP since the 2013–2014 Smarter Balanced field test, and later expanded to include the ELPAC. In the new contract, ETS will:

* Continue to operate single sign-on (SSO) through the California Identity Management System (CIMS) to ensure no interruption of access to Tools for Teachers and other CDE-approved resources
* Continue the support and expansion of multiple modes of test delivery, such as in-person, remote, one-on-one, and group administrations
* Provide ongoing support for the delivery of the California Assessment System to at least two million concurrent users, and the capacity to service up to three million concurrent users to ensure stability of delivery as the new interim assessments come online
* Continue to provide test results to parents and guardians through the delivery of electronic student score reports to LEAs through their student information systems in an efficient and timely manner, including the possible augmentation of embedded reports of results, as necessary, to increase parent or guardian engagement, contingent on SBE approval
* Implement assessment innovations for the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments, CAST, and other SBE-approved assessments
* Use innovations in automated scoring and make improvements to the hand-scoring processes to enable faster scoring and reporting
* Use business analytics to automate technology system health monitoring and test administration progress
* Integrate the CAASPP and ELPAC data reporting processes into CARD

The Scope of Work (Attachment 2) provides additional information about the activities that support the goals. The Scope of Work describes the required activities, deliverables, and timelines in detail by task to be accomplished for the new contract period, beginning on July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2027.

There are several attachments that provide budget information in support of the Scope of Work, as follows:

* The Budget Summary provides an overview of the work that supports the Scope of Work by task and by fiscal year (FY) (Attachment 3);
* A more detailed Budget by task and assessment program by fiscal year and test administration year (Attachment 4) is provided in an Excel format with the following separate tabs:
  + The *Form A FY Summary* tab consists of a Summary of the Proposed Budget by Fiscal Year 2022–23 through 2027–28
  + The *Form A FY Budget 2022–23 Admin* tab consists of the Proposed Budget by Fiscal Year for the 2022–23 Test Administration Cycle
  + The *Form B 2022–23 Admin* tab consists of the Proposed Budget for the 2022–23 Test Administration Cycle
  + The *Form A FY Budget 2023–24 Admin* tab consists of the Proposed Budget by Fiscal Year for the 2023–24 Test Administration Cycle
  + The *Form B 2023–24 Admin* tab consists of the Proposed Budget for the 2023–24 Test Administration Cycle
  + The *Form A FY Budget 2024–25 Admin* tab consists of the Proposed Budget by Fiscal Year for the 2024–25 Test Administration Cycle
  + The *Form B 2024–25 Admin* tab consists of the Proposed Budget for the 2024–25 Test Administration Cycle
  + The *Form A FY Budget 2025–26 Admin* tab consists of the Proposed Budget by Fiscal Year for the 2025–26 Test Administration Cycle
  + The *Form B 2025–26 Admin* tab consists of the Proposed Budget for the 2025–26 Test Administration Cycle
  + The *Form A FY Budget 2026–27 Admin* tab consists of the Proposed Budget by Fiscal Year for the 2026–27 Test Administration Cycle
  + The *Form B 2026–27 Admin* tab consists of the Proposed Budget for the 2026–27 Test Administration Cycle
  + The *Form A FY Budget 2027–28 Admin* tab consists of the Proposed Budget by Fiscal Year for the 2027–28 Test Administration Cycle. The 2027–28 costs cover the contract transition period of July 1, 2027 through December 31, 2027.
  + The *Form B 2027–28 Admin* tab consists of the Proposed Budget for the 2027–28 Test Administration Cycle. The 2027–28 costs cover the contract transition period of July 1, 2027 through December 31, 2027.
* The Narrative for the Budget Summary (Attachment 5) is organized in the same order as Budget Form B in the budget summary. The purpose of this document is to provide supporting information to the budget summary.

Funding for 2022–23 and beyond will be contingent on an annual appropriation being made available from the Legislature in future fiscal years.

Exhibits B through E (Attachments 6 through 9) include the provisions, terms and conditions required as part of the new contract. Exhibit E: Additional Provisions (Attachment 9) includes the criteria for successful completion of component tasks that will determine the annual release of the ten percent retained from progress payments invoiced for each component task associated in the Scope of Work.