

Smarter Balanced Training Tests, Practice Tests, and Interim Assessments

At-a-Glance

There are many tools available to teachers to gauge their students' learning, prepare them for the summative and alternate assessments for English Language Arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics, and engage families in student learning. This document provides a side-by-side comparison of training tests, practice tests, and interim assessments to help teachers decide which tool best fits their needs.

Information	Training Tests	Practice Tests	Interim Assessments
Purpose	Allow students to become familiar with the testing interface and available accessibility resources.	Provide students with opportunities to become familiar with the format and structure of a summative assessment.	Provide teachers with information on student performance to help gauge the knowledge and skills of students.
Grade Levels	One test available for grade spans: 3–5, 6–8, and high school.	One test available for each tested grade level: 3–8 and high school.	One mathematics and one ELA Interim Comprehensive Assessment (ICA) and multiple Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs) for each tested grade level: 3–8 and high school.
Items	Approximately 6 items for both ELA and mathematics per grade span.	Approximately 30 ELA items, 30 mathematics items, 1 ELA performance task, and 1 mathematics performance task per grade level.	Approximately 5 to 15 items for IABs, and 35 to 50 items for ICAs. Some IABs and all ICAs require hand scoring.
Scoring	No scoring guides available.	Scoring guides are available to assist in scoring.	Answer keys and hand scoring guides are available. Results are reported once all scoring (including hand scoring) has been completed and submitted.
Logon	Available to anyone through a guest logon at https://www.caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html .	Available to anyone through a guest logon at https://www.caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html .	Available to local education agency (LEA) staff who log on with their assigned Test Operations Management System (TOMS) credentials.
Opportunities	Unlimited number of testing opportunities.	Unlimited number of testing opportunities.	Unlimited number of testing opportunities for IABs. Up to three opportunities for each student per ICA.

Find additional information on the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress Practice and Training Test web page at <https://www.caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html>.

For more information about the California assessments, visit the California Department of Education Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/sbacinterimassess.asp>.

