The information below will help local educational agencies (LEAs) determine when to administer the California Science Test (CAST) or the California Alternate Assessment (CAA) for Science to high school students. High school students will take a science test aligned with the California Next Generation Science Standards. All students must take a science test by the end of grade twelve. Students will have only one opportunity to take a science test in high school (i.e., in grade ten, eleven, or twelve).

It is recommended that students take the test when they are enrolled in their last science course. They will take either the CAST or the CAA for Science, which is designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

Grade 12

Students in grade twelve who have not yet taken a science test will automatically be registered to test. Students who are repeating grade twelve are not eligible to test.

Grade 10 or 11

LEAs can elect to administer a science test to students in grade ten or eleven who have not previously taken a science test in high school.

- If a registered grade ten or eleven student has been designated with a medical exemption (NTE) or a parent/guardian exemption (PGE), the student will no longer be eligible to test in future administrations.
- If a registered grade ten or eleven student did not take the science test, the student is still eligible to test in a future administration.

Grade 9

Grade nine students are not eligible to take the science test.

More information about the CAST and CAA for Science can be found on the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress System web page at https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/.