
BRAILLE HYBRID ADAPTIVE TEST (HAT) AND BRAILLE HAT ADJUSTED

This document includes information about a testing option for students using braille for the mathematics assessments in grades 3-8 and High School. American Printing House for the Blind (APH) and Smarter Balanced will offer consortium members—through their service providers—the option of pre-embossed tactile mathematics graphics for the online Braille Hybrid Adaptive Test (HAT) or Braille Hybrid Adaptive Test (HAT) Adjusted in grades 3-8 and High School.

- ▶ Service providers who can support this option will provide the Braille HAT or Braille HAT Adjusted and will facilitate the order of pre-embossed tactile graphics on behalf of members.
- ▶ Students who are blind or visually impaired and are taking the braille version of the assessment can take the Braille HAT or Braille HAT Adjusted option, if available in their state/territory.
- ▶ Smarter Balanced will cover all costs for the pre-embossed tactile graphics orders and shipping.
- ▶ APH accepts orders for pre-embossed tactile graphic sets from service providers.
- ▶ Graphic supplements will be shipped to each location as instructed by service providers.
- ▶ Two test packages containing the Braille HAT and Braille HAT Adjusted forms are available to service providers on the Smarter Balanced secure FX site.
- ▶ Two lists of item IDs that comprise these options are available on the Smarter Balanced secure FX site. Questions can be directed to [Vitaliy Shyyan](#), Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE MATHEMATICS BRAILLE HAT IN GRADES 3-8 AND HIGH SCHOOL?

The mathematics Braille HAT or Braille HAT Adjusted provides additional secure Summative Assessment options for districts and schools to make available to students who use braille. The Braille HAT or Braille HAT Adjusted provides students access to an efficient computer adaptive test that reduces logistical burdens for educators and students. This online form serves as an alternative to the computer adaptive and paper fixed form options. The Braille HAT or Braille HAT Adjusted options allow districts or schools to order a set of pre-embossed graphics for a student's mathematics test in cases where the student would not otherwise have access to a graphic braille embosser that functions with the Smarter Balanced assessment. The student is able to use the online test administration platform with assistive technology, including embedded accessibility resources, while also accessing the pre-embossed graphics.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE BRAILLE HAT FULL AND BRAILLE HAT ADJUSTED FORMS?

Some Smarter Balanced members are providing the Summative Assessment which covers the full summative blueprint, while some members are providing students with an [adjusted summative blueprint](#). In order to ensure that students have equitable access, two Braille HAT forms are being provided: Braille HAT (full) and Braille HAT Adjusted. There are minor differences in the graphics packages between the Braille HAT and Braille HAT Adjusted forms to account for the differences between the full and adjusted blueprints.

HOW CAN CONSORTIUM MEMBERS ORDER THE MATHEMATICS ONLINE BRAILLE HAT FOR GRADES 3-8 AND HIGH SCHOOL?

Consortium members need to establish the process by which the Braille HAT or Braille HAT Adjusted options are made available to schools. Members should consider implementing a process by which schools can contact state/territory personnel to place orders. Member service providers will help members place orders directly with APH. When ordering, please specify to APH whether your state is following the Braille HAT (full) or Braille HAT Adjusted form. It is likely that a very small number of students will need to have access to these forms.

WHAT BRAILLE CODES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE BRAILLE HAT IN GRADES 3-8 AND HIGH SCHOOL?

The Braille HAT and Braille HAT Adjusted are available in Unified English Braille (UEB) with Nemeth math code (contracted and uncontracted), and UEB with UEB Math code (contracted and uncontracted). Member service providers should consult with the student's Teacher for the Visually Impaired to ensure the correct assessment and code are selected for the student.

DO THE PRE-EMBOSSSED GRAPHICS FOR THE MATHEMATICS BRAILLE HAT IN GRADES 3-8 AND HIGH SCHOOL NEED TO BE SECURELY RECYCLED AFTER EACH ADMINISTRATION?

No. In cases for which there is more than one student in a school who will benefit from the pre-embossed graphics, the pre-embossed graphics may be securely stored and provided in support of additional students' tests at different times (i.e. students may not share the same pre-embossed graphic at the same time). When pre-embossed graphics are used by more than one student, a Test Administrator must review the materials to ensure that no markings or information are transcribed onto the sheets in a manner that would compromise the validity of results. After the school has completed testing for students who benefit from having access to the pre-embossed graphics, the pre-embossed graphics must be securely recycled.