



Student Assessment News

Connecticut State Department of Education • Performance Office

October 7, 2021

[Archived Student Assessment News](#)
CTStudentAssessment@ct.gov

2020-21 Smarter Balanced Achievement Results on EdSight Secure

Use the quick links below to access articles and/or sections included in this newsletter.

Page 2
[Special Populations Updates](#)

Page 4
[English Learner Updates](#)

Page 5
[2021-22 Assessment Calendar](#)

[COVID Resources for Educators and Families](#)

The 2020-21 Smarter Balanced Achievement results are now available on EdSight Secure. In addition to the new year (2020-21) of data, users are able to:

- **View charts disaggregated by student learning model** (Fully/Mostly In-Person, Fully/Mostly Remote, Hybrid) **and remotely proctored status** (Remotely Proctored, Not Remotely Proctored).

To access these reports, on the Report page, select the variable of interest from either the Select Filter By 1 or Select Filter By 2 dropdown. Please note that these variables are not available prior to the 2020-21 school year.

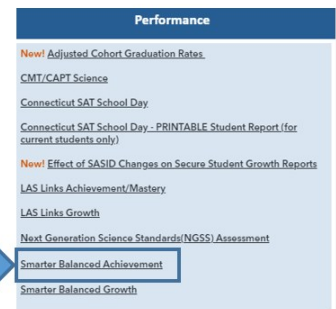
- **Filter data by student learning model and remotely proctored status.**

To access these reports, on the Report and Student Level Data pages, use the Student Learning Model and Remotely Proctored filters located at the top of the page.

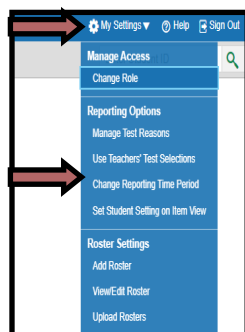
- **View Student Learning Model and Remotely Proctored as variables included in all list tables.**

Please note that these variables will be blank (Student Learning Model) or N/A (Remotely Proctored) for school years prior to 2020-21.

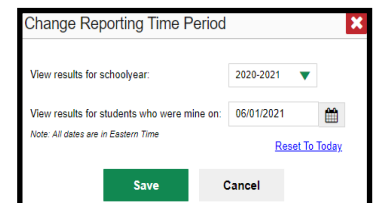
As a reminder, the Smarter Balanced Achievement report is accessible from the [EdSight Secure](#) homepage under the Performance heading.



The Centralized Reporting System



To view the spring 2021 Smarter Balanced, NGSS, and the Connecticut Alternate Assessments summative results from the secure Centralized Reporting System, select the My Settings drop-down menu from the top-right corner of the reporting platform and choose the Change Reporting Time Period option. Set results to the 2020-21 school year and Save.



Connecticut Alternate Assessment



Connecticut Alternate Science Assessment



Connecticut SAT School Day



Special Populations Updates

Annual Online Training Available for Teachers Administering the Connecticut Alternate Assessments

[The 2020-21 Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Training](#)—Required for Teachers Administering the Alternate (TEAs) is now available. The training course link, along with all other relevant training resources, can be found on the Alternate Assessment webpage located on the [Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal](#).

Training consists of four modules that address the eligibility process, test procedures related to math, ELA, and science, and other test considerations. A selection of resources from the portal and TEA tips are included below:

Resources

Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Training [Overview for the Teachers Administering the Alternate](#) and [Overview for District Administrators](#)

[Connecticut Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form](#)

[Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Participation Guidance for Planning and Placement Teams Flowchart](#)

Tips for TEAs

1. Confirm you have been assigned the user role of TEA by your District Administrator (DA) in TIDE.
2. Verify that you can access the TIDE system with your username and established password.
3. Following the completion of the four training sessions, take and pass the quiz with a score of 80% or greater, which will activate your trained status in TIDE. Download and save the Certificate of Completion for your records.
4. Confirm that your trained status is activated to YES in your TIDE user profile.

SY 2021-22 Reminder for Students Using Braille Test Booklets

As a reminder, EBAE contracted and uncontracted are no longer offered for students using braille Smarter Balanced math and ELA assessments. Available braille presentations include:

Math	ELA	Science
UEB Contracted + Nemeth Math	UEB Contracted (No Math Content)	UEB Contracted + Nemeth
UEB Uncontracted + Nemeth Math	UEB Uncontracted (No Math Content)	
UEB Contracted + UEB Math		
UEB Uncontracted + UEB Math		

TIDE User Role Updates for Smarter, NGSS, CTAA and CTAS

Schools and districts should set time aside to review their TIDE users for this year. Please take a moment to update contact information regarding changes to the District Administrator (DA) role, or those associated as District Test Coordinators (DCs), School Test Coordinators (SCs), teachers (TEs) and Teachers Administering the Alternate Assessment (TEAs). Refer to the [Test Information Distribution Engine \(TIDE\) User Guide](#) for details on this process.

Special Populations Updates

Updated Resources for 2021-22

- ◇ [Embedded and Non-Embedded Designated Supports for English Learners](#)
- ◇ [Translation Glossary](#) (for Math)
- ◇ [Guidelines for Choosing Text-to-Speech](#), the Decision Guidelines for Text-to-Speech of the Smarter Balanced ELA Reading Passages and other related resources
- ◇ [Smarter Balanced Braille Options](#)
- ◇ [Testing Students in PSIS Who Attend Out-of-State Facilities or In-State Non-Approved Facilities](#)

Setting Designated Supports and Accommodations for Interim Assessments

Designated Supports (online tools available to any student that would benefit based on educator recommendation) can be entered directly into TIDE by the District Administrator (DA) or School Test Coordinator (SC) either manually or via the upload process. These supports will be immediately visible to the test administrator in the TA Interface and will be immediately available to the student for use while taking the Interim Assessment Block (IAB). Once a designated support is set in TIDE, this setting will persist unless modified.

While designated supports are persistent in TIDE over time, accommodations (both Embedded and Non-Embedded), available to students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan, should be entered manually by the test administrator using the TA Interface prior to the approval/administration of an Interim Assessment Block. Note: The Test Administrator will need to set accommodations for each applicable student every time an IAB is administered. After the PSIS upload on November 19, 2021, accommodations can be set in TIDE for students with the activated IDEA or 504 Indicator. For more information, please refer to these brochures:

[Manually Entering Designated Supports and Accommodations](#)

[Managing Student Test Settings in TIDE](#)

[Test Information Distribution Engine \(TIDE\) User Guide](#)

[Smarter Balanced Interim Assessment Test Administration Manual \(TAM\)](#)

The memo, [Supporting the Assessment of Connecticut Students During School Year 2021-22](#), was emailed on October 5, 2021 to District Administrators in TIDE (DAs), Special Education Directors, and English Learner Assessment Coordinators (ELACs). This memo includes information, resources, and critical dates for 2021-22 summative testing. These topics will be clarified further in future correspondence and assessment program specific training sessions.

English Learner Updates

ELAC Workshops

Registration opens October 11, 2021, for English Learner Assessment Coordinator (ELAC) Training for the LAS Links assessment administration. All district ELACs are urged to attend one of the sessions as the training has been significantly restructured with increased attention on the administration difficulties districts regularly encounter. ELACs can select one of the following links to register.

[Monday, November 8, 2021, 9 AM – 12 PM](#)

[Tuesday, November 9, 2021, 12 PM – 3 PM](#)

[Wednesday, November 10, 2021, 9 AM-12 PM](#)

Information Technology Contact for LAS Links

Districts are required to report an Information Technology (IT) contact by October 8 who will support the LAS Links assessment. The IT Coordinator must complete a [survey](#) found in the [Supporting English Learners During the 2021-22 School Year letter](#). Once the LAS Links Lead IT Coordinator has submitted the survey, they will receive an invitation to register for one of the two LAS Links IT Webinars, which will be on Monday, November 1, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. ET and Wednesday, December 1, 2021, at 12:00 p.m. ET.

LAS Links Parent Letter

A revised English version of the LAS Links letter to parents/guardians that explains the Student Proficiency Report has been posted on the [CT DRC LAS Links](#) site in the Scoring and Reporting section: [Explanation Student Report Parent Letter English](#). This letter will be translated into the top six native languages spoken by Connecticut's ELs: Arabic, Mandarin, Haitian-Creole, Polish, Portuguese, and Spanish. Translations be posted on the CT DRC LAS Links site in the next two weeks in the Scoring and Reporting section.

Performance Matters Forum

December 8, 2021

**Connecticut Convention
Center**



Student Assessment News: October 7, 2021

Summative Assessment Calendar for 2021-22

Assessment	Dates
LAS Links	January 3-March 4, 2022
NGSS	February 7-June 3, 2022 (Grade 11) March 28-June 3, 2022 (Grades 5 and 8)
Connecticut SAT School Day	March 23-25 and 29-30, 2022 Make-up Window: April 26-28, 2022
Connecticut Alternate Assessment—CTAA	March 28-June 3, 2022
Connecticut Alternate Science Assessment—CTAS (Administered throughout the year)	(Upload Window for Submission through the Data Entry Interface (DEI)) March 28-June 3, 2022 (Grades 5, 8, and 11)
Connecticut Smarter Balanced Assessments	March 28-June 3, 2022

For the 2021-22 school year, all students are expected to be assessed on all applicable state assessments, including the **Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment (CPFA)**. The assessment schedule was announced in a [memorandum dated July 19, 2021](#). As was the case last year, the CSDE expects that when administering the CPFA, all health and safety protocols will be followed. Moreover, students who would normally be tested this year (e.g., all 6th graders) should be tested and reported through the ED165. While students who should have been tested either in 2019-20 or 2020-21 but were not tested due to the pandemic, can be administered “make up” assessments in 2021-22 to inform instruction and track student goals, these “make up” assessment results should not be reported to the CSDE.

Register for email updates

To automatically receive the *Student Assessment News* and/or other announcements, [register for e-mail updates](#) on the Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal.

