



Student Assessment News

Connecticut State Department of Education • Performance Office

September 2, 2022

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

State Assessment Results Show Signs of Learning Acceleration and Recovery

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Results from the 2021-22 Summative Assessments are [available on EdSight](#). The results show that there are some signs of learning acceleration and recovery, however, overall student achievement still lags pre-pandemic levels. The [Performance Index](#) – the best measure of overall average achievement in a content area – shows that while achievement was increasing prior to the pandemic, the achievement in 2021-22 is still below the three most recent pre-pandemic years. This is true for students with high needs (i.e., English learners, students with disabilities, and/or students from low-income families) and those without high needs, thus illustrating the widespread impact of the pandemic on student achievement. These Performance Index changes translate to declines in student proficiency of around 6 to 8 percentage points in English language arts and mathematics and around 4 percentage points in science.

To track academic recovery, the CSDE recently created a [Pandemic Recovery dashboard](#) on EdSight. This dashboard compares how the Performance Index in 2021-22 has changed from 2018-19. These data, which are presented for all districts, schools, and student groups, also show many signs of learning acceleration and recovery.

Links to all assessment related EdSight reports are listed below.

- [Performance Index](#)
- [Pandemic Recovery Dashboard](#)
- [Smarter Balanced Achievement/Participation](#)
- [Smarter Balanced Growth Model](#)
- [Smarter Balanced Rough Cohort Dashboard](#)
- [Next Generation Science Standards \(NGSS\) Assessment](#)
- [Connecticut School Day SAT](#)

Connecticut SAT School Day Updates

In preparation for **2023 Connecticut SAT digital test**, an email will be sent from Michelle Rosado on September 6 to all 2022 Connecticut SAT School Day Coordinators. The email will contain a link to a survey that must be completed by one person in each high school. The purpose of the survey is to collect updated contact information for each school. The following information will be collected: school coordinator name and email, SSD coordinator name/email, principal name/email and technology coordinator name/email. Please contact [Michelle Rosado](#) if you have any questions.



Connecticut Alternate Assessment



Connecticut Alternate Science Assessment



CONNECTICUT SAT School Day

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Physical Fitness Individual Student Assessment Results Collection

Beginning in 2022-23 school year, the CSDE will begin collecting **individual student assessment results** for the Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment (CPFA). Districts will be required to provide the scores for **all four CPFA** components for **all students** in tested grades. This modification will enable the CSDE to recognize, for accountability purposes, the participation of some groups of students who may have not been formally rated on the CPFA in the past (e.g., non-binary students who chose not to be held to a gender-based standard or students needing an alternate assessment). The data collection application is expected to open in late 2022. More information will be provided later in the fall. In the meantime, going forward, **districts should retain individual scores for ALL tested students and ALL four components so that they can be submitted through the system.** The CSDE worked closely with physical education leaders from several districts to design the collection in a manner that is least burdensome for districts. Please contact Abe Krisst at abe.krisst@ct.gov with any questions.

Contact Information and Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) User Accounts

Please take time to review and update user accounts and contact information related to each assessment program and system (e.g., user roles, TIDE, Data Recognition Corporation InSight Portal). If you are a new District Administrator, please contact our office if you require assistance setting up your TIDE account for Smarter Balanced, Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and the Alternate Assessment System. District administrators should delete accounts for inactive users. Please reference the [Test Information Distribution Engine \(TIDE\) User Guide](#) regarding viewing, adding, editing and deleting user roles. (Note: these updates do not apply to the College Board's TIDE system though coordinators will have access to the College Board's TIDE system prior to testing. Details are forthcoming.) Please reference the [DRC InSight Portal Users Guide](#) regarding user roles for the LAS Links.

The following roles are critical to maintain effective communication for all assessment programs:

Procedure to Update Assessment Contacts	
User Role	Procedure
District Administrator for Testing (DA)	Contact: ctstudentassessment@ct.gov
English Learner Assessment Coordinator (ELAC)	Request District Contact Manger Writer to update the ELAC information*
Information Technology (IT) Coordinator for LAS Links	Contact: LASLinksPM@DataRecognitionCorp.com

* Each Local Education Agency (LEA) has one or more individuals assigned the Contacts Manager Writer user role who can update contact information for any of the directories listed in Contacts Manager including ELAC.

Smarter Balanced is seeking educators to participate in a virtual **Math Educator Committee Item Review on October 17-20, 2022**. The workdays will begin at 12:00 pm and will not exceed six hours. A half-hour dinner break will be provided. **If you are available to participate, please complete the online application.** Smarter Balanced will reimburse for substitutes. If you have any questions, please contact [Michelle Rosado](#).

Special Populations Updates

Special Education Data System (CT-SEDS)

The CSDE Bureau of Special Education (BSE) implemented a new Individualized Education Program (IEP) on July 1, 2022, known as the Special Education Data System (CT-SEDS) for the 2022-23 school year. As districts transition to this system in the year ahead, there may be different processes for the assessment system when compared to previous years. For example, the Department is planning to conduct nightly syncs with TIDE (anticipated on November 14, 2022) to account for those designated supports and accommodations in an IEP/504 Plan finalized in CT-SEDS. Designated supports and accommodations documented in draft status within CT-SEDS, or those plans not yet added to CT-SEDS, must be manually added, or uploaded to TIDE locally on or after November 14, 2022, for those students with an active IEP or Section 504 plan as designated in the Public School Information System (PSIS). More information will be forthcoming.

Certain processes, such as the completion of a petition for certain special documented accommodations (e.g., a Read Aloud of ELA Reading Passages or Scribe) will not be required if the accommodation is approved in the student's IEP/504 plan and finalized in CT-SEDS by March 1, 2023. CT-SEDS also includes an embedded Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form for the PPT to complete to ensure eligibility. **However, regardless of IEP status in CT-SEDS, all eligibility forms must be submitted in the Data Entry Interface to register students for an alternate assessment during the 2022-23 school year.**

New Alternate Assessment for English Language Proficiency

Beginning with the 2022-23 school year, the **Collaborative for the Alternate Assessment of English Language Proficiency (CAAELP)** assessment should be made available to districts. This test is designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities in Grades K-12 who are dually identified as an EL/ML and receive services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Historically, these students did not participate in the LAS Links Assessment because an alternate assessment was not available.

Eligible students are determined at each annual Planning and Placement Team (PPT) meeting. PPTs should use the [2022-23 Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form](#) and corresponding [resources](#) to confirm student eligibility. Approved eligibility forms must be submitted into the Data Entry Interface by the trained teacher between **November 14 and December 23, 2022**.

Information about the new CAAELP assessment was provided in [the Summer Student Assessment Updates for the 2022-23 School Year](#) memo emailed on July 18, 2022. More details about the CAAELP, including resources for teachers and training, will be provided over the coming months.

Please reach out to Ada Kovaci-Kume at ada.kovaci-kume@ct.gov or Abe Krist at abe.krist@ct.gov for more information.

Special Populations Updates

Revised Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form and Process for Teachers Administering Alternate Assessments

The Connecticut Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form, and associated resources, are revised for the 2022-23 school year to include the **Collaborative for the Alternate Assessment of English Language Proficiency (CAAELP)**. Any eligibility determination for the Alternate Assessment System conducted during a PPT for the 2022-23 school year will use the updated [Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form](#).

Teachers administering alternate assessments play a critical role in registering students for the Connecticut Alternate Assessment System. The first step in this process is for District Administrators (DAs in TIDE) to identify which teachers will administer an alternate assessment in the year ahead. DAs should review their TIDE System to ensure that teachers are assigned a TEA user role, and that their contact information is updated, if they have a preexisting account. All TEAs must then complete the required annual online training, available in mid-September 2022. This required training grants the teacher-trained status and access to important assessment systems, such as the Data Entry Interface (DEI). This DEI access is necessary to submit their student’s Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form by the appropriate deadlines. While training will remain open through the school year, please encourage your teachers to complete it early in effort to meet eligibility form submission deadlines. **However, regardless of IEP status in CT-SEDS, all eligibility forms must be submitted in the Data Entry Interface to register students for an alternate assessment during the 2022-23 school year.**

Given that statewide assessment programs have different testing windows, the submission deadlines vary. For instance, students that qualify for the CAAELP must have eligibility forms submitted by December 23, 2022, to ensure that everything is in place (both locally and at the state-level) prior to the start of the assessment window of February 1, 2023.

Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form Submission Dates through the Data Entry Interface (DEI)	Connecticut Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form Submission Phases
November 14, 2022 – December 23, 2022	Eligibility forms must be submitted into the DEI between November 14 – December 23, 2022 , for the following students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students in Grade 11 who qualify for the Alternate Assessment System • Students in Grades K-12 who are dually identified as an English learner/multilingual learner (EL/ML) <u>and</u> receive services under IDEA who qualify for the CAAELP and/or CTAA/CTAS.
November 14, 2022 – March 1, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students in Grades 3-8 who qualify for the Alternate Assessment System • Any new student in Grade 11 or a newly identified EL/ML who qualifies for the CAAELP and/or CTAA/CTAS.
*Late submissions will only be permitted for those students newly identified for eligibility. In this case, submissions after March 1, 2023, will require the TEA to contact the Connecticut Cambium Assessment Incorporated Help Desk at 844-202-7583 to activate the Alt Flag Indicator. If this does not occur, students will only have access to the standard assessments (Smarter Balanced and the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Assessments).	

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Summative Assessment Calendar for 2022-23

Assessment	Dates
English Language Proficiency Assessment-LAS Links	January 3-March 3, 2023
CAAELP (Alternate Assessment of English Language Proficiency)	February 1-March 31, 2023
CT SAT School Day	March 22-24 and March 28-29, 2023; Additional make up dates: April 25-28, 2023
NGSS	February 6-June 2, 2023 (Grade 11) March 27-June 2, 2023 (Grades 5 and 8)
Connecticut Alternate Assessment—CTAA	March 27-June 2, 2023
Connecticut Alternate Science Assessment—CTAS (Administered throughout the year)	(Upload Window for Submission through the DEI: CTAS Student Score Worksheet) March 27-June 2, 2023 (Grades 5, 8, and 11)
Connecticut Smarter Balanced Assessments	March 27-June 2, 2023
Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment	Anytime during the school year

Performance Matters Forum
October 13, 2022
Connecticut Convention Center
Registration opens September 9!



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