

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/>

Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium

Update from the California Department of Education

Issue 74—Week of Monday, February 17, 20

The California Department of Education (CDE) Smarter Balanced update is a bimonthly e-mail that reports on current and upcoming Smarter Balanced development activities. To join the CDE Smarter Balanced e-mail list, send a blank e-mail to subscribe-caaspp@mlist.cde.ca.gov

Access to Test Information Distribution Engine System Now Available for LEAs

The online Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) system for California users, along with the *TIDE User Guide* for California users, are now available on the California Smarter Balanced Field Test Portal at <http://sbac.portal.airast.org/ca/field-test-ca/>. TIDE allows authorized users to create new administrative users and modify roles within their local educational agency and manage default test settings and accommodations for students.

Field Test Training Modules and Informational Videos for Local Educational Agencies

Online training modules are available through the California Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium Field Test portal to assist LEA staff and students in preparing for the Smarter Balanced Field Test. The portal is available at <http://sbac.portal.airast.org/ca/field-test-ca/>. The videos, which vary in length from about five to 60 minutes, provide information topics such as:

- What is a Field Test?
- The Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE)
- Universal Tools
- What is a CAT (Computer Adaptive Test)?
- Performance Task Overview
- Student Interface for Online Testing
- Technology Requirements for Online Testing
- Accessibility and Accommodations
- Test Administrator Interface for Online Testing

In addition to these modules, two new videos are available that provide information to high school and middle school students about the Smarter Balanced Field Test. The videos introduce students to the Field Test and explain the significant contribution they will make in helping to create the operational tests for 2014–15. The videos are posted at the following links:

- High school video: <http://youtu.be/DXXd451e580>
- Middle school video: <http://youtu.be/YKerb7NsDUE>

Additional Information

Additional information about Smarter Balanced is available on the CDE Smarter Balanced Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/smarterbalanced.asp>. General questions about the Smarter Balanced assessments should be directed to the CDE California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) Office by phone at [916-445-8765](tel:916-445-8765) or by e-mail at caaspp@cde.ca.gov.