

California Department of Education (<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/altassessmentflash1.asp>)

Page Generated: 3/5/2015 3:10:41 PM

Alternate Assessment Flash #1

This page contains the first flash regarding the successor alternate assessment.

This alternate assessment flash from the California Department of Education (CDE) provides updates about the successor to the California Alternate Performance Assessment (CAPA) for students with significant cognitive disabilities. Please forward these flash announcements to all educators who may want to stay apprised of the latest information about alternate assessments.

The name for the successor to the CAPA in English language-arts (ELA) and mathematics is the Alternate Performance Assessments for California (APAC). Future flashes will be titled under the new name.

In July 2014, the State Board of Education directed the CDE to eliminate the CAPA in ELA and mathematics.


Testing Windows

The APAC field test in ELA and mathematics for all eligible students with significant cognitive disabilities will be administered April 15 through June 10, 2015. This window is for the APAC 2015 field test administration only. All testing, including makeup testing, must be completed during this window.

Field Test Specifications

The APAC field test items are aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and based on the Core Content Connectors (additional information is available at the [Alternate Assessments Web page](#)) developed by the National Center and State Collaborative (NCSC), and are developed with three levels of complexity. The field test will consist of approximately 15 items and the administration of the APAC field test will take approximately 45 to 90 minutes for each content area. A paper and pencil version of the APAC field test will not be available.

Technology Requirements


The APAC field test is a computer-based assessment, and the technology requirements are the same as those for the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments. Information on the specific technology requirements of the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments can be found on the Educational Testing Service (ETS) [California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress \(CAASPP\) Web site](#) .

Alternate Assessment Field Test Registration

Local educational agencies (LEAs) currently have the ability to upload files to the Test Operations Management System (TOMS) indicating which students in grades 3–8, and grade 11 should be enrolled for the APAC field test in ELA and mathematics.

Beginning on March 6, 2015, these students will appear as registered for the APAC field test and CAPA science in the student roster report. LEAs will then have the ability to view, add, or modify APAC and CAPA science registration for individual students within TOMS prior to test administration on April 15, 2015.

Training Webcast

The CDE along with its contractor, ETS, will host a live training Webcast for the APAC field test on Wednesday, March 11, 2015, at 1 p.m. Since this is a new computer-based assessment, the CDE encourages all test coordinators and test administrators to view the Webcast in preparation for test administration. You can join the “live” presentation on the [ETS CAASPP Training Web page](#) , where it also will be archived for future viewing and training use.

CAPA Science

The CAPA for science in grades five, eight, and ten will be administered “during a testing window of 25 instructional days that includes 12 instructional days before and after completion of 85 percent of the school's, track's, or program's instructional days. Testing for all pupils, including makeup testing, is to be completed within this 25 instructional day window.” (CCR, Title 5, Section 855)

For questions about the Alternate Performance Assessment for California (APAC), please contact the English Language Proficiency and Alternate Assessments office by phone at 916-319-0784 or by e-mail at alternateassessment@cde.ca.gov.

For questions about the CAPA science assessment, please contact the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) office by phone at 916-445-8765 or by e-mail at caaspp@cde.ca.gov.

Questions: English Language Proficiency and Alternate Assessments Office | alternateassessment@cde.ca.gov | 916-319-0784

Last Reviewed: Wednesday, January 28, 2015