




**STATE OF HAWAII**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
P.O. BOX 2360  
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OFFICE OF STRATEGY, INNOVATION AND PERFORMANCE

December 4, 2018

TO: Deputy Superintendent  
Complex Area Superintendents  
Public Charter School Executive Director  
Principals (All)  
Public Charter School Directors

FROM: Rodney Luke   
Assistant Superintendent

SUBJECT: **Required Statewide Assessments Participation Criteria and Accessibility Features, School Year 2018-19**

Federal laws governing student participation in statewide assessments include the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (reauthorized as the Every Student Succeeds Act, 2015 - ESSA), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement (IDEA) (most recently amended through Public Law 114-95, ESSA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (reauthorized in 2008).

For School Year 2018-19, the following statewide assessments are required:

Assessment	Content Area/Domain	Grades
<b>Smarter Balanced Assessments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>English Language Arts/Literacy</li><li>Mathematics</li></ul>	3-8 and 11
<b>Hawai'i State Assessment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Science Bridge</li></ul>	4 and 8
<b>Hawai'i State Alternate Assessments</b> (for the most severely cognitively disabled)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>English Language Arts/Literacy</li><li>Mathematics</li><li>Science Bridge</li><li>Biology 1* (required) (Algebra 1 and Algebra 2 are optional)</li></ul>	3-8 and 11 4, 8, and 11
<b>End-of-Course Exams</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Language Arts</li><li>Mathematics</li><li>Science</li></ul>	All students enrolled in the course. 3-8 (Kaiapuni students) 4 and 8 (Kaiapuni students)

\* The Biology 1 End-of-Course Exam is an accountability measure and is required for all students including public charter school students.

Assessment	Content Area/Domain	Grades
The ACT Plus Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English</li> <li>Reading</li> <li>Mathematics</li> <li>Science</li> <li>Writing</li> </ul>	11
WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Listening</li> <li>Reading</li> <li>Speaking</li> <li>Writing</li> </ul>	K-12
NAEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading</li> <li>Mathematics</li> </ul>	4 and 8 (sample of students at selected schools)

### Participation

All students enrolled in grades 3–8 and 11 at public or public charter schools in Hawai'i are required to participate in the Smarter Balanced English Language Arts/Literacy (ELA/L) and Mathematics Assessments *EXCEPT*:

- Students with the most significant cognitive disabilities who meet the criteria for alternate assessments based on the content specifications of the Hawai'i Common Core or HCPS III standards (approximately one percent or fewer of the student population).
- English Learners (EL) Program students who first entered a U.S. school this school year. These students are exempt from taking the Smarter Balanced ELA/L Assessment if they have WIDA ACCESS for ELLs assessment results. Recently arrived EL students are required to participate in the Smarter Balanced Mathematics Assessment, as well as the appropriate science assessment, including the Biology 1 End-of-Course exam.
- Kaiapuni students in the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program (HLIP) in grades 3-8. These students will be administered the Kaiapuni Assessment of Educational Outcomes (KĀ'EO) in language arts and mathematics.

Students must be tested in the enrolled grade assessment; out-of-grade-level testing is not allowed for the administration of Smarter Balanced and other statewide assessments (with the exception of end-of-course (EOC) exams).

Only those EL program students who are enrolled for the first year in a United States school are excused from participation in the Smarter Balanced ELA/L or the Hawaii State Alternate Assessment (HSA-Alt) in ELA/L.

All students enrolled in grades 4 and 8 are required to participate in the HSA Science Bridge assessments. The grades 4 and 8 HLIP students will be administered the grades 4 and 8 KĀ'EO Science Assessments and will not be administered the grades 4 and 8 HSA Science Bridge Assessments.

All EL students in kindergarten through grade 12 are to participate in the WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 assessments. EL students who are severely cognitively disabled and meet the participation criteria for alternate assessments are to be administered the WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs assessment.

### 1. ***Exempt Students***

The following students are exempt from participating in the Smarter Balanced Assessments based on required documentation:

- A student who has a significant medical emergency.
- A student who is receiving services at an out-of-state residential program.
- An EL student who has moved to the country within the year (Smarter Balanced ELA/L exemption only).
- A student who meets the requirements of Regulation 4140, Exceptions to Compulsory School Attendance.

### 2. ***Home-Schooled Students***

Students who are home-schooled may participate in the Smarter Balanced Assessment(s) and HSA Science Bridge Assessments at the request of the parent or guardian. Schools must provide these students with one testing opportunity for each relevant content area if requested. Home-schooled students may not participate in the EOC exams or the HSA-Alt assessments due to the design requirements of these assessments.

## **Accessibility**

In order to ensure that all students have access to the statewide assessments and receive results that are a fair and accurate estimate of each student's achievement, the statewide summative assessments include embedded and non-embedded accessibility features such as universal tools, designated supports, and accommodations. Universal tools and designated supports are available for all students and accommodations are available for special education and Section 504 students with a documented need in their IEP/504 plans.

The *Usability, Accessibility, and Accommodations Guidelines (UAAG)* provide information about accessibility features—including accommodations—for those students who need them. The *UAAG* is intended for school-level personnel and decision-making teams, including Individualized Education Program (IEP) and Section 504 teams, as they prepare for and implement the Smarter Balanced and other statewide assessments.

The *UAAG* applies to all students. The accessibility guidelines emphasize an individualized approach to the implementation of assessment practices for those students who have diverse needs and participate in large-scale content assessments. The *UAAG* supports important instructional decisions about accessibility and accommodations for students who participate in the Smarter Balanced and other statewide assessments.

The *Crosswalk of Accessibility Features Across Statewide Assessments in Hawai'i (CAF)* is intended for school-level personnel and decision-making teams as they prepare for the administration of the statewide assessments. The *Crosswalk* provides information about accessibility features available across various statewide assessments and which ones apply to specific statewide assessments such as the Smarter Balanced Assessments.

Students who require an accommodation(s) during the administration of a statewide assessment must have the need documented in the student's IEP/504 plan. An accommodation

may only be provided during statewide testing if the accommodation does not result in invalidation (IDEA Sec. 300.160). Therefore, the need must be verified by the Assessment Section. The school test coordinator (or designee) is required to submit the *Accommodations Verification Form* (Appendix Q in the *Test Administration Manual*) to the Assessment Section prior to the administration of the summative, interim, and practice tests. Upon verification of the need, the Assessment Section will set the accommodation(s) in the Test Information and Distribution Engine (TIDE). All designated supports are to be set in TIDE by the school test coordinator (or designee). For instructions on how to review accommodations and set designated supports in TIDE, refer to the *HSAP TIDE User Guide*.

State-level users, test coordinators, and teachers can set embedded and non-embedded accessibility features based on their user role in TIDE. Designated supports and accommodations must be set in TIDE at least one month prior to the opening of the testing window. For the Smarter Balanced Assessments, the deadline to submit the Accommodations Verification Form is **January 18, 2019**.

If you have any questions, please contact Brian Reiter, Assessment Section Administrator, at (808) 733-4100 or via Lotus Notes email.

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c: Assistant Superintendents  
State Public Charter School Commission  
Assessment and Accountability Branch