



CAASPP/CAST/CAA/CSA/ELPAC Assessment NEWSLETTER

Your One-Stop Shop for State Assessments

My number one goal is to teach you to fish - by giving you the tools you need to feel ready, be ready and be successful when preparing students for high stakes assessments!

The table below has links to the resources you will need to know everything you ever wanted to know about the high stakes assessments our students take. Their success on these assessments relies on two things - you being familiar with what is being tested and they having appropriate, equitable, and fair access to what is being tested.

The format for this NEWSLETTER is FAQ with links to answers and supports.

FAQ	BLURB	LINK
What is the CAASPP?	<p>The California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) System was established on January 1, 2014. The CAASPP System replaced the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program, which became inoperative on July 1, 2013.</p> <p>https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ai/cefcaaspp.asp</p>	https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ai/cefcaaspp.asp
Who takes the CAASPP and any of the other state assessments?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students in grade levels 3-8 and again in 11 ● Students that have been identified to take the ELPAC in their Home Language Survey ● Students that have been identified to take 	chrome-extension://efaidnbnmnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/documents/caassessmentsystem.pdf

	<p>the Alternate assessments in their IEP</p>	
<p>I became a teacher to help prepare students to become responsible, caring citizens that will inherit the earth. By constantly testing, aren't we then just teaching to the test?</p>	<p>The Common Core standards were designed around the purpose of ensuring that all students were receiving an equal education. It is the State's responsibility to educate its population. How do we then measure our progress and success? There have always been state assessments, but they were not consistent across the country. Common Core was designed to ensure 1) common standards of teaching across the nation and 2) prepare students to be those independent and responsible citizens that will inherit the earth by having the skill sets necessary to do so and/or necessary to enter college without having to take remedial courses - College Ready.</p>	<p>Common Core: https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc/whytheccss.asp</p>
<p>Okay, so the CAASPP is used to measure whether or not the states are fulfilling their responsibility to educate their society.</p> <p>Why is it so high stakes for me?</p>	<p>Specifically for Charter Schools, Charter authorizers (the folks that oversee our implementation of our Charter Petition) use the state data, and other measures, to consider whether or not our Charter Petition is renewed each Petition Term, in our case every five (5) years. For some Charters, the data may merit closure of a school prior to the Term of its Petition.</p> <p>If the Charter authorizer deems a school closure, well...</p>	<p>LAUSD Charter Schools Division</p> <p>California Charter School Association</p> <p>California Charter Authorizing Professionals</p>

<p>Okay. I get it. It Matters! How can I ensure my students do well on the CAASPP, or any other high stakes assessment?</p>	<p>The CAASPP, the ELPAC and the other high stakes assessments were built using the Universal Design for Learning Model. You might remember, from your teacher program, Differentiated Instruction and Differentiated Product - the teacher takes into account the varied learning styles of the individual student and builds instruction and assessment around the styles. Universal Design is just another way of providing equitable access for instruction and materials to your students and equitable access for your student to demonstrate their own learning. The UDL Model within the testing platforms allow for students to access:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Universal Tools (Tools available to all students) ● Designated Tools (Tools available to students that have been identified as needing one of the tools listed) ● Accommodations (Tools available for students that have an accommodation listed in their IEP or their 504 plan) 	<p>Accessibility Resources, all links to all resources</p> <p>Accessibility Resources Virtual Training Series: This series walks you through the Accessibility resources and how they align to the different groups of students. The videos are designed for you to view on your time, or you can view with your subject matter or grade level team so you can identify students and plan accordingly.</p> <p>Accessibility Resources Demonstration Videos</p>
<p>Are there additional resources to support the types of problems the students will see on the CAASPP and/or other state high stakes assessments?</p>	<p>Absolutely, aside from the resources available to you through your curriculum, there are assessment aligned resources on the various state platforms. Through either your TOMS account, via links, or through direct links, you can access these resources.</p>	<p>Grade Level 3-5 and 11 Specific Teacher Guides for teachers to deepen understanding of the Smarter Balanced Assessment, their alignment with the California Common Core State Standards, and their intended connection to classroom teaching.</p>

	<p>Additionally, once you give an IAB or FIAB, resources directly related to those assessments are linked to your results in your CERS platform.</p> <p>I created a video on how to use Tools for Teachers here.</p>	<p>Grades 6-8 Teacher Guide for Math</p> <p>Working on Finding the Teacher Guide for Grades 6-8 Guide for ELA</p> <p>TOMS Links</p> <p>Tools for Teachers</p> <p>Interim Items Portal</p> <p>Smarter Content Explorer</p> <p>Interim Assessments Overview</p> <p>2022–23 Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments by Grade</p> <p>2022–23 Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments At-a-Glance</p> <p>Practice and Training that does not require students to sign in</p> <p>ELA Vocabulary List by Grade</p> <p>Math Vocabulary List by Grade</p> <p>Document with Claims, Targets, Standards for ELA/History/Science</p>
<p>What is tested on the CAASPP and/or the CAA?</p>	<p>Throughout the year, you’ve worked with the IABs and FIABs to address portions of the standards tested. To refer to the full Blueprint, visit any of the links. The Test Development has the links to all of the available Blueprints. The Blueprints in the 2022-2023</p>	<p>Test Development and Design</p> <p>Mathematics Adjusted Form Summative Assessment Blueprints</p> <p>ELA/Literacy Adjusted Form Summative Assessment Blueprint</p>

	<p>administration will continue to be the Adjusted Blueprints, per CDE September 2022 Agenda Item #04.</p> <p>(SPECIFICALLY: California State Board of Education September 2022 Agenda Item #04.)</p>	<p>California Alternate Assessment Resources</p>
<p>What are all the different sections on the CAASPP?</p>	<p>CLAIMS: Claims are broad categories that summarize the knowledge and skills students are expected to demonstrate on the assessments related to a particular aspect of the academic standards. Each subject includes four claims:</p> <p>Math:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Concepts and Procedures 2. Problem Solving 3. Communicating Reasoning 4. Modeling/Data Analysis <p>ELA/Literacy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reading 2. Writing 3. Listening 4. Research/Inquiry <p>TARGETS: The targets describe at a more granular level than claim the expectations of the knowledge, skills, and/or abilities assessed by the items and tasks within each claim. A target can be aligned to one or more standards. In fact, some are aligned to part of a standard.</p>	<p>Smarter Content Explorer</p> <p>What are the Claims in ELA?</p> <p>What are the Claims in Math?</p>

	<p>STANDARDS: Standards refer to the academic content standards adopted by states/territories for use in K-12 public education. Standards describe the skills and knowledge that students should demonstrate at the end of each grade. They are essentially learning goals in math and ELA that help ensure students progress through each grade on track and prepared academically for life, college, and a career after high school.</p>	
What is tested on the California Science Test?		California Science Test Blueprint
What is the ELPAC and who takes it?	<p>The ELPAC is the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California. Upon initial enrollment, families that identify Spanish as their primary or home language on the Language Home Survey prompt the school to administer the Initial ELPAC to the enrolling student. The results will identify the student as either IFEP (Initial Fluent English Proficient) or ELL (English Language Learner). If identified as ELL, each year the student will take the Summative ELPAC, until they test out and are redesignated using redesignation criteria.</p>	ELPAC Website
What is the CSA?	<p>The CSA is the California Spanish Assessment. This assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Measure a student's 	CDE CSA

	<p>literacy in Spanish language arts and provide student-level data in Spanish literacy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate the implementation of Spanish language arts programs at the local level. • Provide a high school measure suitable to be used, in part, for the State Seal of Bilingualism. 	
Where can I find additional resources?	The California Department of Education and the CAASPP/ELPAC Website contain a myriad of trainings, PPTs, and handouts for test administrators, teachers and parents.	<p>CDE: https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/index.asp</p> <p>CAASPP: https://www.caaspp.org/</p> <p>ELPAC: https://www.elpac.org/</p>
These are a lot of assessments. How does anyone keep track?	Each year, the state updates their matrix of assessments.	2022-23 California Assessment System

Yes. All students have been provided a bicycle to ride. But not all students have access to riding the bicycle in a productive and conducive manner, that will allow one to measure their skill level at riding bicycles.



Using UDL, all students can now ride the bike in a productive and conducive manner and demonstrate their skill level at riding bicycles.

