

## Accommodations and Tools

Q.	Do we request supports and accommodations in TIDE for all assessments?
A.	Supports and accommodations are requested in TIDE for Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBA), and in WAMS for specific paper assessments.
Q.	Will scratch paper be allowed on the SBA?
A.	Yes, all students may use scratch paper on both math and ELA in every grade. In addition, graph paper is required beginning in grade 6 and will be supplied by the district.
Q.	Will there be a template to upload student accommodations and tools?
A.	Yes there will be a template in TIDE to upload designated tools and accommodations according to IEP or 504 plans.
Q.	Will we need to establish each grade level of the off grade-level test in TIDE ahead of time, for each student as appropriate?
A.	Yes, for example a student's IEP may indicate grade 3 for ELA and grade 4 for math.
Q.	Will we need to print Braille SBA tests?
A.	No, OSPI and its service provider will make Braille booklets available.
Q.	Can we assume that if accommodations are attached to a student, they will stay attached even though nightly student record files are uploaded?
A.	Yes, in addition accommodations once set will remain until they are physically changed.
Q.	How do we identify a student as passing at Level 2 Basic?
A.	Information on the future of 'Basic' is forthcoming.

## Test Administration and Preparation

Q.	How do I log the students into the secure browser?
A.	Students will open the ChromeBook and, without logging in to their chrome accounts, click on the Apps link in the lower left-hand corner. This will open a link to AIRsecuretest.
Q.	Do students have to go through the secure browser to get to the interim assessments or is there another way to access them?
A.	The interim assessments are accessed through the secure browser, which will be the same access point for the summative assessments.
Q.	Can teachers see the interim tests and print them out prior to students taking the test?
A.	The interim assessments are designed to be a benchmark measure of how students are progressing in achieving the standards of a grade-level and content area. They are very similar to the summative SBA in question format, tools used and standards addressed. To get the best picture of student performance, the interim assessments are to be treated as secure. The training and practice tests should be used by teachers and students to become familiar with the tools and question format in preparation for taking the interim assessments.
Q.	Where does the "listening" portion of the test occur?
A.	The listening portion of the test exists in the English Language Arts (ELA) Computer Adaptive Test (CAT).
Q.	Is the SBA used by grade 10 students for the Washington "ELA Exit Exam" different than the SBA grade 11 students will take?
A.	No. There is only one high school Smarter Balanced Assessment. Grade 10 will only take the ELA portion as the graduation assessment requirement exam which will have a different cut score than the College and Career ready cut scores.
Q.	In what order will test tickets be printed for the summative assessments?
A.	Currently alpha by grade so a 4/5 split classroom would have 2 alpha groups.
Q.	What is the purpose of rostering?
A.	It is necessary to associate students with Test Administrators (TA) and for TAs to see the students' results.
Q.	Are machine-scored interim blocks essentially blocks of multiple choice questions?
A.	No. For math, there are many other item types that can be machine-scored, such as drag-n-drop, equation numeric, fill-in table, hot spot. For ELA, the entire block is selected response items if no hand-scored items are included. These will be research, listening, and edit/revise blocks for ELA.
Q.	How will my child know how to use the tools required on the test?

Smarter Balanced Assessment FAQs

A.	Your child's principal, working with his/her teacher(s), will provide opportunities for students to learn how to use the different tools on the practice, training, and interim tests.
Q.	What are the College and Career Readiness cut scores and what are the High School graduation cut scores?
A.	The State Board of Education adopted initial cut scores in January of 2015. The high school graduation cut scores have not been established yet.
Q.	I'm a special program teacher and would like to see the test score data for my students. What do I need to do to view their score results?
A.	Provide the Assessment Department with a list of student IDs and we can create a unique class roster for your group of students.
Q.	Will the student log in process for interim, practice and training tests look exactly like summative?
A.	Yes, students will use the same login process for practice/training/interim and summative assessments. In addition the practice and training test guest sign-on can be used for classroom practice and accessed publicly.

## WCAP Portal

Q.	What is the Washington Comprehensive Assessment Program (WCAP) portal?
A.	The WCAP website contains comprehensive information and resources for educators, parents and students. This site is the access point for the digital library, interim assessments, training and practice tests, and the summative assessment for Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA).
Q.	What is the Digital Library?
A.	The Digital Library is a collection of professional learning and instructional resources aligned to Common Core State Standards in math and ELA and best practices in instruction and assessment.
Q.	Where do I access Digital Library?
A.	The Digital Library can be accessed on the WCAP under Test Administrators.
Q.	How do I log in to WCAP?
A.	You don't need to log in to the WCAP portal. However on some applications, a lock icon may appear indicating that access to that area requires a login.
Q.	Where is the link on the WCAP portal for proctors?
A.	The term proctor is now replaced with Test Administrator (TA) which can be found on the WCAP home page.
Q.	Is there a training module for the hand scoring portion of interim assessments?
A.	The Hand Scoring System (THSS) training for teachers and administrators will be posted on the Test Administrators page under Test Administration Resources. The Interim Teacher Hand Scoring System is located on the Test Administrators page.
Q.	Where can I find the classroom activities for the interim performance tasks?
A.	The in class activities on WCAP on the Test Administrators page under Interim Assessment Classroom Activities.
Q.	Where can I find the classroom activities for the training and practice performance tasks?
A.	The in class activities for the training and practice performance tasks can be found on WCAP on the Test Administrators page under Test Administration Resources in the Assessment Resources folder.
Q.	How soon after the teacher hand scores will the test results be available?
A.	Once the teacher completes the hand-scoring for hand-scoring items, these scores and machine scores will appear in the Online Reporting System for the student.

Smarter Balanced Assessment FAQs

Q.	Will the password and username for Digital Library and TIDE be the same?
A.	They are separately managed systems. Both use your work email as the username. Passwords for each are defined by the user.
Q.	Are there limits to the number of times students can complete Practice and Training tests?
A.	There is no limit to the number of times the practice or training tests can be completed.
Q.	Are there limits to the number of times students can complete interim assessments?
A.	While there are no limits to the number of times students can complete interim assessments, best practice suggests that performance data on an assessment taken more than two or three times may not accurately reflect student learning.