A Balanced Assessment System

Improving Teaching and Learning

The Smarter Balanced assessment system provides educators, students, and parents meaningful results with actionable data to help students succeed. With online assessments that measure students’ progress toward college and career readiness, Smarter Balanced gives educators information and tools to improve teaching and learning.

Digital Library
An online collection of thousands of educator-created classroom tools and resources

Interim Assessments
Optional and flexible tests given throughout the year to help teachers monitor student progress

Summative Assessments
Year-end assessments for grades 3–8 and 11 with a computer adaptive test and performance tasks in math and ELA

What makes Smarter Balanced different?

Fair and Accurate for All Students
Our end-of-year tests are supported by Computer Adaptive Technology and include a broad array of accessibility features, allowing all students to demonstrate what they know and can do.

Created by Teachers
The Smarter Balanced assessment system has been developed by the states that use it. More than 4,700 educators have contributed to creating test items and instructional resources.

Measures Critical Thinking
Unlike bubble tests of the past, our tests require students to write, think critically, and use evidence to support their answers, better preparing them for college and careers.

Endorsed by Higher Education
More than 250 colleges and universities in ten states use Smarter Balanced test scores as a factor in determining students’ readiness for credit-bearing college courses.

Helps Teachers Help Students
Teachers can use optional and flexible interim assessments throughout the year to check student understanding, helping them target their instruction where students need help.

Supports Classroom Instruction
Educators have access to a Digital Library of thousands of high-quality instructional tools and resources—created by educators for educators—to support classroom teaching.

Learn More

You can also try out the test software and answer sample questions on the Practice Test: www.SmarterBalanced.org/assessments/practice-and-training-tests/.