

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AND INNOVATIONS

GOAL 1

Maintain and continually improve a high-quality and rigorous system of assessments

- 1a) Enhance the precision and accessibility of the existing summative assessment
- 1b) Enhance existing and create additional interim assessments
- 1c) Build the capacity of vendors to support members states
- 1d) Strengthen the evidence-base and partnerships necessary for Smarter Balanced to be more broadly recognized and used as a measure of college and career readiness

GOAL 2

Provide educators, policymakers, students and families with robust and actionable information on student performance and the tools and resources to improve instruction

- 2a) Enhance the accessibility, functionality and use of the Digital Library
- 2b) Improve reporting to provide more actionable information in less time and with a more user-friendly format
- 2c) Design tools and trainings to support the understanding and use of Smarter Balanced assessment data by students, their families and policymakers
- 2d) Support states in identifying high-quality professional development providers to improve the use of data to inform instructional practice

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

GOAL 3

Improve organizational capacity to support state-led efforts to communicate and advocate for Smarter Balanced's value

- 3a) Provide state-specific support to assess communications and public affairs needs and align flexible, resources to support the local efforts
- 3b) Streamline and continue to provide information and tools for state-based communications and advocacy (e.g., convening state communications directors, customizable Member portal resources)

OPERATING MODEL AND GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

GOAL 4

Ensure Smarter Balanced has internal capacity and leadership to navigate and be responsive to states' evolving assessment needs and the assessment market overall

- 4a) Maintain Smarter Balanced's strong, participatory, member-led governance structure
- 4b) Create a more agile business model that allows for greater flexibility in the service offerings to the field
- 4c) Enhance Smarter Balanced's ongoing capacity to effectively assess and make strategic, market-informed and politically-informed decisions

LONG-TERM GOAL

GOAL 5

Maintain Smarter Balanced's position as a leader in innovative assessment design

- 5a) Allocate and prioritize resources for ongoing research and development for new, innovative assessments that build on Smarter Balanced's core competence
- 5b) Conduct a feasibility analysis on the development of a competency-based assessment with the potential to certify student-acquired bodies of ELA and math knowledge portable to various post-secondary contexts