



Education Division
Assessment and Evaluation
Parent and Guardian CAASPP Notification Letter

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, or CAASPP, is the state academic testing program. CAASPP is a system intended to provide information that can be used to monitor student progress on an annual basis and ensure that all students leave high school ready for college and careers.

This year, students will take the CAASPP tests *in the spring*. If you have any questions, please contact your school site to get information regarding your school's testing schedule. CAASPP assessments include computer adaptive tests in English–Language Arts/Literacy (ELA) and mathematics for students in grades 7–8 and 11. Additionally, new California Science Tests (CAST), which are aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and are taken on the computer, will be operational for the first time this year for students in the 8th and 11th grade, as well as any 12th grade student who was not tested last year. Students who have a significant cognitive disability (as designated in their individualized education program) are eligible to take the California Alternate Assessment (CAA) in ELA and mathematics and/or the CAA Science Field Test.

To learn about the types of questions on the computer-based test, you and your child can view the practice tests online at the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress Smarter Balanced Practice and Training Test Web page <http://www.caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html>.

Individual student score reports displaying CAASPP results from 2018-2019 will be reported electronically to parents for this first time this year. We will send a letter notifying parents when the electronic score reports will be available through the Aeries Portal. The CAA Science is a field test, so no individual scores will be generated or reported. The Early Assessment Program (EAP) results will be included on the score reports for students in grade 11 and are designed to provide students, their families and high schools, with early indicators of readiness for college-level English and mathematics. The EAP results are accepted by the California State University institutions and many participating California Community Colleges in lieu of a placement exam. We recommend that 11th grade students choose the option to release the results of the Smarter Balanced Assessments at the end of the exam.

The purpose of our new statewide annual assessments has shifted from producing annual accountability reports to measuring students' progress in meeting academic growth. The results help teachers and administrators to improve teaching and learning throughout the academic school year, in determining the impact of selected curriculum/programs, and to inform instruction [Education Code 60602(a)].

If you have any questions regarding your child's participation, or would like to excuse your child from the test, please contact the school testing administrator. [Education Code 60615.] If you would like more information on CAASPP, please visit the Parent/Student tab at the California Department of Education (CDE) Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/> where there are several resources to help students and parents understand the grade expectations of the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Stewart Henry, Ed.D.
Anaheim Union High School District
Director, Assessment and Evaluation