

A Smarter Assessment System

The Smarter Balanced assessment system provides educators, students, and parents meaningful results with **actionable data to help students succeed**. The system is **aligned to college- and career-ready standards** and designed to improve teaching and learning.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Smarter Balanced: Built to be the Best

“Best of the Best” Assessment

Smarter Balanced is the result of state education agency staff, educators, higher education faculty, and education experts working together to create an assessment system based on best practices. The goal of this “best of the best” assessment system is to increase the number of students who are well prepared for college and careers.

Led by Members

Smarter Balanced is governed by the members who use the assessment for their students: 12 states, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Bureau of Indian Education. Operating on a transparent, consensus-based governance, Smarter Balanced staff work closely with education officials to ensure that the assessment system meets the needs of consortium members.

Learn More

Visit our website www.SmarterBalanced.org for more information.

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