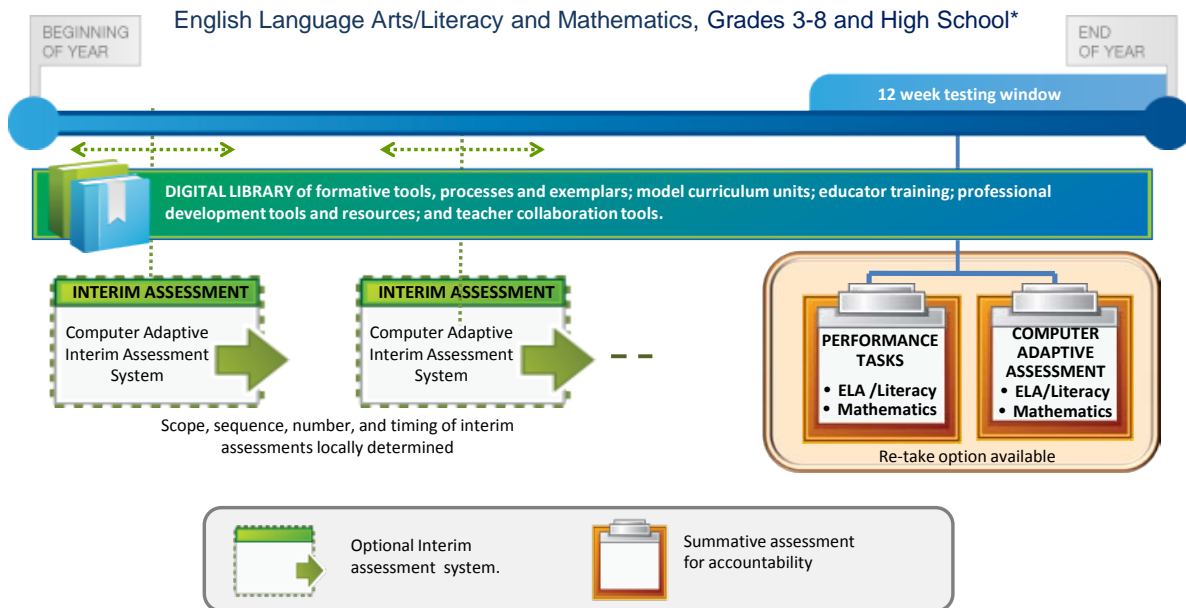


The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium



*Summative and interim assessments for grades 3 – 8 and 11, with ability for states to create additional assessments for grades 9, 10, and 12.

Description of Major Smarter Balanced Features

Digital Library: The Digital Library was launched in Summer 2104 and contains optional resources to support teachers and students in grades K–12, including formative tools and exemplars, modules for Assessment Literacy and Exemplar Instruction modules, a Practice Test utility, a reporting suite and teacher collaboration tools.

Optional Interim Assessment System:

Interim Assessment System: This system will allow educators to deliver computer-adaptive assessments at locally-determined intervals to gain information about student progress throughout the year. The multiple item types will reflect those on the summative assessments. Districts or schools can select to administer interim assessments that either mirror the summative assessment or that focus on a smaller cluster of standards. The item bank will be fully accessible to educators for instruction and professional development.

Summative Assessment: Provided for grades 3 – 8 and 11, these assessments will consist of one Performance Task and an End-of-Year Adaptive Assessment for each tested content area. Total testing time for ELA/literacy and math, across a maximum 12 week testing window, is expected to range from 7 hours at grade 3 to 8.5 hours at grade 11. States may purchase summative assessments for grades 9, 10, and/or 12.

Performance Tasks: Students will complete one ELA/literacy task and one math task that generally require 90–120 minutes each. Tasks will focus on hard-to-measure standards and real-world scenarios, and will measure students’ ability to integrate knowledge and skills across multiple standards.

End-of-Year Adaptive Assessment: These computer-adaptive assessments will consist of innovative item types, most of which can be immediately machine scored. If needed to gain sufficient score precision, items from out of grade level may be used.

Accountability: Scores from the Performance Task and End-of-Year Adaptive Assessment will be combined for the student’s annual accountability score. Subject to state approval, Smarter Balanced will make available one retake for students in grades 3–8 and 11 for instances of an irregularity in the administration of the assessment.

Implementation: Field testing completed in 2014. All system components will be ready for use during the 2014-15 school year.

Cost: Estimated cost of \$22.50 per student per year for all summative assessments, delivered and scored (States contract separately for delivery, scoring and help desk services), and \$4.80 per student for optional interim and formative package of services.