

Estimated Testing Times

Grade Level Assessment	CAT items in hrs:mins	PT in hrs:mins	Total in hrs:mins
ELA 3–5	0:45	2:00	2:45
ELA 6–8	0:45	2:00	2:45
ELA 11	1:00	2:00	3:00
Mathematics 3–5	0:45	1:00	1:45
Mathematics 6–8	1:00	1:00	2:00
Mathematics 11	1:00	1:30	2:30

Total Times

ELA and mathematics 3–5	1:30	3:00	4:30
ELA and mathematics 6–8	1:45	3:00	4:45
ELA and mathematics 11	2:00	3:30	5:30

CAST

Administration of the CAST assessment is estimated to take approximately two hours. Note that the CAST is an untimed test. The CAST is composed of six blocks of test questions: two or three blocks of discrete (stand-alone) questions followed by four or three PTs where each PT is a block. It is strongly recommended that a PT be started and completed in a single test session, and that students only pause the test after the end of a segment.

California Science Test

The CAST is a computer-based, summative assessment aligned with the CA NGSS. All LEAs with eligible students in grades five and eight and in high school (i.e., grade ten, eleven, or twelve) will administer the CAST. High school students have only one opportunity to take the CAST. All students will receive their CAST scores in an SSR after they have tested.

CAST Eligibility

What follows are additional details about eligibility for the CAST:

All students in grade five and eight will be automatically registered to take the CAST.

Students must also take the CAST at least once in high school. LEAs can elect to administer the CAST to students in grade ten or eleven. Students who take the CAST while their testing grade is grade ten or eleven have completed their science testing requirement.

Students in grade twelve who have not yet taken a science test will automatically be registered to take a science test.

Students who are repeating grade twelve are not eligible to test.

Students with the most significant cognitive disabilities who meet the criteria for the alternate assessments based on alternate achievement standards (approximately 1 percent or fewer of the student population) will take

the CAA for Science. Students who take the alternate assessment in one content area will take the alternate assessment in all content areas.

CA Alternate Assessments

The CAAs are for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities whose IEP team has designated the use of an alternate assessment on statewide summative assessments. These computer-based tests, for ELA, mathematics, and science, are administered to eligible students whose disability prevents them from taking the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments for ELA and mathematics and the CAST. Students who are identified for an alternate assessment will take the alternate assessments in all eligible content areas.

Practice Tests

For the Smarter Balanced assessments, practice tests include CAT items and PTs for each grade level (i.e., grades three through eight and grade eleven). The practice tests provide a sample of the item types and experience with grade-level content and accessibility resources similar to what appears in the operational Smarter Balanced assessments.

For the CAST, practice tests are available for each tested grade level or grade band (i.e., grades five and eight, and high school). Each practice test consists of a series of discrete or stand-alone items followed by three PTs, one from each of the three science content domains. The practice tests provide experience with grade-level content and accessibility resources similar to what appears in the operational CAST.

Security of the Test Environment pgs 20-31

Test Expiration Rules

The PT is a separate test that remains active for no more than 15 calendar days after the student has begun the PT. However, Smarter Balanced recommends that students complete the PT within three days of starting in each content area.