

CAST Training Tests Now Available



The California Science Test (CAST), which is aligned with the California Next Generation Science Standards (CA NGSS), is the state's assessment for measuring what students can do in science. The CA NGSS use disciplinary core ideas, science and engineering practices, and cross-cutting concepts to help students build a deeper understanding of science.

The CAST covers information across three science domains:



LS
Life Sciences



PS
Physical Sciences



ESS
Earth and Space
Sciences

Test items written to assess Performance Expectations associated with Engineering, Technology, and Application of Science domain will be incorporated into one of the three science domains above, depending upon the context of their stimulus.

What is the purpose of the CAST training tests?

The CAST training tests provide an opportunity to introduce students, parents, and test administrators to new item types. This is the third generation of the CAST training tests. Three separate tests (one each for grades five and eight and one for high school) are available, and they include accessibility resources to match those available on the CAST field test.

The training tests include stand alone test items in addition to one performance task. Find them at <http://www.caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html>.

Students can use the training tests to:

- Become familiar with the types of questions on the CAST.
- Understand the depth and breadth of the different test questions.
- Understand what students need to be able to do on the actual test.

Test administrators can use the training tests to:

- Understand the types of test questions that appear on the field test.
- Understand the alignment of the test questions with the CA NGSS.
- Create similar tasks for instructional purposes, with appropriate support, for their students.
- Communicate with students, families, and teachers about the knowledge assessed on the test.

For more information, visit the California Department of Education CAST Web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/caasppscience.asp>.



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