Montana Comprehensive Assessment System 2013-2014 Transitions and Resources

Montana
Office of Public Instruction
Denise Juneau, State Superintendent
opi.mt.gov

MontCAS

CRT&ALT

Math and Reading, Grades 3-8 and 10
Science, Grades 4, 8, and 10— **Science CRT and Alt will continue through Spring 2016; Reading and Math CRT Alt will continue through Spring 2014.**

ELP

English Language Proficiency
Reading, writing, speaking, listening
Grades K-12

ACT

ACT Plus Writing
All Public High School Juniors

SMARTER

English Language Arts and Math, Grades 3-8 and 11
Field Test in Spring 2014; Full implementation, Spring 2015.

BrightIdeas
Connecting with the Common Core

Alternate, English Language Arts and Math, Grades 3-8 and 11, **NCSC—Beginning in Spring 2015**

Montana Comprehensive Assessment System (MontCAS)

2013-2014 Statewide Assessment Schedule	
December 4, 2013 – January 29, 2014	ELP Assessment Window
January 15-17, 2014	State Assessment/Data Conference, Red Lion, Helena
February 17 – March 25, 2014	CRT-Alternate, Grades 3-8 and 10, Reading and Math; Grades 4, 8, and 10, Science The first week of this window is intended for training and the preparation of materials.
March 3 -25, 2014	Grades 4, 8, and 10, CRT Science
April 23-May 7, 2014	ACT Plus Writing for Public School Students in Grade 11 Wednesday, April 23, 2014: Initial test day (NOTE: It moves from a Tuesday to a Wednesday) May 7, 2014: Makeup test day April 23-May 7, 2014: Accommodated testing window
March 18 – May 14, 2014	Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium Summative Assessment Field Test English Language Arts and Math, Grades 3-8 and 11- **All Schools** **Schools can set their own window within the state window.**

Spring 2014 Testing Memos and FAQs

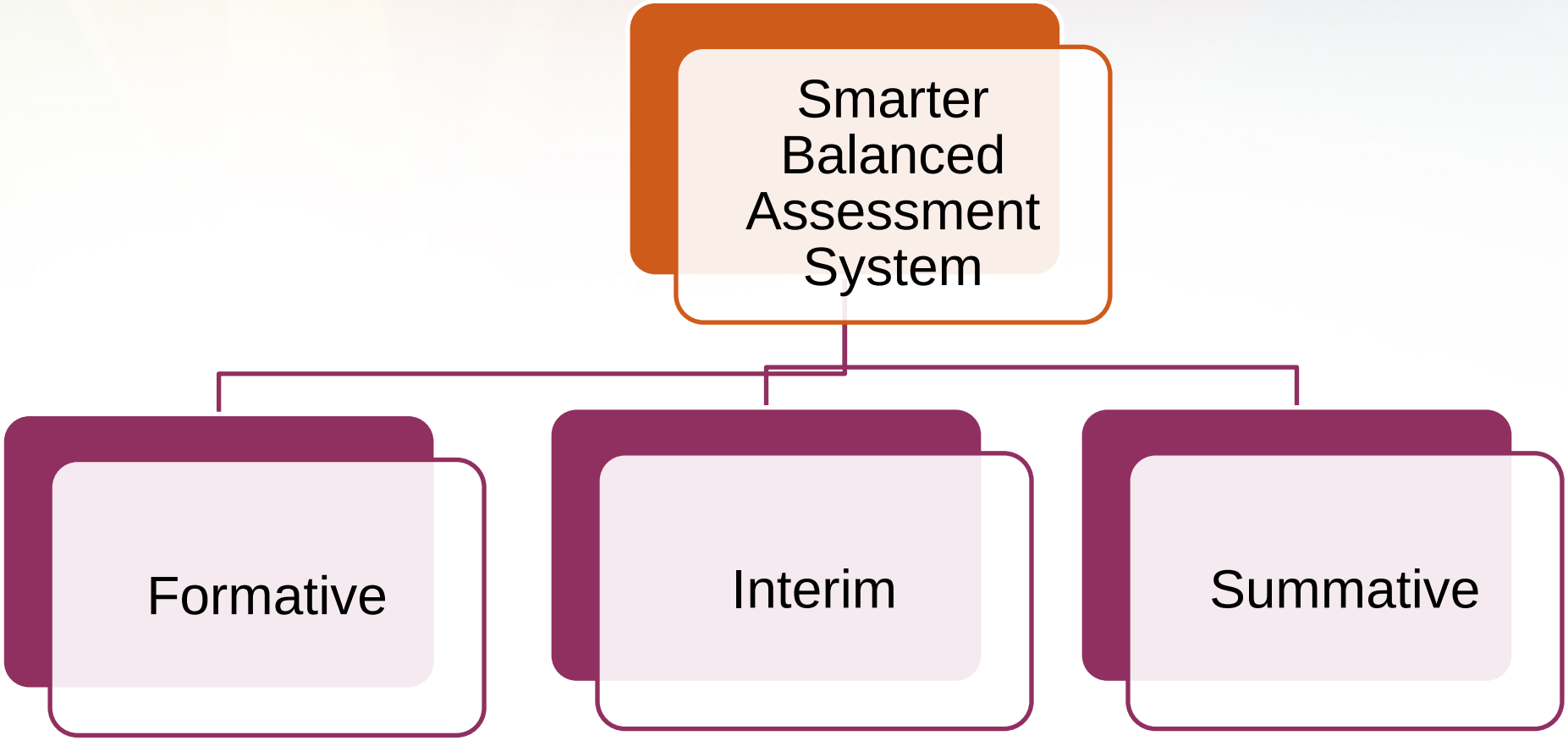
MontCAS Update November 2013

- http://opi.mt.gov/pdf/Assessment/13NovMontCASUpdate.pdf

FAQs

- http://opi.mt.gov/PDF/Superintendent/Field_Test_FAQs.pdf

Smarter Balanced Assessment System



Formative

FAPPL

- Formative Assessment Practices/ Professional Learning
  - Digital Library Resources
    - Formative Assessment
    - Assessment Literacy
- State Leadership Teams (SLT)
- State Network of Educators (SNE)

Interim

Same grade levels as summative

- Repository of items and performance tasks for assessing the Common Core State Standards

Non-secure item bank

- Two possible methods for use—these are in transition
  - **Comparable blueprint to summative**
  - Focus on a smaller set of standards—educators can select content clusters to develop assessment

Scoring

- Test delivery system
- **Ability to include human scored constructed response and performance tasks**

Summative

- Last 12 weeks of the school year
- Computer adaptive
- Performance tasks
- More efficient
- More secure
- More accurate
- Receive results in weeks not months

What can your school/district do right now to prepare for the Smarter assessments?

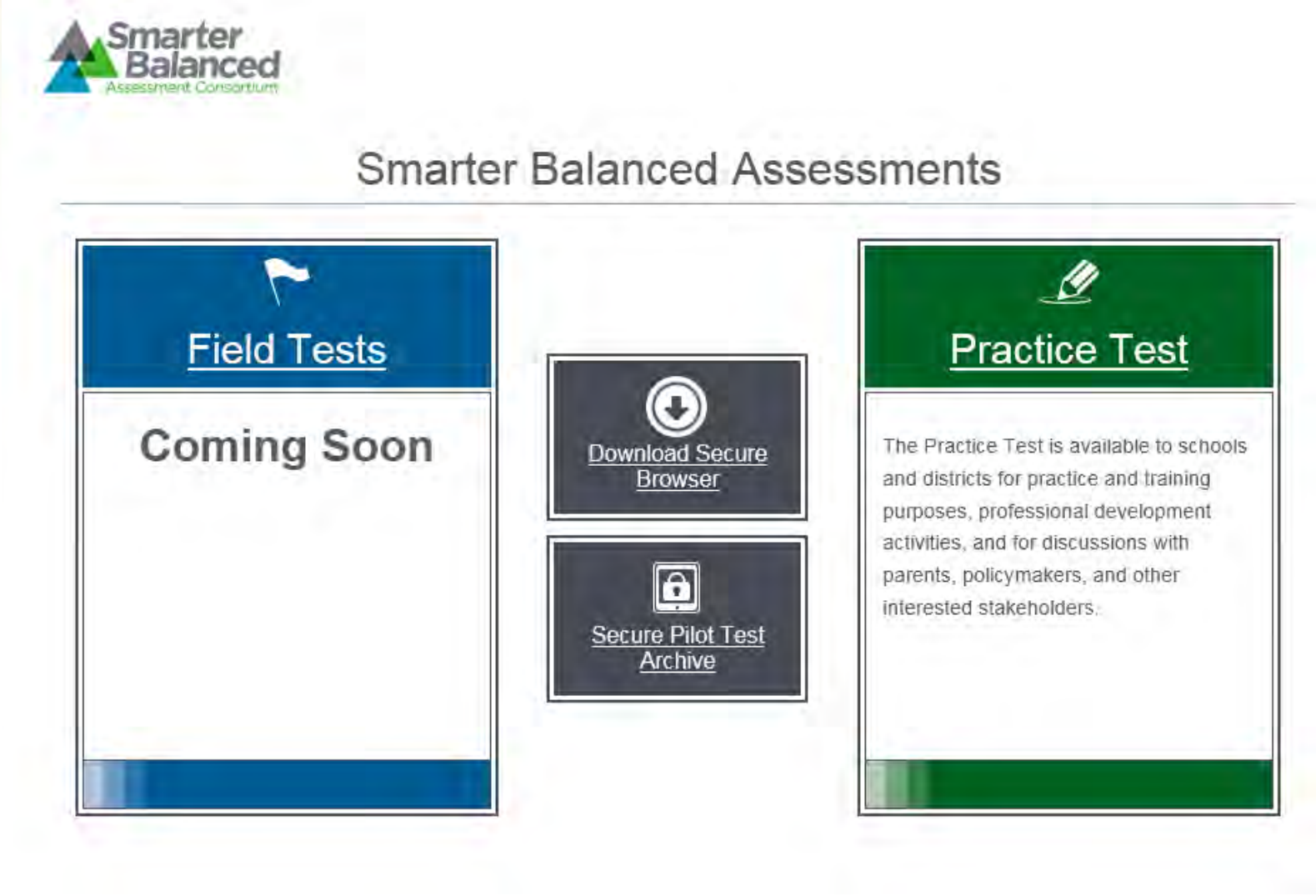
Build a District/School Smarter Team

- Administration
- **Test Coordinator**
- IT staff
- Special Needs
- Data staff

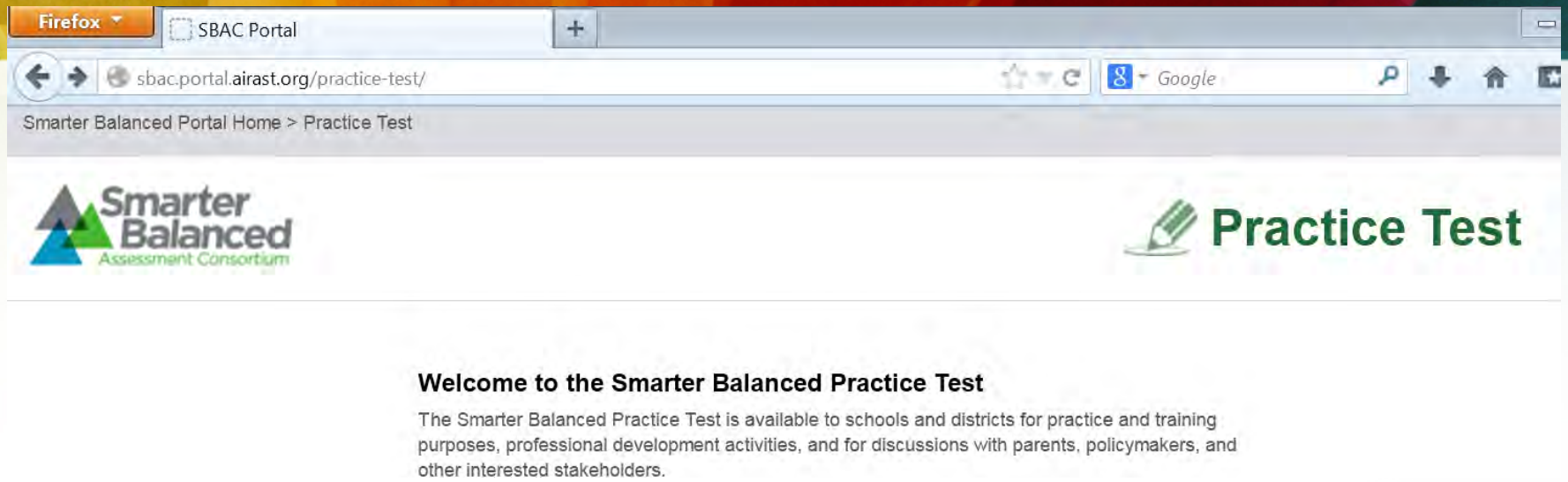
Use technology readiness tools

Use online practice tests

Smarter Balanced Test Portal



Practice Test Portal



NOTE! The practice test can ONLY be opened in the following browsers:

- Mozilla Firefox
- Google Chrome
- Microsoft Internet Explorer 10
- Apple Safari
- http://sbac.portal.airast.org/practice-test/

Smarter School/District Team Roles

Roles

SystemTest Coordinators	Manage Test Administration Disseminate information to stakeholders
Administrators	Ensure resources are in place Support staff in transition Support scheduling
IT Staff Person	Prepare hardware, software, network for testing Troubleshoot during testing
Special Educator	Coordinate with TC to ensure that Smarter accommodations match IEP accommodations
Data Staff Person	Ensure accurate student data in AIM for upload to TIDE

Technology Readiness

Smarter Technology Readiness Tool

- New version including a “scenario calculator” to estimate number of days and network bandwidth needed
- http://opi.mt.gov/groups/trt/index.html

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Resource Release Dates

Smarter Field Test Resource Release Timeline		
☑	**Date**	**TASK/EVENT**
	November 18, 2013	**Technical specifications manuals released to Field Test Portal** **Secure browser documentation released to Field Test portal** **Secure Browser Available for Download** **http://sbac.portal.airast.org**
	January 14, 2014	**TIDE User Guide released to field test portal** TIDE registration window launches
	January 28, 2014	**Training modules released and available for use.**
	January 29, 2014	**Test Coordinator Manual released to Field Test Portal**

Headphones

Schools need to provide headphones for:

- ELA Assessment: ALL students will need headphones for the audio portion of the ELA assessment.
- Accommodations: Students with the text read-aloud as part of the mathematics assessment.
  - Note: the text read-aloud accommodation also requires voice packs to be pre-installed prior to testing

Technology Requirements

- USB headphones recommended, standard headphones will suffice
- Keyboards required if testing with tablets
- Test all headphones and keyboards prior to testing

More information

- Smarter Technology Strategy Framework

Accommodations

://www.smarterbalanced.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/SmarterBalanced_Guidelines_091113.pdf

Universal Tools

Embedded
Breaks, Calculator, Digital Notepad, English Dictionary, English Glossary, Expandable Passages, Global Notes, Highlighter, Keyboard Navigation, Mark for Review, Math Tools, Spell Check, Strikethrough, Writing Tools, Zoom

Non-embedded
Breaks, English Dictionary, Scratch Paper, Thesaurus

Designated Supports

Embedded
Color Contrast, Masking, Text-to-speech, Translated Test Directions, Translations (Glossary), Translations (Stacked), Turn off Any Universal Tools

Non-embedded
Bilingual Dictionary, Color Contrast, Color Overlay, Magnification, Read Aloud, Scribe, Separate Setting, Translation (Glossary)

Accommodations

Embedded
American Sign Language, Braille, Closed Captioning, Text-to-speech

Non-embedded
Abacus, Alternate Response Options, Calculator, Multiplication Table, Print on Demand, Read Aloud, Scribe, Speech-to-text

Testing Time Estimates

Content Area	Grades	Non-Performance Task items	Performance Task	Total	In-Class Activity	Total
English Language Arts/Literacy	3-5	1:30	2:00	3:30	:30	4:00
	6-8	1:30	2:00	3:30	:30	4:00
	11	2:00	2:00	4:00	:30	4:30
Mathematics	3-5	1:30	1:00	2:30	:30	3:00
	6-8	2:00	1:00	3:00	:30	3:30
	11	2:00	1:30	3:30	:30	4:00
Both	3-5	3:00	3:00	6:00	1:00	7:00
	6-8	3:30	3:00	6:30	1:00	7:30
	11	4:00	3:30	7:30	1:00	8:30

Other Information

Smarter Student Information Tool

- **TIDE (in concert with AIM)**

Contractors :

- **ETS—Educational Testing Service**
- **AIR—American Institute for Research**
- **CTB-McGraw Hill**

Other Transitions

Spring 2015

- From CRT Alternate in Reading and Math to NCSC Alternate in ELA and Math
- For more information visit:
  - Smarter/New Alternate Assessment Tab
- Pilot sample in 2013-14

2015-16

- To version 2.0 of WIDA Access for Ells
- To new version of W-Apt, online screener

Communications from the Assessment Division

What resources are available from the Assessment Division at OPI to communicate important information about statewide assessments?	
Resource	**Information/Links**
OPI Assessment Website	We have information on all the assessments on our pages at: http://opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/ Assessment Transitions page: http://opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/#gpm1_8
Live and Recorded Webinars	We present monthly live webinars (see our calendar with links below). We record and post these webinars to the OPI assessment home page for those who cannot attend the live webinars here: http://opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/index.html?tpm=1_4
JUMP Newsletter	This is our periodic newsletter, we send out a link to all administrators, test coordinators, and subscribers when we have a new addition available. JUMP newsletters can be accessed on the OPI website here: http://opi.mt.gov/Curriculum/MontCAS/index.html?gpm=1_3
Assessment Conference	The assessment division hosts an annual assessment/data conference. This year's theme is: All Aboard: College and Career Ready **January 15-17, 2013, Red Lion Colonial Hotel, Helena, MT** Conference Website: http://opi.mt.gov/Curriculum/MontCAS/index.html?gpm=1_3#gpm1_4

Websites

Jump

- http://opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/#p7GPc1_3

OPI Transitions

- http://opi.mt.gov/Curriculum/montCAS/MCCS/index.php?gpm=1_6

Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium

- http://www.smarterbalanced.org/

NCSC—National Center and State Collaborative (alternate)

- http://wiki.ncscpartners.org

WIDA—World Class Instructional Design and Assessment (ELP)

- http://www.wida.us/

Test Coordinator Monthly Webinars

Monthly Webinar Schedule		
First Tuesdays **3:30-4:30 PM**	**New Test Coordinator Academy** Who: Everyone, especially new test coordinators and educators/administrators who want to stay up to date on assessment tasks and important timely assessment topics. What: Review of monthly checklist and in-depth information on timely topics in assessment	http://connect.opi.mt.gov/ntca
First Wednesdays **3:30-4:00 PM**	**Test Coordinator Monthly Updates** Who: Test Coordinators/Administrators What: The short version of the NTCA webinar for experienced test coordinators/administrators	http://connect.opi.mt.gov/tc
Second Tuesdays **3:30-4:30 PM**	**ELP Monthly Webinar** Who: System Test Coordinators, Educators who work with Montana's LEP students. What: Overview of ELP assessment activities and in depth topics to help serve and assess Montana's ELLs.	http://connect.opi.mt.gov/elp
Second Wednesdays **(starting Dec.11)** **3:30-4:30 PM**	**Smarter Balanced Updates** Who: System Test Coordinators and Administrators What: Monthly updates, timely topics, and activities overview pertinent to the Smarter assessment transition.	http://connect.opi.mt.gov/sbac
Last Mondays **3:30-4:30 PM**	**Connecting to the Common Core:** **Montana's New Alternate Assessment** Who: System Test Coordinators, Special Education Directors, and Special Educators What: A monthly webinar series intended to orient educators to the NCSC summative assessment system and inform about assessment development.	http://connect.opi.mt.gov/alt
Log-in Instructions: Click on the link for the webinar (see third column above); Choose: ENTER AS GUEST; Enter: Your First, Last Name, School/District; Click on: ENTER ROOM		

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