

Hawaii is committed to ensuring all students are prepared to succeed in college, the workplace and our community. That's why all public schools across the state are implementing the Hawaii Common Core – a set of consistent expectations for what students should know and be able to do at each grade. New tests aligned with the Hawaii Common Core will measure how well students are learning real world skills such as critical thinking and problem solving.

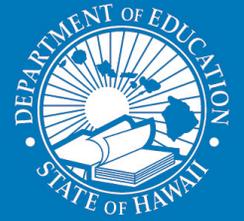
These new tests are developed by the multi-state Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium, of which Hawaii is a governing member. Teachers, parents and higher education faculty from Hawaii collaborated to create high-quality Smarter Balanced tests to accurately measure student progress toward college- and career-readiness.

Similar to the Hawaii State Assessment (HSA), the new Smarter Balanced tests are adaptive and administered online. This format allows the test to adjust to each student's ability, providing parents and teachers with more meaningful information about what students are learning.

The Hawaii State Department of Education is working to ensure teachers and students are prepared to transition to the Smarter Balanced tests. Dozens of schools participated in a tryout of the new test between March and June of 2014, ahead of statewide implementation in the 2014-15 school year.

Sample problem answer:

$(2 \times 8) - 4$, or equivalent expression

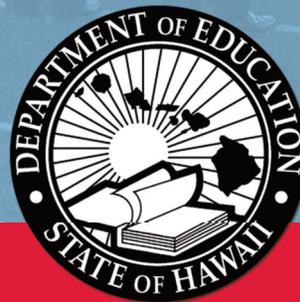


Preparing

HAWAII'S STUDENTS FOR

Success

Changes in state testing that you need to know.



Where can I find more information?

HawaiiPublicSchools.org
SmarterBalanced.org

Hawaii State Department of Education
1390 Miller Street, Honolulu, HI 96813
808-586-3232, doe_info@hawaiidoe.org
HawaiiPublicSchools.org

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What will happen to the current test, the Hawaii State Assessment (HSA)?

During the 2013-14 school year, students in grades 3-8 and 10 took transitional reading and mathematics tests, known as the Online Bridge Hawaii State Assessment.

This test helped ease the burden on educators as the state transitions to the Hawaii Common Core and the new Smarter Balanced tests. The Smarter Balanced tests will be administered, beginning in School Year 2014-15, in grades 3-8 and 11 for English Language Arts/literacy and math.



Key Features of the Smarter Balanced Assessment System

- ✓ End-of-year tests measure student achievement in English Language Arts/literacy and mathematics in grades 3-8 and 11.
- ✓ Schools will also be able to administer interim tests throughout the year. These tests support teaching and learning by providing actionable data and meaningful information on student progress toward mastering the Hawaii Common Core.
- ✓ Features for students with disabilities and English language learners so that all students can demonstrate what they know.
- ✓ Administered online with extended research, writing and problem solving tasks that measure the skills students need for success.
- ✓ Tools for teachers to use all year such as professional development materials and instructional resources to help them meet students' individual needs.

Resources for Parents

Take the Test! Parents and students can experience what the Smarter Balanced tests are like by taking practice questions, available for grades 3 through 8 and high school. www.smarterbalanced.org/practice-test

PTSA Parents' Guide to Student Success. The Hawaii PTSA has guides that outline the new tests, the key concepts that students should be learning, methods for building relationships with teachers, and tips for planning for college and career. www.hawaiistateptsa.org/for-parents.html

The Common Core in Three Minutes. Check out a video overview that explains how the standards help students prepare for college and career. www.commoncoreworks.org/domain/157

Where can I find more information?

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Sample Problem: Grade 5

Are you smarter than a 5th grader? Test yourself!
The following problem was on the practice test:

Tyler is 8 years old. His sister Olivia is 4 years less than twice his age.

Write a numerical expression for Olivia's age.

Answer on back of brochure.