

Statewide Assessment

The **Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR)** system for students in grades 2-11 includes the following four assessments:

1. California Standards Tests (CSTs) – multiple choice, criterion-referenced tests for all students in grades 2-11 and writing tests for students who take the grade 4 and 7 CSTs. All items on these tests are written specifically to assess students' achievement of California's Academic Content Standards in English-language arts, math, science, and social studies. Beginning in spring 2005, test booklets for students in grades 8 and 10 will include science questions to address the requirements of NCLB.
2. California Achievement Test (CAT/6) – multiple-choice norm-referenced tests for all students taking grade 3 and 7 CTs. These tests are published by CTB/McGraw-Hill and compare each student's score to the scores of a national sample of students tested in the same grade at the same time of the school year.
3. Aprenda 3 – measures the academic achievement of K-12 Spanish-speaking students in their native language. Students who are receiving instruction in their native language or have been in the United States for less than 12 months are required to take the Aprenda 3.
4. California Alternative Performance Assessment (CAPA) – an individually administered performance assessment for students with significant disabilities who are unable to take CSTs and CAT/6 even with accommodations or modifications. California special education consultants and test developers developed the CAPA test.

The following statewide assessments are not part of the STAR program:

- California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) – The purpose of CAHSEE is: 1) to improve student achievement in high school and, 2) to help ensure that students who graduate from high school can demonstrate competency in state academic content standards for reading, writing, and mathematics. All tenth graders are required to take the CAHSEE in the spring. Students, beginning with the Class of 2006, may be given up to seven additional opportunities to retake the exam. The English/language arts portion addresses state content standards in through grade 10 and consists of multiple-choice questions and writing talks. The mathematics portion addresses state academic content standards in grades 6, 7 and Algebra 1. CAHSEE results are used to determine Adequate Yearly Progress for high schools under the requirements for *No Child Left Behind*.
- California English Development Test (CELDT) – The purpose of CELDT is to identify new students who are English Learners in kindergarten through grade 12, to determine their level of English proficiency, and to annually assess their progress toward becoming fluent English proficient. The CELDT covers four skills areas: listening and speaking, reading, and writing. Students in kindergarten

and grade 1 only are assessed in listening and speaking. Students in grades 2-12 are assessed in all four skill areas.

Services Available through SCOE:

SCOE Curriculum and Instruction Department staff are available to provide various trainings suitable to different audiences providing information and furthering understanding of statewide assessment. Trainings may be offered at the SCOE or at specific school sites.

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