
ASSEMBLY BILL 484 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Questions and answers regarding Assembly Bill (AB) 484, which establishes California's new statewide student assessment system. AB 484 was signed into law on October 2, 2013.

1. What is Assembly Bill (AB) 484?

Signed into law on October 2, 2013, [AB 484 \(Bonilla\)](#) establishes the California Measurement of Academic Performance and Progress (CalMAPP) assessment system. The CalMAPP system replaces the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program. The primary purpose of the CalMAPP system is to assist teachers, administrators, and pupils and their parents by promoting high-quality teaching and learning through the use of a variety of assessment approaches and item types.

2. When does AB 484 take effect?

The provisions of AB 484 take effect on January 1, 2014.

3. Which subjects and grades are assessed in the CalMAPP system?

AB 484 calls for the transition to a system of assessments and assessment tools that cover the full breadth and depth of the curriculum and promote the teaching of the full curriculum. This transition will take several years to complete.

For the 2013–14 school year, CalMAPP is comprised of the following:

- Field test of the consortium (i.e., Smarter Balanced*) summative assessment for English–language arts (ELA) and mathematics in grades three through eight and grade eleven. Each participating student will take either an ELA or mathematics field test. (Additional details about the field test can be found in the [Smarter Balanced Field Test Questions and Answer page](#).)
- Grade-level science assessments, including the California Standards Tests (CSTs), California Alternate Performance Assessment (CAPA), and the California Modified Assessment (CMA), in grades five, eight, and ten
- California Alternate Performance Assessment (CAPA) for ELA and mathematics in grades two through eleven
- Voluntary for grade eleven students, the Early Assessment Program (EAP) in ELA and mathematics
- Optional for local educational agencies (LEAs) to administer, the Standards-based Tests in Spanish (Further information about grade levels and subjects will be forthcoming.)

4. What assessments will be used for the EAP Program?

The current augmented CSTs for ELA and mathematics will continue to be used for the EAP Program in 2013–14. Beginning in the 2014–15 school year, the grade eleven Smarter Balanced computer adaptive assessments for ELA and mathematics may be used to replace the augmented CSTs that are used for the EAP.

5. What tools will be provided to educators to assist them in implementing and assessing the Common Core State Standards (CCSS)?

AB 484 provides LEAs, at no cost, with formative tools and interim assessments for ELA and mathematics. Formative assessment tools are assessment tools and processes that are embedded in instruction and used by teachers and pupils to provide feedback for purposes of adjusting instruction to improve learning. Interim assessments are assessments that are designed to be given at regular intervals throughout the school year to evaluate a pupil's knowledge and skills relative to a specific set of standards.

6. Will science be tested under CalMAPP?

The grade-level CST, CAPA, and CMA science assessments will continue to be administered in grades five, eight, and ten until new tests aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards, adopted in September 2013, are implemented.

7. Are previous STAR assessments available to LEAs?

STAR assessments that are not a part of the CalMAPP system will be made available for use by LEAs. Additional information on the process to order such assessments will be forthcoming. (Note that the STAR ELA and mathematics tests to be made available do not assess the CCSS.)

8. Can CalMAPP results be compared with results from STAR?

AB 484 prohibits the comparison of CalMAPP assessment results with results from STAR assessments that measure previously adopted content standards (e.g., CalMAPP ELA assessment and STAR ELA assessments). CalMAPP assessments that measure the same content standards as previously administered STAR assessments (e.g., science in grades five, eight, and ten) may be compared.