

# 2015 Smarter Balanced Assessment Survey

## Introduction

Dear WEA Member,

The Washington Education Association (WEA) is interested in hearing about your and your students' experience with Washington's new state test, the Smarter Balanced Assessment. If you were not involved in administering the Smarter Balanced Assessment, please feel free to not proceed.

As a part of WEA's member-driven mission, your input on the educator and student Smarter Balanced testing experience will allow WEA to identify both issues associated with this new test and ways WEA can support you.

**This survey will take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. It will close on Tuesday, June 30.**

Thank you for taking the time to complete this important survey. Your participation will provide meaningful data to advance the professional interests of our members in order to make public education the best it can be for students, staff and communities.

Sincerely,

Sally McNair  
National and State Education Policy Implementation Coordinator

**\*1. Were you involved in the administration of the Smarter Balanced Assessment in your school district in Spring 2015?**

- Yes
- No

## Comments

**2. Please use the space below for any comments or thoughts you have about the Smarter Balanced Assessment.**

## Common Core State Standards (CCSS)

### 3. Common Core State Standards Curriculum Alignment

	1 - Not aligned to CCSS	2	3	4 - Fully aligned to CCSS	Don't know or N/A
Please rate the overall level of Common Core State Standards curriculum alignment currently in your classroom/district.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 4. Curriculum Support To Implement Common Core State Standards

	1 - Low	2	3	4 - High	Don't know or N/A
Please rate the overall level of curriculum support you have received from your district to implement the Common Core State Standards.	<input type="radio"/>				

### 5. Professional Development Support for Common Core State Standards

	1 - Low	2	3	4 - High	Don't know or N/A
Please rate the overall level of professional development support you have received to implement the Common Core State Standards.	<input type="radio"/>				

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## Smarter Balanced Assessment Administration

Please answer regarding the administration of the actual assessment, not practice assessments.

### 6. Smarter Balanced Assessment Administration

	1 - Difficult and frustrating	2	3	4 - Smooth and straightforward	Don't know or N/A
Please rate your overall experience administering the Smarter Balanced Assessment.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 7. District-Provided Support/Guidance

	1 - Low	2	3	4 - High	Don't know or N/A
Please rate the overall level of district-provided support/guidance to administer the Smarter Balanced Assessment.	<input type="radio"/>				

### 8. Clarity of Student Instructions

	1 - Very unclear	2	3	4 - Very clear	Don't know or N/A
Please rate the overall clarity of the Smarter Balanced Assessment student instructions.	<input type="radio"/>				

### 9. Impact on Building and Facilities

	1 - Very disruptive	2	3	4 - Not at all disruptive	Don't know or N/A
Please rate the overall impact of the Smarter Balanced Assessment administration on your building and facilities (e.g., use of computer labs, classrooms, school library, etc.).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 10. Impact on School Day

	1 - Very disruptive	2	3	4 - Not at all disruptive	Don't know or N/A
Please rate the overall impact of the Smarter Balanced Assessment on the school day.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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## 11. Smarter Balanced Assessment Compared to Previous State Assessments

1 - SBA is more  
negative experience

2

3

4 - SBA is more  
positive experience

Don't know or N/A

Please compare your overall Smarter Balanced Assessment experience this year to your previous state standardized test experience(s) (e.g., MSP, HSPE, etc.). (Please select 'N/A' if you have never administered a previous state standardized test.)

## Smarter Balanced Assessment and Time

**12. Please estimate the amount of Smarter Balanced Assessment preparation time (e.g., reading the testing manual(s), providing login codes, setting up computer labs, walking through the assessment, etc.) you used this Spring.**

**(This is the total amount of preparation time you used, whether paid time, release time or your own time. Do not include the time you spent with students preparing and/or practicing for the assessment. Please round to the nearest hour.)**

- 0 hours
- 1 hour
- 2 - 3 hours
- 4 - 5 hours
- 6 - 7 hours
- 8 - 9 hours
- 10 hours or more
- Don't know
- Not applicable

**13. How much of the time you indicated in the previous question was paid time and/or release time provided by your district? (Please round to the nearest hour.)**

- 0 hours
- 1 hour
- 2 - 3 hours
- 4 - 5 hours
- 6 - 7 hours
- 8 - 9 hours
- 10 hours or more
- Don't know

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**14. Please estimate the amount of instructional time used for students to practice for the Smarter Balanced Assessment(s) this school year. (This may include Interim Assessments, Practice Tests and/or Training tests. Please round to the nearest hour.)**

- 0 hours
- 1 - 5 hours
- 6 - 10 hours
- 11 - 15 hours
- 16 - 20 hours
- More than 20 hours
- Don't know
- Not applicable

**\*15. Did you access the Smarter Balanced Digital Library this school year?**

- Yes
- No, although I do know what it is and how to access it
- No, could not access and/or did not know how to access
- Don't know what the Digital Library is

## Digital Library

**16. How much time did you spend using the Digital Library this school year to prepare for the Smarter Balanced Assessment? (This is the total amount of time you spent, regardless if it was paid time, release time or your own time. Please round to the nearest hour.)**

- 0 hours (under 30 minutes)
- 1 hour
- 2 - 3 hours
- 4 - 5 hours
- 6 - 7 hours
- 8 - 9 hours
- 10 hours or more
- Don't know

**17. How much of the time you indicated in the previous question was paid time and/or release time provided by your district? (Please round to the nearest hour.)**

- 0 hours (under 30 minutes)
- 1 hour
- 2 - 3 hours
- 4 - 5 hours
- 6 - 7 hours
- 8 - 9 hours
- 10 hours or more
- Don't know

**18. Overall, in your opinion, how helpful were the Digital Library resources in informing your instruction?**

1 - Not at all helpful

2

3

4 - Very helpful

Don't know or N/A



**19. Please use the space below for any comments you have about the Digital Library.**

## Training Tests, Practice Tests and Interim Assessments

**20. The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium recommends that districts give Training Tests and Practice Tests prior to administering the summative assessment.**

**Training Tests are intended to familiarize students with test software and navigation tools. Training Tests are shorter in duration than the summative assessment.**

**Practice Tests are designed to give students a full grade-level experience and mirror the summative tests.**

**Interim Assessments will be covered in the next question.**

**Which of the following, if any, did you administer before you administered the Smarter Balanced Assessment?**

- A. Training Test
- B. Practice Test
- C. Both the Training Test and Practice Test
- D. Neither the Training Test nor Practice Test
- E. Don't know or not sure

**\*21. Interim Assessments became available in January 2015 and are designed to provide teachers with feedback on their students' skills mastery and can be administered multiple times during the school year.**

**Interim Comprehensive Assessments are the same length and structure as the summative assessment.**

**Interim Assessment Blocks focus on smaller sets of related concepts and provide more detailed information for instructional purposes.**

**Did you administer Interim Comprehensive Assessments and/or Interim Assessment Blocks to your students to prepare for the Smarter Balanced Assessment?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

## Interim Assessments, continued

### 22. Which Smarter Balanced Interim Assessment(s) did you administer?

- Interim Comprehensive Assessment
- Interim Assessment Blocks
- Both

### 23. If you administered the Interim Comprehensive Assessment(s), in which subject(s) did you administer?

- English Language Arts (ELA)
- Mathematics
- Both ELA and Mathematics
- Don't know
- Not applicable, I didn't administer.

### 24. If you administered the Interim Comprehensive Assessment(s), how frequently did you administer it/them?

- 1 time
- 2 times
- 3 or more times
- Don't know
- Not applicable, I didn't administer.

### 25. If you administered the Interim Assessment Blocks, in which subject(s) did you administer?

- English Language Arts (ELA)
- Mathematics
- Both ELA and Mathematics
- Don't know
- Not applicable, I didn't administer.

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**26. If you administered the Interim Assessment Blocks, how many blocks did you administer? (If you administered the same block more than once, please count each block separately.)**

- 1 - 2 blocks
- 3 - 4 blocks
- 5 - 6 blocks
- 7 - 8 blocks
- 9 - 10 blocks
- More than 10 blocks
- Don't know
- Not applicable, I didn't administer.

**27. Overall, in your opinion, how helpful was administering the Interim Assessments to your students in preparing for the Smarter Balanced Assessment?**

1 - Not at all helpful	2	3	4 - Very helpful	Don't know or N/A
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**28. Overall, how helpful was administering the Interim Assessments to you in preparing for the Smarter Balanced Assessment?**

1 - Not at all helpful	2	3	4 - Very helpful	Don't know or N/A
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**29. Overall, in your opinion, how helpful were the Interim Assessments in informing your instruction?**

1 - Not at all helpful	2	3	4 - Very helpful	Don't know or N/A
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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**30. How much time did you spend hand scoring any Interim Assessments that you administered? (This is the total amount of time you spent, regardless if it was paid time, release time or your own time. Please round to the nearest hour.)**

- 0 hours (under 30 minutes)
- 1 hour
- 2 - 3 hours
- 4 - 5 hours
- 6 - 7 hours
- 8 - 9 hours
- 10 hours or more
- Don't know

## Method of Administration

**\*31. How did you administer the Smarter Balanced Assessment to students who did not need accommodations?**

**(A subsequent section will ask questions about students who needed accommodations required by an IEP or 504 plan.)**

- All online
- All paper and pencil
- Some online / some paper and pencil
- N/A, I only administered to students who needed accommodations.

## Online Administration

This page is for those who administered the 2015 Smarter Balanced Assessment to some or all students online.

### 32. Student Keyboarding Skills

1 - Slow and Error Prone                      2                      3                      4 - Fast and Accurate                      Don't know or N/A

In your opinion, how would you rate your students' overall ability to keyboard proficiently?

                                                                                      

### 33. Text to Speech

1 - Difficult and frustrating                      2                      3                      4 - Smooth and straightforward                      Don't know or N/A

In your opinion, how would you rate your students' overall experience with the text to speech feature during the Smarter Balanced Assessment?

                                                                                      

### 34. Volume and Sound

1 - Many Volume / Sound Issues                      2                      3                      4 - No Volume / Sound Issues                      Don't know or N/A

In your opinion, how would you rate your students' overall experience with the volume controls and sound on the device(s) used during the Smarter Balanced Assessment?

                                                                                      

### 35. Screen Size

1 - Very inadequate                      2                      3                      4 - More than adequate                      Don't know or N/A

In your opinion, how would you rate your students' overall experience with the screen size of the device(s) the students used during the Smarter Balanced Assessment?

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**36. On which device did your classroom's students take the Smarter Balanced Assessment? (If your classroom used more than one device or you are a building assessment coordinator, please indicate the device that the majority of the students used to take the Smarter Balanced Assessment.)**

- A. Desktop
- B. Chromebook
- C. Laptop
- D. iPad
- E. Don't know
- F. Other device (please specify)

**37. How familiar were you with the device(s) the students used to take the Smarter Balanced Assessment?**

1 - Not at all familiar	2	3	4 - Very familiar	Don't know or N/A
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**38. Overall, in your opinion, how familiar were your students with the device(s) they used to take the Smarter Balanced Assessment?**

1 - Not at all familiar	2	3	4 - Very familiar	Don't know or N/A
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**39. When taking the Smarter Balanced Assessment, which--if any--of the following technical issues did students experience? (Check all that apply.)**

- A. Students were administered an incorrect assessment.
- B. Students lost work that had been completed.
- C. Students were kicked out of the assessment and/or had trouble logging in again after a break.
- D. Audio settings could not be adjusted for the students to hear.
- E. In-test tools could not be accessed and/or did not work properly.
- F. None of the above
- G. Other (please specify)

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**40. Please use the space below for any comments you have about the technology used to take the Smarter Balanced Assessment.**

## Accommodations

**\*41. Did you administer the Smarter Balanced Assessment to students with an IEP or 504 plan that required accommodations for the assessment?**

Yes

No

## Accommodations, continued

**42. Overall, in your opinion, how would you rate the level of support from the district that you received to provide student-specific testing accommodations to students with IEPs and/or 504 plans?**

1 - Low

2

3

4 - High

Don't know or N/A

**43. Overall, in your opinion, how would you rate the Smarter Balanced Assessment's ability to meet the required accommodations of your students' IEP and/or 504 plans?**

1- Not well at all

2

3

4 - Very well

Don't know or N/A

**44. Please use the space below for any comments you have about the Smarter Balanced Assessment and accommodations.**

## Subject Areas

**\*45. Did you administer the Smarter Balanced Assessment in the English Language Arts (ELA) subject area to students?**

- Yes
- No, I administered only in Mathematics.

## English Language Arts (ELA)

**46. How much time did it take for most of your students to complete all sections of the ELA Smarter Balanced Assessment (ELA Computer Adaptive Test [CAT], ELA Classroom Activity and ELA Performance Task)? (Please round to the nearest quarter hour.)**

- A. 0 - 2 hours
- B. 2.25 - 4 hours
- C. 4.25 - 6 hours
- D. 6.25 - 8 hours
- E. 8.25 - 10 hours
- F. More than 10 hours
- G. Don't know
- H. Not applicable

**47. Please describe any challenges students had with the ELA Smarter Balanced Assessment in the space below.**

**\*48. Did you also administer the Smarter Balanced Assessment in the Mathematics subject area to students?**

- Yes
- No

## Mathematics

**49. How much time did it take for most of your students to complete all sections of the Mathematics Smarter Balanced Assessment (Mathematics Computer Adaptive Test [CAT], Mathematics Classroom Activity and Mathematics Performance Task)? (Please round to the nearest quarter hour.)**

- A. 0 - 2 hours
- B. 2.25 - 4 hours
- C. 4.25 - 6 hours
- D. 6.25 - 8 hours
- E. 8.25 - 10 hours
- F. More than 10 hours
- G. Don't know
- H. Not applicable

**50. Please describe any challenges students had with the Mathematics Smarter Balanced Assessment in the space below.**

## Demographics

Your anonymity is important to us. We will not provide breakout data for any school district with a low number of respondents.

### \*51. In which school district do you work?

### 52. Which of the following is your primary role in the school(s) where you work?

- General education teacher
- Special education/Title/LAP teacher
- Specialist/ESA (e.g., TOSA, instructional coach, school counselor, etc.)
- Instructional assistant/paraeducator
- Other (please specify)

### 53. Did you serve as the School Test Coordinator (SC) for your building's 2015 Smarter Balanced Assessment administration?

- A. Yes
- B. No

### 54. To which grade level(s) did you administer the Smarter Balanced Assessment? (Please check all that apply.)

- Grades 3-5
- Grades 6-8
- High School

## Open Comments

**55. Please use the space below for any other comments you have about administering the 2015 Smarter Balanced Assessment.**

Please click "Done" when you are finished with the survey to ensure your responses are recorded. Thank you!