Vermont Smarter Balanced Assessment

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VERMONT
AGENCY OF EDUCATION

Smarter Balanced Assessment Team

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Smarter Balanced

Regional Trainings

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Dec 8 2015
2:00-3:00 PM

TIDE/TDS/THSS

Dec 10 2015
3:30-4:30 PM

From the Test Director:

Although it is more than 3 months until the Smarter Balanced testing window opens on March 15th, it's not too early to begin entering your student information into the Test Information Delivery Engine (TIDE). In fact, if you plan on using the interim assessments, you must set up TIDE first. Unlike last year, the Agency will not be able to pre-populate TIDE for the districts because the fall census data will not be complete and confirmed until just before the assessment window opens. TIDE is accessed through the Vermont Portal (http://vt.portal.airast.org/). From the District Test Administrator page, select TIDE, enter your password, select "Student Information" and then follow the on-screen instructions. Data can be added one student at a time, or you can download a file format and build the file from your district's data system using either Excel or a CSV format. Please contact the Vermont Helpdesk if you need help understanding the process (844) 218-1184 / vthelpdesk@air.org). While you're entering data into TIDE, you may also want to create student rosters for classroom teachers, which is done by selecting the "roster" tab in TIDE. Rosters make it easier for teachers to help confirm the student data, and will come in handy later when student results become available through the Online Reporting System. *Michael Hock, State Assessment Director* michael.hock@vermont.gov / 802-479-1288.

Smarter Balanced Training Webinars

Similar to last spring, AIR will be offering training webinars to help schools with Technology and Test Administration. This does not take the place of the online training required to administer the Smarter Balanced Assessment. The webinars and their descriptions are below. Click on the dates under the desired topic to register.

Technology Requirements for Online Testing

This webinar is intended for Technology Coordinators. It will provide an overview of the technology requirements needed on all computers and devices used for online testing, information on secure browser installation, and voice packs for text-to-speech.

TIDE and How to Start/Monitor Online Testing and Test Settings

This webinar is intended for District Administrators, District Test Coordinators, and School Coordinators. It will provide an overview of how to navigate the following systems: Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE), Test Delivery System (TDS), and Teacher Hand Scoring System (THSS). Participants will learn how to set student settings in TIDE, start and monitor a test session using the TA Interface, and how to score hand-scored item responses via THSS.

Assessment Viewing Application (AVA)

AVA is a tool educators can use to view the interim assessments. You will be able to view the assessment and the questions. You be able to get target level information from the ICAs, but not the IABs. Interim Assessments are not computer adaptive.

Digital Library Spotlight

Professional Development Opportunity

Teachers who are interested in submitting lessons to the Digital Library are encouraged to take the online training. Starting this year, the Digital Library will be expanding the categories to include other content areas such as, but not limited to social studies, science, and fine arts. Please encourage all teachers to train and submit materials. All published material will remain the intellectual property of the teacher. The link to the online training can be found in the Digital Library card on the VT-Smarter Balanced portal. For more information on Professional Learning Credit, please click the following link:

VT Continuing Education Credits

Question of the Week
Is the make-up window only for testing students who have not done any testing?
No. Technically, the assessment should conclude at the end of May; however, if you have students who haven't tested, or need more time, you can use the make-up window. The make-up window is there for individual students and not whole classes. TIDE will not be taken down until the last day of school. Furthermore, school districts will need to use this time to start reviewing data and make sure students have completed all 4 components of the assessment.