



CALIFORNIA ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT

for Science Field Test



WHAT IS THE CAA FOR SCIENCE?

The California Alternate Assessment (CAA) for Science is part of California's system of assessments called the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP). Currently under development, the CAA for Science will be field tested in 2018–19 and will be operational in 2019–20.

Designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities, the CAA for Science measures what students know and can do in science. This assessment is based on the Science Core Content Connectors, which are aligned with the California Next Generation Science Standards (CA NGSS).



WHY IS THE CAA FOR SCIENCE GIVEN?

The purpose of the CAA for Science is to assess student knowledge and skills in Science, and to foster science education at every grade level. One purpose of the CAA for Science Field Test is to allow educators to become familiar with embedding performance tasks into classroom instruction.



WHO TAKES THE CAA FOR SCIENCE?

Students are eligible to take the CAA for Science only if it is indicated in their active individualized education program (IEP).

The CAA for Science is for eligible students in grades five and eight and one time in high school (i.e., grade ten, eleven, or twelve). The California Department of Education recommends testing high school students when they are enrolled in their last science course. High schools have the option to test any or all students in grades ten or eleven, as long as all students have been tested by grade twelve.



HOW IS THE CAA FOR SCIENCE GIVEN?

The CAAs are computer-based and administered one-on-one by a trained test examiner who is familiar with the student and their needs.

The field test consists of three embedded performance tasks. Each embedded performance task consists of a collection of activities and questions which are to be administered after related science concepts are taught to the students. Teachers determine the best time to administer the performance task during the school year.



WHEN IS THE CAA FOR SCIENCE GIVEN?

2018–19
Field Test
 January 2019
 through last day
 of instruction

2019–20
Operational
 September 2019
 through last day
 of instruction

