



Focus on Assessment

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2018 Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT)



The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) provides the Nevada CRT aligned to the Nevada Academic Content Standards (NVACS) in the subject areas of English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics for students in Grades 3-8. In addition, the Science CRT is given to students in Grades 5 and 8. The testing window for the 2017-2018 school year begins on **February 22, 2018 to May 21, 2018** (see testing calendars for details). For guides, resources, training, and test coordinator communication, see the new Assessment Resources padlet at bit.ly/assess005 and select **CRT** under **More**.

eDIRECT

- The CRTs are given online using the eDIRECT platform and the INSIGHT secure browser.
- The eDIRECT platform is where test coordinators access users, materials, students, test sessions, and reports for their site(s) at: <https://nv.drccedirect.com/>.

Universal Tools, Designated Supports, and Accommodations

- Each tool for support is outlined in detail in the 2018 Usability, Accessibility, and Accommodations Guide, available in eDIRECT at <https://nv.drccedirect.com/>.
- Schools must enter designated supports and accommodations prior to testing.
- Students can gain experience with the Online Tools Training at <https://wbte.drccedirect.com/NV/portals/nv>.

Data Services

- Data Services will manage student information in the eDIRECT system, rostering students from Infinite Campus each night.
- All test sessions will be created for schools, and test coordinators will have the opportunity to create custom sessions to assist with an efficient test administration.

The math and ELA CRT assessments are a part of the Smarter Balanced assessment system, aligned to both the resources in the Digital Library, at <https://sbdigitallibrary.org/>, as well as the SBAC Interims. Select **SBAC Interims** on the Assessment Resources padlet at bit.ly/assess005 for more information about the Digital Library and SBAC Interims.

ACT: Testing Dates to Remember

The 2017-2018 ACT administration is approaching quickly for high schools. Students must test within the window established below.

Test Administration	Dates
Initial test date (paper)	February 27, 2018
Online testing window	February 27-March 1, 2018 and March 6-8, 2018
Accommodations testing window (paper)	February 27-March 13, 2018
Makeup test date (paper)	March 20, 2018

Please contact the Assessment Department at (702) 799-1041, Ext. 5258 or 5953 with questions.

Grades 3-5 On-Demand Writing Resources

The Smarter Balanced Digital Library has added a new resource for educators to use in planning writing instruction for on-demand writing prompts. This is a great resource that provides follow-up activities for use in conjunction with ELA performance tasks. Log on to the Digital Library at bit.ly/digitalibraryPT to access these resources.



Teachers can use this Digital Library resource to have students score sample essays as a group or to have students evaluate, revise, and strengthen their own responses to writing prompts. Both of these options allow students to use annotated anchors and performance task writing rubrics, which increases students' self-assessment and revision skills.

Manuals and User Guides	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Manuals and User Guides</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practice and Training Test User Guide (PDF) — Provides an overview of the Practice and Training Test Site and information about accessing the Practice and Training Tests Item Crosswalk for the Practice Test and Sample Items Website (XLSX) — Use this spreadsheet to view Practice Test items on the Sample Items Website. The spreadsheet lists the sequence number for the Practice Test item and the corresponding item ID on the Sample Items website.
Calculators	
Scoring Guides	
Annotated Anchors for Performance Tasks	
Performance Task Writing Rubrics	

Educators can access the performance task scoring guides for each grade level by going to bit.ly/SBACrd, clicking on "Scoring Guides," and then expanding the desired grade level (as shown above). The ELA Performance Task Guide can be utilized to locate student directions and prompts. The annotated anchors and rubrics can also be accessed on the same page.

Like many of the resources available in the Digital Library, this valuable resource contains formative assessment strategies and exposes students to the type of cognitive demand required for mastery of the Nevada Academic Content Standards.

WIDA Testing Window Open

The WIDA ACCESS window has opened and testing is fully underway. Please keep **all** testing materials until the window closes on **February 28, 2018**. This ensures schools have materials for new students who enroll before the close of the testing window. Additional materials can be ordered through WIDA AMS, if necessary.



Accommodations will need to be entered **prior** to printing test tickets and a guide is available on the Assessment Resources padlet to assist with this process. Please note, since the WIDA ACCESS is a language acquisition test, accommodations differ from other tests, which focus on testing content knowledge. The only three embedded accommodations in WIDA are as follows:

1. Manual control of audio
2. Repeat item audio
3. Extended speaking test response time

All accommodations are described in the Accessibility and Accommodations Supplement, available on the WIDA.US Web site. Students are able to utilize scratch paper and pencil during the assessment, however, all scratch paper must be destroyed and may not leave the testing environment.

During the testing window test coordinators will be using **two** different Web sites which are described below:

1. **WIDA.US** is the site for all training related to the WIDA testing.
2. **WIDA-AMS.US** is the Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) system for test management.



Please remember, any individual who is administering the WIDA ACCESS must pass the quiz on WIDA.US and complete the CCSD test security training in Pathlore.

Visit the Assessment Resources padlet for pertinent information to ensure a successful testing season or contact the Assessment Department at (702) 799-1041, option 2.