



# Santa Ana Unified School District

RESEARCH AND EVALUATION  
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Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Parent(s) and Guardian(s):

There are many ways to measure your child's learning. Your child's teacher uses report card grades, classroom work, teacher observations, and end-of-year statewide test results to get a complete picture of your child's learning. For the 2023 spring administration of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) and the Summative English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC), students will continue to take their assigned tests in-person. Our priority is to continue keeping our students and educators safe by following state, county, and local health and safety guidance and take all necessary precautions to ensure our schools remain among the safest places for children.

Below is a table outlining the 2022-2023 CAASPP and ELPAC assessments that your child could participate in, depending on their grade level or instructional program.

CAASPP and ELPAC					
Assessment	Who	Grades	Subject(s)	Method	When
Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC)	All students unless their Individualized Education Program (IEP) indicates assessment with CAA.	3-8 and 11	English-Language Arts and Mathematics	Computer-Based (In-Person)	March - June
California Alternate Assessment (CAA)	Students with significant cognitive disabilities who are unable to take the SBAC even with supports or accommodations and whose Individualized Education Program (IEP) indicates an alternate assessment.	3-8 and 11	English- Language Arts and Mathematics	Computer-Based (In-Person)	March - June
California Science Test (CAST)	All students unless their Individualized Education Program (IEP) indicates an assessment with CAA for Science.	5, 8, 11 and 12 if not taken during the 2021-2022 administration	Science	Computer-Based (In-Person)	March - June
California Alternate Assessment for Science (CAA for Science)	Students with significant cognitive disabilities who are unable to take the CAST even with supports or accommodations and whose Individualized Education Program (IEP) indicates an alternate assessment.	5, 8, 11 and 12 if not taken during the 2021-2022 administration	Science	Lesson/Computer-Based (In-person)	Sept. - June
California Spanish Assessment (CSA) <i>Optional</i>	Students who speak Spanish as their primary language, as well as those who are learning Spanish as an additional language.	3-8 and High School	Reading/Language Arts in Spanish	Computer-Based (In-Person)	March - June
English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (Summative ELPAC)	All students who are identified as English learners unless their Individualized Education Program (IEP) indicates assessment with an Alternate Assessment.	K-12	Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing	Computer-Based and (K-2 Writing Paper-pencil) (In-Person)	Feb. - May
Alternate English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (Alternate ELPAC)	English learners with disabilities characterized as moderate or severe, who are unable to take the Summative ELPAC even with supports or accommodations and whose Individualized Education Program (IEP) indicates an alternate assessment.	K-12	Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing	Computer-Based (In-Person)	Feb. - May

You are an important part of your child's education. To help your child get ready for the test, please be sure that you talk about the test with your child, making sure they are not scared or anxious. Remind your child that you and their teacher want them to try their very best. Also, take a practice test with them and make sure your child gets a good night's sleep and a nutritious breakfast before a CAASPP/ELPAC test.

To learn more about the CAASPP and ELPAC assessments, go to the California Department of Education Parent Guides to Understanding web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/parentguidetounderstand.asp> as well as the CAASPP Starting Smarter web page at <https://ca.startingsmarter.org/> and or the ELPAC Starting Smarter web page at <https://elpac.startingsmarter.org/>.

You also can look at sample test questions on the practice tests, which can be found on the CAASPP Web Portal at <http://www.caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html> and the ELPAC Online Practice and Training Tests Web portal <https://www.elpac.org/resources/online-practice-and-training-test/>.

Once your child's score results become available, they will be posted in the Aeries Parent Portal. The results will identify where your child is doing well or needs more help, so you can better support their learning at home and teachers can better support their learning in the classroom.

If you have any questions regarding your child's participation in these assessments, please contact the Santa Ana Unified School District, Research and Evaluation department at 714-558-5850. For actual testing dates, please contact your child's school. Thank you for making sure your child is ready to test.

Sincerely,

Executive Director, Research and Evaluation

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