



# Alternate Assessment State Updates 2013-2014

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# General Info



# Federal Waiver Requests

- South Dakota has applied for waiver related to piloting Smarter Balanced and NCSC assessments
  1. Schools will not have to double test students in spring of 2014, and
  2. State will carry over school accountability classifications from the 2013-14 school year for the 2014-15 school year
- 1% Exception Request applies to accountability so if approved no applications needed



# All Students Tested

- Students eligible for alternate assessment will be assessed in all tested subject areas
- Waiver requests do not apply to participation rate requirements
- South Dakota will be piloting NCSC assessment and testing on STEP-A



# All Students Tested

- Administration Plan
  - Currently recruiting districts for NCSC pilot administration
  - Students in pilot will be assessed in Math or ELA
  - Area not tested on NCSC pilot will be assessed on STEP-A
    - Student A: ELA = NCSC pilot, Math = STEP-A
    - Student B: Reading = STEP-A, Math = NCSC
    - Student C: Reading & Math STEP-A (no pilot administration)



# Writing Alternate

- Assessment Window runs Sept 1 to April 30
- Two administrations for grades 5, 7 & 10
- Materials and training posted on STEP-A page
- Scores must be entered on the web



# District-wide Assessment

- Districts that administer district-wide assessments to an entire grade(s) at a district level to measure the achievement of students must administer an alternate assessment for students whose IEP indicate alternate assessment.
- The district is responsible for selecting and administering an appropriate assessment



# Stay Updated

- Special Ed Alternate:

<http://listserv.state.sd.us/archives/spedalternate.html>

- Updates on NCSC Grant Project
- Alternate assessment updates
- Ask questions about alternate assessment and alternate standards
- Share teaching ideas and technology



# NCSC



# NCSC Grant Timeline

- Winter of 2012-13, dissemination of math materials
- Winter of 2013-14, dissemination of ELA materials
- February/March 2014 pilot administration Math or ELA
- 2014-2015 school year - full transition to SD Common Core Standards
- Fall 2014 pilot
- Spring 2015 test administration



# NCSC in Contrast to STEP-A

- Web based assessment
- Administered individually
- Assesses English Language Arts which includes reading and writing
- Accommodations will be designated in IEP(need to start including but will not amend for this year)
- Teacher will use a script to administer assessment



# NCSC Pilot Administration

- Purpose:
  - Investigate administrative conditions
  - Provide understanding as to how the items are functioning
  - Investigate the proposed item scoring process and procedures
  - Allow students and teachers an opportunity to engage with technology for assessment



# Why Participate?

- Teachers and students will experience the types of items, item presentation, and administration procedures.
- Test administrators will provide feedback on their experience administering items to students.
- Confirm that test administrators and students have the technology (computer hardware, software and internet capabilities) needed.
- Prepare for the operational NCSC AA-AAS which will be administered in spring 2015 to every eligible student in partner states.



# NCSC Pilot Administration

- The assessment for each content area will have about 25 questions and is expected to take 1.5–2 hours.
  - Must be administered individually
- Each student's assessment can be completed in multiple smaller time slots to meet student's individual needs.



# NCSC Pilot Administration

- Most assessment items will be selected response. The student will select a response from the available choices
- Some assessment items require the student to demonstrate or perform (i.e. create a graph).
  - Guidance on manipulative materials, supports, teacher scripts, and scoring rubrics are provided in the teacher directions for each item.



# NCSC Pilot Administration

- Test Administrator Preparation:
  - Complete Online Test Administrator Training
  - Review all NCSC policy and test administration documents
  - Identify, enter and provide student accommodations
  - Ensure test materials for the students are available and easily accessible



# Technology Requirements (Pilot)

## NCSC Proposed Workstation and Bandwidth Technology Requirements

<b>Test Delivery Workstation Hardware and Software:</b> The test delivery system should align with the State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA) recommendations. The following represents the minimum hardware and software requirements of the test delivery workstation.	
Operating System	PC: Windows Vista SP2, Windows 7, Windows 8  Mac: 10.4.4 (Tiger), 10.5 (Leopard), 10.6 (Snow Leopard), 10.7 (Lion), 10.8 (Mountain Lion), 10.9
Browser	IE 9 or better; Firefox 24 or later; Chrome 26 or better; Opera 12 or better Safari 6 or better
Other Work Station Requirements	32 bit and 64 bit; disk space: 100 MB or more; Chromebook version 18 or better; screen resolution: 1024 x 768 or higher; screen size 9.5: inches or larger, color depth: high color, 16 bit millions; any media will be played through native browser capabilities
Required Peripherals	Mechanical keyboards; mouse; speakers for students using read-aloud features
Bandwidth	1.5 Mbits/s dedicated or faster

Access through I-Pad and some tablets will not be available for Pilot (screen size)



# Ways you can get prepared

- Register for the pilot:
  - Registration site includes information such as FAQs and details for participating schools.
  - Deadline to register January 10
  - <http://www.ctb.com/ctb.com/control/ctbLandingPageViewAction?landngPageId=58275>
- Test technology requirements  
<http://www.ncscpartners.org/> (specs on left)
- Use NCSC instructional supports located on Wiki  
[https://wiki.ncscpartners.org/mediawiki/index.php/Main\\_Page](https://wiki.ncscpartners.org/mediawiki/index.php/Main_Page)



# NCSC Webpage

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the NCSC website. The address bar shows the URL <http://www.ncscpartners.org/>. The browser's menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Favorites, Tools, and Help. The Favorites bar shows 'NCSC Wiki' and 'NCSC - CTB/McGraw-Hill'. The website header features the 'ncsc' logo and the text 'National Center and State Collaborative'. A navigation menu includes Home, About, Blog, Resources, and Procurement. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains a photograph of a teacher interacting with two young students, one of whom is in a wheelchair. Below the photo is a text box stating: 'The NCSC project will develop an alternate assessment based on alternate achievement standards, balancing flexibility and standardization, working closely with teachers, content, and assessment design experts.' Below this is a welcome message: 'Welcome to the National Center and State Collaborative! The National Center and State Collaborative (NCSC) is a project led by five centers and 25 states (14 core states and 11 Tier II states) to build an alternate assessment based on alternate achievement standards (AAASD) for students with disabilities.' The right column features a 'Latest Updates' section with three entries: 1. 'NCSC Community of Practice Newsletters' (Dec 3 2013 10:00 AM), 2. 'NCSC Updates and Clarifies the Technology Specifications Necessary to Support the Spring 2014 Pilot' (Nov 19 2013 9:01 PM), and 3. 'NCSC GSEG Project Awards Assessment Technology System Contract' (Oct 11 2013 4:45 PM). Each entry includes a 'Comments' link and a 'more' link. The footer of the page shows the page number '19' and the website 'oe.sd.gov'.



# NCSC WIKI

Page [Discussion](#) [Read](#) [View source](#) [View his](#)

## Main Page

### Welcome to the National Center and State Collaborative Wiki!

The National Center and State Collaborative (NCSC) is a project led by five centers and 26 states (15 core states and 11 Tier II states) to build an alter standards (AA-AAS) for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. The goal of the NCSC project is to ensure that students with the most increasingly higher academic outcomes and leave high school ready for post-secondary options. Find out more about NCSC at <http://www.ncscpartne>

This wiki has been created to host the materials that educators will need to accomplish these goals and deliver instruction aligned to the Common Co grouped in three categories:

- [Curriculum Resources - What to Teach](#) (reference materials created to reinforce educators' understanding of curriculum content)
- [Instructional Resources - How to Teach](#) (reference materials created to support classroom teaching)
- [Classroom Solutions](#) (solutions or accommodations created by educators and shared here)

The graphic below presents the relationships between Curriculum and Instructional Resources developed in the NCSC grant.

The diagram, titled "SCHEMA for Common Core State Standards Resources" and "CSC Instructional Resources", illustrates the relationship between three key components. On the left is a box labeled "Common Core State Standards". An arrow points from this box to a central box labeled "Core Content Connectors". From the "Core Content Connectors" box, an arrow points to an oval labeled "Learning Progressions Frameworks". The diagram is set against a purple background with the NCSC logo in the top left corner.



# www.doe.sd.gov - NCSC Webpage

**SOUTH DAKOTA COMMON CORE**  
*Common Core Standards*  
Raising the bar for South Dakota students  
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National Assessment of Educational Progress  
**NCSC Alt Assessment**  
South Dakota Assessment Portal  
South Dakota Benchmark Assessment (SDBA)  
Stanford 10 (Home School)  
Testing Coordinators Workshops

Named National Teacher of the Year  
Paul Kuhlman has been named Teacher of the Year of the state of South Dakota for his work in the science and mathematics middle and high school district.

improve the user experience

en modifications

channel: Listen to a proposed school accountability

of WorkKeys

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## NCSC Alt Assessment

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The Core Content Connectors (CCCs) are the prioritized academic content designed to frame the instruction and assessment of students with the most significant cognitive disabilities in Kindergarten through high school while retaining the grade level content focus of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The CCCs (grade-specific knowledge, skills and abilities) are organized into Instructional Families based on the content students are expected learn. Instructional Families are grouped to provide a structure/schema for teachers that articulate emphasized content within and across grades in mathematics.

Math Instructional Families
<a href="#">Data, Probability and Statistics – letter size</a>
<a href="#">Data, Probability and Statistics – legal size</a>
<a href="#">Geometry – letter size</a>
<a href="#">Geometry – legal size</a>

**PRESENTATIONS:**

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[NCSC Grant Project Overview](#)

[NCSC Curriculum and Instructional Resources Overview](#)

[Graduated Understandings: Instructional Families and Element Cards](#)

**Professional Development Presentations:**

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[NCSC Workshops](#)

  

**LINKS:**

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[Alternate Assessment List Serv](#)



# STEP-A



## STEP-A

- Students will participate in both subject areas if not participating in NCSC pilot
- Students participating in NCSC pilot will take the area not tested on STEP-A
- All students in grades 5, 8 & 11 will take Science
  - NCSC will not add science component



# www.doe.sd.gov - STEP-A Webpage

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Alternative Formative Writing Assessment					
<a href="#">5th Grade Alternative Formative Writing Assessment</a>					
<a href="#">7th Grade Alternative Formative Writing Assessment</a>					



# South Dakota Contact Information



## Alternate Assessment

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