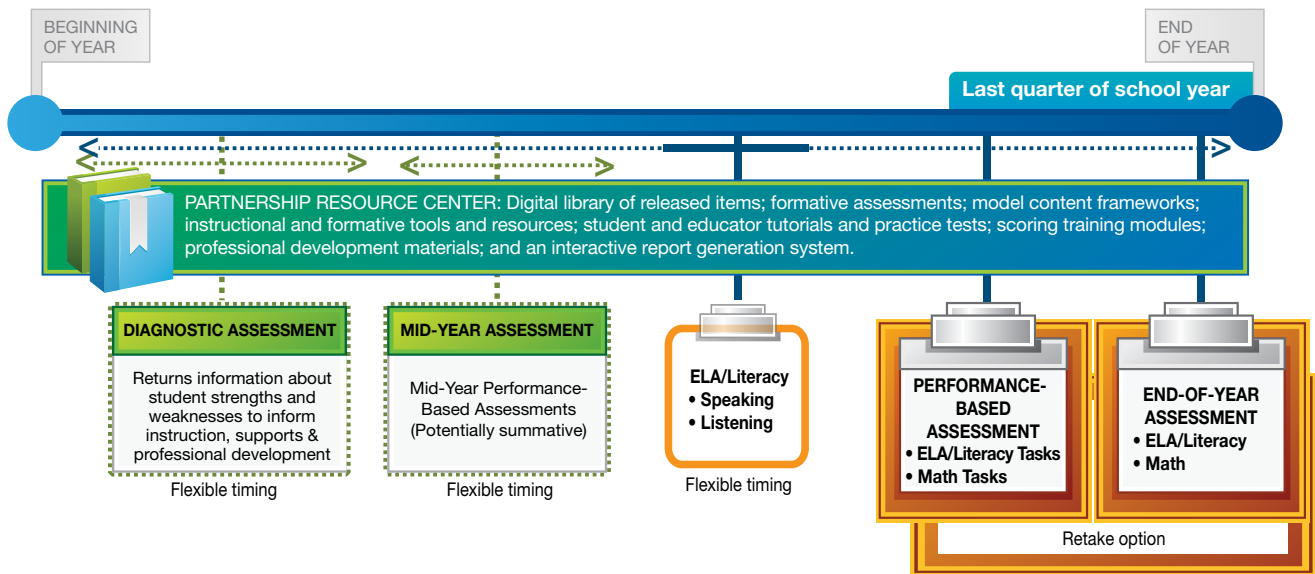


Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)



Features of the PARCC Assessment System

Optional Assessment Components:

Diagnostic Assessment: Designed to return useful information concerning student knowledge and skills so that instruction, support and professional development can be tailored to student needs.

Mid-Year Assessment: Performance tasks that provide instructionally useful feedback and prepare students for the performance tasks in the summative assessment. Tasks will focus on hard-to-measure standards and will be scored by teachers via an online tool. Pending studies, states may opt to include the mid-year assessment in their students' summative scores.

Summative Assessment Components:

Performance-Based Assessments: Composed primarily of performance tasks and taken over several sessions/class periods, the three English Language Arts (ELA) tasks will focus on writing effectively when analyzing text and the two or more mathematics tasks will require students to use key math concepts to solve real-world problems. Scores to be returned within two weeks.

End-of-Year Assessments: These comprehensive, computer-based assessments will consist of innovative, machine-scorable item types. High School: in mathematics, both traditional and integrated math sequences will be supported; and in ELA, literacy skills in ELA, science and social studies will be assessed, as defined in the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

Total testing time for both components and subjects is expected to be 8–9.5 hours, depending on the grade level.

Scoring: Scores for the two summative components will be combined for the student's annual accountability score.

Speaking/Listening Assessment: (Required, not used for accountability) This component can be given at any time and is to be scored by the teacher using a rubric.

Partnership Resource Center: A digital library of optional resources to support teachers and students in grades K–12: released items; model content frameworks; instructional and formative tools and resources; student and educator tutorials and practice tests; scoring training modules; professional development materials; and an interactive report generation system.

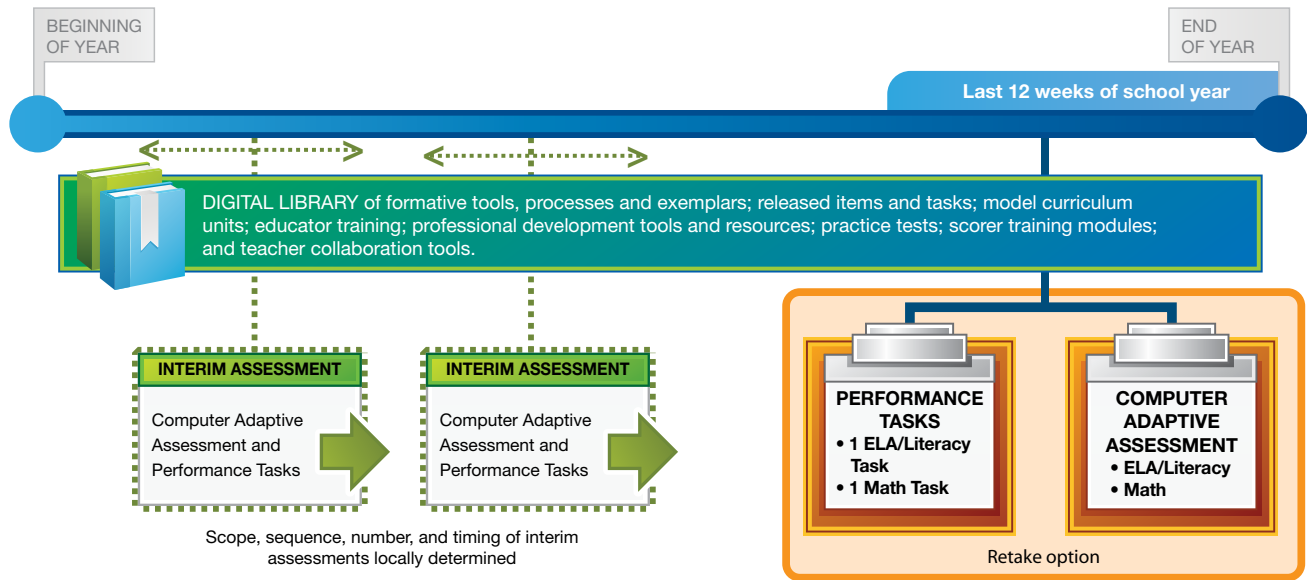
Implementation: Field testing in 2013–2014; Operational by Fall 2014.

PARCC TIMELINE

2012–2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educator Leadership Cadres of 24 K–16 educators per state continue training Item tryouts and cognitive labs conducted (Spring/Summer 2013)
2013–2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online professional learning modules released (Fall 2013) Optional formative tasks for K–2 available (Winter 2014) Full scale field test of Performance-Based Assessments (Winter 2014) and End-of-Year Assessments (Spring 2014) College-readiness tools available (Spring 2014)
2014–2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diagnostic assessments available (Fall 2014) Full operational administration of PARCC assessments (Spring 2015) Set achievement levels, including college-ready performance levels (late spring 2015, post-administration)

Sample items and performance tasks can be found at www.parcconline.org

Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium



Features of the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium

Optional Interim Assessments:

These optional computer-adaptive assessments can be customized to local curricula and information needs. This flexible system can assess either the full set of grade-level standards or a smaller set of standards at a deeper level. Teachers will have access to items and student responses. Reports will link teachers to appropriate formative strategies and professional development resources.

Summative Assessments:

Performance Tasks (PT) will be completed annually (one in English Language Arts/literacy and one in mathematics) during consortium-defined testing windows. Tasks will generally require 90–120 minutes to complete and will focus on hard-to-measure standards and real-world scenarios.

Computer Adaptive Assessments (CAT) will consist of approximately 40–65 questions per content area and include selected-response, constructed-response and technology-enhanced items. Most items will be scored immediately, although some teacher/human scoring may be included. A retake option will be available, as locally determined.

Total testing time for both components and subjects is expected to be 7–8.5 hours, depending on the grade level.

Scoring: Final scores to be used for accountability purposes will merge PT and CAT scores and be reported on a vertical scale in grades 3–11. Both machine and teacher scoring will be used, with results to be returned within two weeks. One retake opportunity for grades 3–8 and up to three retakes for high school will be available, subject to local approval.

Digital Clearinghouse: A digital library of optional resources to support teachers and students, grades K–12: formative tools, processes and exemplars; released items and tasks; model curriculum units; educator training; professional development tools and resources; scorer training modules; and teacher collaboration tools.

Implementation: Field testing in 2013; Operational by January 2015.

SMARTER BALANCED TIMELINE

2012–2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher cadres from each member state formed (Winter 2013) Pilot test summative and interim assessment items and tasks in a sample of schools (Winter/Spring 2013)
2013–2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher cadres trained in use of formative tools and PD modules (Summer/Fall 2013) Exemplary instructional modules released (Summer/Fall 2013) Field test items and tasks (Spring 2014)
2014–2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training materials available for all users on interpreting interim and summative assessment reports, searching resources and using collaboration tools in the Digital Library (Summer/Fall 2014) Launch Comprehensive Electronic Platform, including Digital Library (Fall 2014) Smarter Balanced optional interim assessments available (Fall 2014) First administration of summative assessments (Spring 2015) Verify and adopt final achievement standards for the summative assessments (Summer 2015)

Sample items and performance tasks can be found at

www.smarterbalanced.org