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**From:** CalTac <CalTAC@info.ets.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 03, 2015 3:37 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** CAASPP--New Setting for Interim Assessments



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Dear LEA CAASPP Coordinator:

On October 15, 2015, a new setting, *Manner of Administration*, was added to the Test Administrator (TA) Interface for the Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments found on <http://www.caaspp.org/>. This new setting is offered as part of an ongoing effort to enhance the integrity of interim assessment results data for potential longitudinal analyses within the local educational agency (LEA), and to support LEAs that choose to use the interim assessments as performance benchmarks.

The *Manner of Administration* setting is provided to interim assessment administrators to indicate whether or not an administration of the interim assessments will be standardized. This setting is available for use when administering both interim comprehensive assessments (ICAs) and interim assessment blocks (IABs).

Two options are available for this new setting: *Standardized/Benchmark* and *Nonstandardized*. As interim assessment administrators begin to use this new setting in the TA Interface, the following information should be taken into consideration:

- **The default selection for the *Manner of Administration* setting is *Nonstandardized*.** By choosing the *Standardized/Benchmark* administration selection, interim assessment administrators are identifying which interim assessment results will be retained in the Interim Assessment Reporting System for potential longitudinal analyses locally. *Standardized/Benchmark* should be selected only if the interim assessment will be administered in a standardized manner.
- **Interim assessment results from the 2015–16 school year that have *Nonstandardized* selected will be purged from the Interim Assessment Reporting System at the beginning of the 2016–17 school year.** All 2014–15 interim assessment results will also be purged at this same time. Please note: LEAs may download all interim assessment results from the Interim Assessment Reporting System at any time prior to the removal of these data by the CDE.
- **The interim assessment for a student should be marked *Standardized/Benchmark* only if valid interpretation of results can be made.** The exact criteria for selecting the *Standardized/Benchmark* option for a student is locally determined. Factors that may impact appropriateness include, but are not necessarily limited to, the extent to which:
  - o The student has been previously exposed to the interim assessment items/form taken.
  - o The interim assessment was administered in a consistent manner across time. (Educators and others who make inferences based on test results should have received adequate training in administering the interim assessments and interpreting results.)
  - o A student with disabilities took the interim assessment in a manner consistent with the resources (e.g., accommodations) identified in his or her respective individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 plan, and in a manner consistent with how the student performs work for his or her classes.
  - o A student identified as an English learner took the interim assessment with the necessary resources identified for use with statewide or classroom assessments.

- **The *Manner of Administration* setting is to be configured prior to the administration of an interim assessment.** If, however, an instance arises that requires the setting to be changed after the administration, contact the California Technical Assistance Center (CaTAC) Digital Library and Interim Assessments Help Desk by phone at 855-631-1510 or by e-mail at [caltac@ets.org](mailto:caltac@ets.org).

Please communicate this information with your CAASPP test site coordinators and/or interim assessment administrators as appropriate.

Questions about interim assessments should be directed to the CaTAC Digital Library and Interim Assessments Help Desk by phone at 855-631-1510 or by e-mail at [caltac@ets.org](mailto:caltac@ets.org).

Sincerely,

California Technical Assistance Center

E-mail: [caltac@ets.org](mailto:caltac@ets.org)

Web site: <http://www.caaspp.org/>

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