Dear California Educator:

The 2020–21 California Alternate Assessment (CAA) for Science Administration Planning Guides for grades five and eight and high school are now available on the California Alternate Assessments web page on the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) website. Version assignments are now available on the CAA for Science Version Assignments for 2020–21 Test Administration web page and are organized by county, local educational agency (LEA), and school. All grade levels within a school will have the same version assignment, which may be different from last year’s assignment.

Each planning guide provides LEAs with:

- Basic information on the CAA for Science administration and test security
- Assessed standards (i.e., Science Connectors)
- A schedule planner template to assist in planning for administration of each embedded performance task (PT)
- Points to consider when deciding the best time to administer a CAA for Science embedded PT to a student

The online 2020–21 CAA for Science operational assessment consists of four embedded PTs. Test examiners should administer each embedded PT shortly after the student has received instruction on the related content. All four embedded PTs must be attempted for the student to count for participation.

The embedded PTs will be available in the CAASPP test delivery system on September 8, 2020. Test examiners can administer the embedded PTs at any time through the end of a school’s instructional calendar or July 15, 2021, whichever comes first. CAA for Science test examiners should use the planning guide when determining the administration order of the embedded PTs that best matches the order in which the content will be taught to the student.

The following are recommendations for a successful CAA for Science administration:

1. **Plan**

   - Study the *Administration Planning Guide* to understand the mastery statements.
• Meet with the entire testing team to build out a plan to administer each embedded PT successfully.
• Develop a timeline using the team’s recommendations on when to administer each embedded PT throughout the school year, using the schedule planning template in the *Administration Planning Guide*.

2. **Teach**

• Strategize about how and when to teach science content that aligns with the administration plan.

3. **Administer**

• Use the *Directions for Administration* to administer each embedded PT shortly after instruction on the related content is taught.

Test examiners should direct questions regarding the 2020–21 CAA for Science administration to their CAASPP test site coordinator. CAASPP test site coordinators should direct questions to their LEA CAASPP coordinator. LEA CAASPP coordinators should direct questions to the California Technical Assistance Center, by phone at 800-955-2954 or by email at caltac@ets.org.

Sincerely,

California Technical Assistance Center
Phone: 800-955-2954
Fax: 800-541-8455
Email: caltac@ets.org
Website: [http://www.caaspp.org/](http://www.caaspp.org/)