

Smarter Balanced Assessments

South Dakota is part of the SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium, or SBAC. The SBAC is a consortium of states that have been working collaboratively to develop a student assessment system aligned to the Common Core State Standards in English-Language Arts and Math. South Dakota is one of 21 governing states, which allows the state decision-making participation. The remaining six are advisory states.

The SBAC focus is on assessing students annually in grades 3-8 and 11. The system includes both summative and interim assessments and will use computer adaptive testing technologies to the greatest extent possible to provide meaningful feedback and actionable data that teachers and other educators can use to help students succeed. At the present time, South Dakota law requires all students to participate in the required assessments.