Get to Know Us

The Balanced Assessment Systems Collaborative is a new offering from CCSSO for the 2020-21 program year. This Collaborative is designed to support states that are interested in improving their assessment systems by creating a better balance across assessment components so that assessments and assessment practices can be used to more directly support student learning. While the state role in assessment was once mostly limited to developing and administering summative assessments, states are now thinking about ways to build greater coherence among the various components of the assessment system as well as instruction, professional development, standards and curriculum. This Collaborative will support states in moving toward a more balanced assessment system.

Benefits of Our Collaborative

During our first year of in-person and virtual meeting(s) of the Balanced Assessment System Collaborative, CCSSO will work with state members to set near- and long-term goals for the Collaborative as well as the individual member states. Ultimately, the Collaborative will help states manage the challenges associated with designing, implementing, and evaluating systems of assessments.

Our Focus in 2020-2021

The Balanced Assessment Collaborative will provide a forum for states to discuss strategies needed in developing balanced assessment systems. CCSSO will support states in setting a vision for balanced assessment systems, including commissioning research and/or conceptual papers to provide a comprehensive view of how all parts of an assessment system can work together to improve student learning.

• The Collaborative members will work towards setting overall annual goals for the Collaborative as a whole.
• Though states are in different places with their work on assessment systems, each state should work to develop a state vision for a balanced assessment system.
• Within that state vision, each state should set at least one specific, measurable, time-bound goal to begin advancing their vision of a balanced assessment system.
• The Collaborative will enhance state capacity to establish mechanisms and remove barriers to support local education agencies in developing balanced assessment systems.
• The Collaborative will discuss how state assessment systems may need to change in response to the COVID-19 crisis.

Here’s Where You’ll Find Us

For the 2020-2021 program year, meetings will be held in-person when possible, and virtually when necessary due to safety. Any in-person meetings will also include the option to participate virtually. The Balanced Assessment Collaborative meeting dates and locations are not set yet but they will take place the:

• Week of September 28, 2021
• Week of January 25, 2021
• Week of May 24, 2021

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