

California Science Test Online Tools

At-a-Glance

These online tools from the California Department of Education (CDE) support the California Science Test (CAST), which measures progress in the California Next Generation Science Standards (CA NGSS). Educators can use this document to help determine which tool(s) best fit the needs of their students.

Tool	How This Tool Supports CAST
Accessibility Graphic for Science	Lists all accessibility resources available for students based on their individual needs and Section 504 or individualized education program goals. Access the CAASPP and ELPAC Accessibility Resource Graphics web page .
CAST Interim Assessments	Provides teachers with information on student progress in the CA NGSS to help gauge students' knowledge and skills to inform instruction. Use the Interim Assessment Viewing System (IAVS) to preview interim assessments in preparation for test administration, or for use in a formative manner with students during instruction. Access the CAASPP and ELPAC Interim Assessments web page .
California Educator Reporting System (CERS)	Reports CAST summative and interim assessments results. For the CAST Interim Assessments, CERS provides item-level information, including student responses to each item. TOMS logon required. Access the CERS web page .
Item Content Specifications	Identify the assessment targets, potential student tasks, possible scientific phenomena, common misconceptions, and relevant Environmental Principles and Concepts that guide the development of items for each Performance Expectation of the CA NGSS. Educators can use these documents to develop classroom assessments. Access the CDE CAST Item Specifications web page .
Practice Test with Annotated Samples	Helps students understand the CAST assessment format and includes sample responses to guide writing tasks. Access the practice tests and annotated samples on the CAASPP and ELPAC Practice and Training Tests web page .
Tools for Teachers Website	Contains educator-created lessons—with embedded formative assessment and accessibility strategies—and professional development resources that can supplement instruction and boost learning. There are 92 science resources available, including 59 for elementary schools, 16 for middle schools, and 17 for high schools. TOMS logon required. Access the Tools for Teacher website .
Training Test	Familiarizes students with the test interface, question types, and accessibility tools. Access the training tests on the CAASPP and ELPAC Practice and Training Tests web page .

For more information about CAST, visit the [CAASPP and ELPAC CAST web page](#).

For opportunities to get involved in the development of CAST, visit the [CAASPP and ELPAC Get Involved web page](#).