



MEASURING STUDENT LEARNING IN 2021: What will be Different in Hawai'i?

Since COVID-19 first led to sudden school closures in 2020, families have stepped up in unprecedented ways to support learning at home as students began learning remotely. Teachers and leaders have worked hard to put plans in place to ensure students are safe, offering students across Hawai'i different learning models—remote, hybrid and in-person, with some school districts transitioning between them as circumstances demanded. But the unprecedented changes in learning have impacted students in many ways, from their relationships with peers and social emotional growth to academics.

This year, it is more important than ever to measure student learning to understand the impact that COVID-19 and different learning models have had on students. This is especially important for families, who need objective information about how well their child learned grade-level skills so they can better support learning at home. To measure learning, students will take the Smarter Balanced tests this spring. While these tests are only one of many ways to measure student learning, families, schools and leaders need the objective and actionable information the state tests provide to identify any learning gaps to best support students and fully recover from the pandemic.

How will State Tests be Different in 2021?

Knowing that the pandemic has deeply affected students, teachers and schools, the Smarter Balanced tests will be different than in the past. As of March 2021, the following changes have been made:

- **Districts have a longer window for students to take the test. Districts will be required to have all students complete the test by May 28th.**
- **While students will be required to take the test in-person, many districts will have plans to test students learning remotely separately from classmates learning in person.**

For the most recent information on Hawai'i State Assessments 2021 state tests, visit Hawaiipublicschools.org/TeachingAndLearning/Testing/StateAssessment/Pages/home.aspx