

# Smarter Balanced Interim Assessment Parent Guide

## Purpose of the Interim Assessments

The Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments are part of the comprehensive system of assessments to provide evidence of student mastery of the Nevada Academic Content Standards. These assessments will assist teachers in discovering what content students have learned and what concepts need revisiting before administering the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment.

## Quick Facts

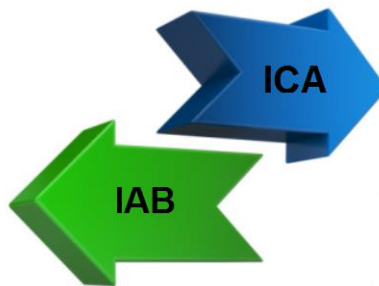
- The Smarter Balanced Interims contain the same types of questions and follow the same format as the Smarter Summative Assessment administered each spring in Grades 3-8.
- The assessments measure student mastery toward the Nevada Academic Content Standards.
- Teachers can use these assessments anytime throughout the year to monitor student progress and adjust instruction.



## Assessment Options

Teachers have two options when administering the Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics.

The **Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs)** are shorter assessments focused on smaller sets of content. These assessments provide specific information on how students are progressing and where they need additional support.



The **Interim Comprehensive Assessments (ICAs)** replicate the experience of the spring summative assessment in both length and content. This type of assessment is useful for students new to the District or after a student has been exposed to the majority of the curriculum.

## Questions to ask your child's teacher

- What are the Nevada Academic Content Standards?
- Is my child performing at grade level?
- What are my child's strengths?
- Does my child need extra support in any areas?
- What do these assessment results mean and how do you use them?
- What can I do at home to support classroom learning?

## Sample Test Questions

If you would like to view some sample test questions in English Language Arts or Mathematics, please go to:

<http://www.smarterbalanced.org/assessments/sample-questions/>

Support resources on the Smarter Balanced comprehensive assessment system can be found on the CCSD Assessment Department website at: <http://www.ccsd.net/divisions/assessment-accountability-research-school-improvement-division/assessment>