

**WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE  
ON EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE FOR HISPANICS  
NEW HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY ASSESSMENTS  
HISET AND TASC  
WEBINAR  
APRIL 2, 2014**



# The ETS High School Equivalency Test (HiSET)

White House Initiative on Educational  
Excellence for Hispanics Webinar  
on  
New High School Equivalency Assessments

Presented by:  
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Director of Student and Teacher Assessment and Outreach

April 2, 2014

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# Why Did ETS Develop the HiSET?

- ❖ **ETS was asked to offer an alternative by the State GED Options Workgroup**
  - They wanted a choice for high school equivalency testing
- ❖ **We collaborated with stakeholders to present a high school equivalency test that offers:**
  - Affordability
  - Access to paper- and computer-based versions
    - Available in English, Spanish, Large Print, Braille, and Audio versions
  - Rigorous content aligned to State and national standards:
    - Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE, formally known as OVAE) College and Career Readiness Standards
    - Gradual alignment to Common Core State Standards
  - Collaboration to establish the next generation of the HiSET

# HiSET States

**HiSET is the fastest-growing high school equivalency assessment program in the U.S. and has been adopted by 12 states.**

## HiSET States to Date:

- ❖ California\*
- ❖ Iowa
- ❖ Louisiana
- ❖ Maine
- ❖ Massachusetts
- ❖ Missouri
- ❖ Montana
- ❖ Nevada\*
- ❖ New Hampshire
- ❖ New Jersey\*
- ❖ Tennessee\*
- ❖ Wyoming\*

\* multiple tests approved

## In Procurement:

- ❖ Florida
- ❖ Washington
- ❖ Other states to follow



# Fair Price and Affordability

- ❖ **Lowest-cost program; uses existing test centers**
  - \$50 per HiSET battery
    - Includes five subtests with two retests for each subtest
- ❖ **ETS pays for test materials, shipping, and scoring – not test centers**
  - There is no licensing fee
- ❖ **Free or low-cost preparation materials**
  - Free sample items, practice tests, ETS Study Companions
  - Additional low-cost practice tests available for \$7.50 each
- ❖ **Option to combine HiSET and GED 2002 Series scores**
  - Combining HiSET and pre-2013 GED subtest scores allows test takers to complete the battery of tests quickly and more cheaply – without starting over

# The HiSET Test Battery and Subtests

The subtests of the HiSET are:

HiSET Subtest for Computer- and Paper-based Tests	Number of Test Questions	Question Type	Test Length
Language Arts–Reading	40 questions	100% multiple choice	65 minutes
Language Arts–Writing	51 questions	Part 1: 100% multiple choice Part 2: 100% constructed response/essay question	Part 1: 75 minutes Part 2: 45 minutes
Mathematics	50 questions	100% multiple choice	90 minutes
Science	50 questions	100% multiple choice	80 minutes
Social Studies	50 questions	100% multiple choice	70 minutes
<b>Total Test Time</b>			<b>7 hours, 5 minutes</b>

ETS allows HiSET test takers the flexibility to take subtests in English or Spanish when completing the full test battery.

# Customer Service and Technical Support

- ❖ **ETS offers the full range of support for HiSET test takers, State staff, test center administrators, and educators via:**
  - Informational Website at <http://hiset.ets.org/>
    - Website and information available in both English and Spanish
    - HiSET Resource Library
    - HiSET Overview video
  - My HiSET Portal
  - Experienced customer service center (telephone, fax, or e-mail)
  - Registration and scheduling (online or by telephone)
  - Testing accommodations
  - State, educator, and test administrator training and Webinars
  - Scoring and reporting
  - Dedicated State HiSET Directors
  - Outreach and marketing materials



# HiSET Scoring and Reporting

## Scoring

- ❖ Official HiSET scores are posted within:
  - Three to five business days after a multiple-choice test
  - Six to 10 business days after an essay test
- ❖ Scores are available online through the test taker's My HiSET account
- ❖ HiSET Comprehensive Score Report:
  - Contains the test taker's highest score per HiSET content area
- ❖ HiSET Individual Score Report:
  - Test takers receive an individual score report for every test taken
- ❖ For additional information on score reporting go to:  
<http://hiset.ets.org/scores/get>



## For additional information:

<http://www.hiset.org/>

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TEST  
ASSESSING  
SECONDARY  
COMPLETION

The Newest Test  
for High School  
Equivalency



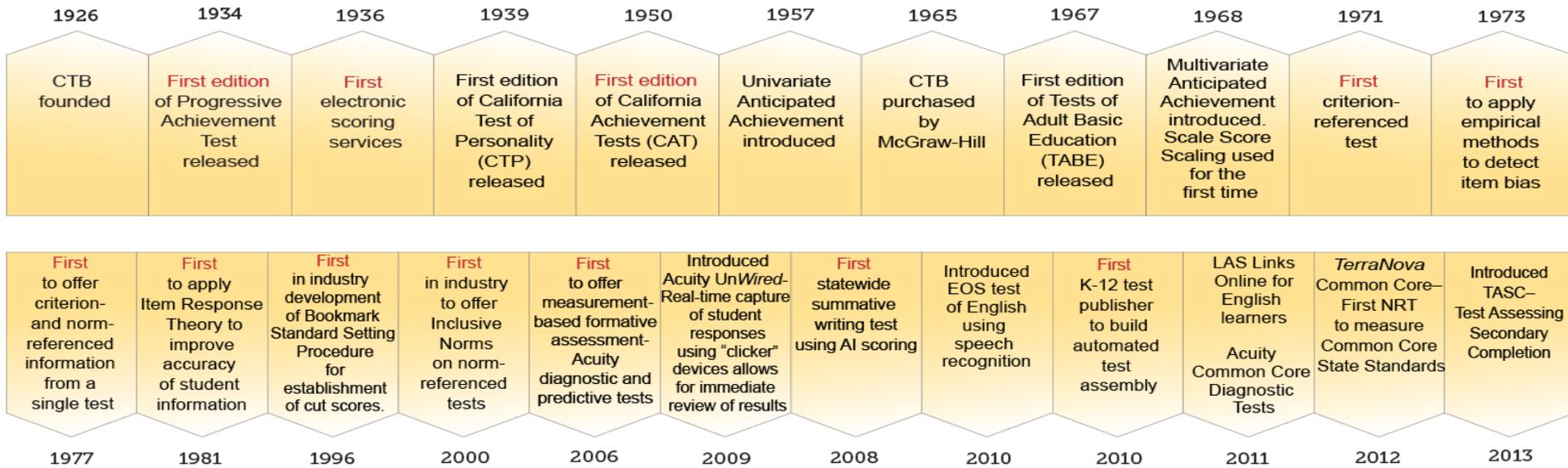
# Test Assessing Secondary Completion “TASC”



# A Distinguished History in Assessment

CTB/McGraw-Hill

A History of Firsts



TEST ASSESSING SECONDARY COMPLETION

# The State of the States



## Completed State Competitive Bids

- New York – TASC
- New Hampshire – HiSET
- Missouri – HiSET
- Iowa – HiSET
- Montana – HiSET
- Indiana – TASC
- Louisiana – HiSET
- Maine – HiSET
- West Virginia – TASC
- Nevada – TASC, HiSET, GED
- Wyoming – TASC, HiSET, GED
- New Jersey – TASC, HiSET, GED
- Massachusetts – HiSET
- California – TASC, HiSET, GED

## Active RFPs, RFIs, RFQs, RFRs

- Florida
- Washington
- California

## Expected RFPs 2014

- Illinois
- North Carolina
- Arkansas
- Connecticut
- Hawaii
- Louisiana
- Minnesota
- New Mexico
- South Carolina
- Alabama
- Mississippi
- Kansas
- Maryland
- Texas
- Colorado
- Delaware
- Ohio
- Pennsylvania

## Contract Awarded w/o Bid Process

- Tennessee – HiSET, GED

## States Needing Statute/Code Changes in 2014 to Comply with Procurement Regulations

- UT, VA, AK, ND, SD, GA, KY, MI, VT, OH, OR, ID, OK, RI, WI, NE, DC

# TASC High Level Overview



TASC is a secure, reliable and valid assessment that indicates whether takers have knowledge in core content areas equivalent to that of graduating high school students.

- Three forms available in English and Spanish each year
- Paper and Pencil or Computer based
- Reading, Writing, Math, Science & Social Studies
- 100% aligned to the Common Core and OVAE Standards
- Launch date: January 2, 2014
- NY, CA, IN, WV, NV, NJ & WY have adopted TASC

# TASC High Level Overview



- Nationally normed to provide high school equivalency scores and assesses college and career readiness
- Flexible registration and reporting options
- Support of accommodations (large print, Braille, audio and online)
- National inclusive price \$52 (\$10.40 per content area)
- 2 free retests per student

# TASC Content Frameworks



- English Language Arts
  - Common Core State Standards
  - College and Career Readiness Standards for Adult Education
- Mathematics
  - Traditional pathway of the Common Core State Standards
  - College and Career Readiness Standards for Adult Education
- Science
  - Next Generation Science Standards
- Social Studies
  - CTB Social Studies Standards are based on national frameworks in the areas of US history, world history, civics and government, and economics

# TASC Test Design



- 2014 test includes:
  - Multiple-choice items ( 4 answer choices; a, b, c, d)
  - Writing prompt (evidence-based writing)
  - Gridded-response items (Mathematics)
  - Stimulus-based science and social studies item sets
- 2015 test (and beyond) includes an increased coverage of the CCSS through inclusion of additional item types and increased rigor
  - Constructed-response items
  - Technology-enhanced items

# Content Depth of Knowledge (DOK) Framework



- **Level 1 Recall**
  - Recall of a fact, information or procedure
- **Level 2 Skill/Concept**
  - Use information or conceptual knowledge, two or more steps, etc.
- **Level 3 Strategic Thinking**
  - Requires reasoning, developing a plan or sequence of steps, some complexity, more than one possible answer
- **Level 4 Extended Thinking**
  - Requires an investigation, time to think and process multiple conditions of the problem or task

# TASC Transition to Common Core and Increased Rigor

Element	2014	2015	2016
<b>Standards Alignment</b>	Foundational concepts from the Common Core State Standards (ELA/Math)  Final version of NGSS  SS Framework	Transitional concepts from the Common Core State Standards (ELA/Math)  Final version of NGSS  SS Framework	Common Core State Standards (ELA/Math)  Final version of NGSS  SS Framework
<b>Emphasis</b>	Foundational key concepts tested by multiple choice/GR item types   Problem solving  Evidence-based writing  Emphasis on informational text	Foundational key concepts and application of foundational key concepts tested by multiple choice/GR, constructed response, and technology enhanced items  Problem solving  Evidence-based writing  Emphasis on informational text	Key concepts and application of key concepts tested by multiple choice/GR, constructed response, and technology enhanced items  Problem solving (increased emphasis)  Evidence-based writing  Emphasis on informational text
<b>Cognitive Complexity</b>	DOK 1 and 2 with limited DOK 3	DOK 2 and 3 with limited DOK 1	DOK 2 and 3 with limited DOK 1 and 4
<b>Item Types</b>	Multiple choice Gridded response Writing prompt	Multiple choice Gridded response Writing prompt Technology enhanced Constructed response	Multiple choice Gridded response Writing prompt Technology enhanced Constructed response

# Sample Computer Based Question

TABE Reading

Question 16 of 25

Stop Test

Show Timer 



John Doe

Read this story about Mei Ling and her trip home to the United States from China. Then do Numbers 16–19.

## What Was It Like?

Mei Ling settled into her seat on the airplane. She was flying home to San Francisco after attending her cousin's wedding in Beijing. The captain of the flight spoke on the intercom and said, "We will be cruising at an altitude of 39,000 feet. We should have a smooth flight and land in San Francisco in approximately thirteen hours. Please sit back and enjoy the flight."

Mei Ling shifted in her seat. She doubted that she would be able to enjoy sitting for thirteen hours. She looked out her window. She began to think about her great-grandparents. They had left China in the 1800s, seeking a better life in America. What had their journey been like? Mei Ling would be able to make the trip from Beijing to San Francisco in about one day. Her great-grandparents, anxious to arrive in America, had spent weeks on board a large, overcrowded ship.

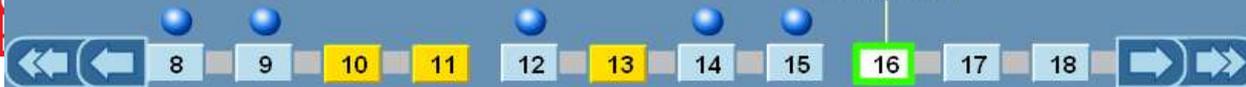
She continued to think about her great-grandparents. Because they were allowed to bring only one trunk on the ship, they had to choose carefully which items to bring with them. The rest of their belongings had to remain in China.

Mei Ling thought about her great-grandparents repeatedly during the flight. When she finally fell asleep, she even dreamed

The purpose of Mei Ling's trip to Beijing was to

- A find a job
- B meet new friends
- C learn about historic places
- D attend a family celebration

YOU ARE HERE



- NO ANSWER SELECTED -

◀ Go Back

Go On ▶

Mark for Later Review



# TASC – Language Arts/Reading

The TASC emphasizes the Common Core State Standards for Reading for grades 9-12 that are the most relevant to College and Career Readiness.

Domain/Reporting Category	Approximate Domain Coverage	Time to Complete	Number of Items
Reading – Informational and Language (vocabulary acquisition)	70%	75 minutes	50 MC items 7-8 passages
Reading – Literary and Language (vocabulary acquisition)	30%		

# TASC – Language Arts /Writing



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# TASC – Mathematics

- The TASC emphasizes the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics that are the most relevant to College and Career Readiness.
- The Standards for Mathematical Practice, as well as the High School Modeling domain, are not separately assessed and reported on TASC, but are skills that are incorporated throughout the assessment of the content standards.
- The CCSS designates certain standards as additional mathematics recommended in order to take advanced courses; these standards will not be assessed on TASC.

Domain/Reporting Category	Approximate Domain Coverage	Time to Complete	Number of Items
Number and Quantity	15%	105 minutes	40 MC items 12 GR items
Algebra	25%		
Functions	25%		
Geometry	25%		
Statistics and Probability	10%		



# TASC: Mathematics

- Items assess examinee ability to solve routine and non-routine mathematics problems using the application of conceptual and procedural knowledge
- Mathematics test consists of a calculator section and a non-calculator section

Calculator: TI-30XS



Gridded-response items

Consider this function.

$$f(x) = -2x + 7$$

What is  $f(-3)$ ?

	/	/	/	
•	•	•	•	•
0	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9	9

# TASC – Science



The TASC is designed to assess the performance expectations in the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

Domain/Reporting Category	Approximate Domain Coverage	Time to Complete	Number of Items
Physical Science	33%	85 minutes	47 MC items 8 stimuli
Life Science	34%		
Earth and Space Science	33%		
Engineering, Technology, and Application of Science (integrated across content domains)	100%		
Scientific and Engineering practices (integrated across content domains)	100%		
Cross-cutting Concepts (integrated across content domains)	100%		

# TASC – Social Studies



TASC will use national standards created by groups that specialize in the following domains: U.S. History, World History, Civics and Government, Geography, and Economics

Domain/Reporting Category	Approximate Domain Coverage	Time to Complete	Number of Items
US History	25%	75 minutes	47 MC items 8 stimuli
World History	15%		
Civics and Government	25%		
Geography	15%		
Economics	20%		

# Key Elements of Research Design



- Spring/Summer 2013 Field Test
  - Item analysis used for preliminary forms construction
  - Items that do not demonstrate good measurement properties were removed from the pool for operational form development and/or revised for Fall field test
- Fall 2013 Research
  - Item analysis, scaling, bias studies, operational form construction
  - Comparability of computer-based and paper-based tests
  - Comparability of Spanish and English tests
- Standard setting
  - Pass scores will be set using a variety of methods including identifying the scale locations at which we would expect approximately 60% of high school students in the nation to pass all 5 TASC tests.
  - Current pass rates are not expected to change substantially

# TASC Readiness Assessment



- Official (Practice) Readiness Test
- Pre-Readiness embedded in curriculum
- Developed and Field Tested with TASC
- Half the length of TASC
- Available both Online and Paper Based
  - Paper Test Locally scored
  - \$10 per student
- Predictive Diagnostics for TASC

# National Acceptance of TASC



- State Issues the final Credential
- US Department of Education
  - OVAE
  - HEP/CAMP
  - Financial Aid
- US Chamber of Commerce
- US Department of Labor
- National Association of Workforce Boards
- Job Corps
- Leadership Conference
- Correctional Education Association



# Communication

- TASC Website
  - Today – [www.TASCtest.com](http://www.TASCtest.com)
    - Sample questions
    - Overview chart of content coverage
    - Sections for Students, Educators etc
- Social Media
  - [Facebook.com/TheTASCtest](https://Facebook.com/TheTASCtest)
  - [Twitter.com/TheTASCtest](https://Twitter.com/TheTASCtest)
  - [TheTASCtest.Wordpress.com/](http://TheTASCtest.Wordpress.com/)
- Training
  - Webinars Trainings
  - In-Person events regionally and at state conferences

# Availability of Materials



- Collaborating with divisions in McGraw-Hill to produce TASC and Common Core materials
  - The Official Guide to the TASC – available in December
  - Common Core Basics and Achieve
- Providing support to a variety of publishers
- Readiness assessment for state use
- Additional information will be posted on our website as it becomes available

# Questions/Comments?



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