

# WHY STATEWIDE TESTING PARTICIPATION MATTERS TO POLICYMAKERS

## How does taking state tests help students and their families?

- It provides information for leaders and policymakers to allocate needed supports and services for all children.
- It allows all students to show what they have been learning and practicing in the classroom.
- It enables families and community members to understand how local schools are meeting the educational needs of all students.
- It measures students' progress toward completing high school and success after high school, such as attending college and being ready for a career.



## How does taking state tests help districts and schools?

- It ensures that policy development and distribution of resources support districts and schools in most need.
- It helps provide a complete and accurate picture of how all students across your state's districts and schools are doing.
- It reveals performance gaps across different student groups in your state and supports programs to address all students' educational needs.



## How can I support students and their families in my state?

- Work with district and school leaders to communicate how state tests are part of a comprehensive instructional system.
- Remind students, families, and other education partners that testing is a regular part of teaching and learning during the school day.
- Talk with students, families, and other education partners about how state tests are aligned to rigorous state content standards that will prepare students to thrive in a global future.
- Support state, district, and school efforts to ensure that state tests are accessible to all students.



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