

In 2007-2008 California used the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) program to measure student learning in grades 2 through 11. The STAR program includes the California Standards Tests (CSTs), a series of standards-based assessments. California also administers the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE), which high school students must pass to graduate.

STAR - CSTs

STAR: California Standards Tests (CSTs) The California Standards Tests were developed to measure whether students are mastering the specific skills defined for each grade by the state of California. The CSTs are a series of standards-based assessments given in English language arts in grades 9 through 11; science in grade 10; and history-social science in grade 11. In grades 9 through 11 students take the CST for the math and science course (such as algebra, geometry, physics or chemistry) in which they are currently enrolled. Ninth-graders who are not yet taking algebra take the General Mathematics Standards Test. Students in grades 9 and 10 who had completed Algebra II or Integrated Mathematics during a previous school year, and grade 11 students who completed one of these two courses any time prior to the beginning of testing, are required to take the Summative High School Mathematics CST. High school students enrolled in a world history course take the World History, Culture and Geography CST.

How is the STAR/CST scored?

CST results show the level of proficiency a student demonstrates in each of the subject areas tested. Students will receive one of the following five ratings on the tests & the rating # 1-5 is located in the Perf Lvl (Performance Level) column:

- 1 = far below basic
- 2 = below basic
- 3 = basic
- 4 = proficient or
- 5 = advanced

The goal is for all students to score at or above the proficient level. Students who score at the proficient level or above are considered college-bound, particularly at the high school level. Since only California students take the CST, the results cannot be compared with other students across the nation.

CAHSEE

CHASEE: California High School Exit Examination The California High School Exit Exam is used to determine whether students have mastered key skills before graduating from high school. The CAHSEE is a standards-based test, which means it measures whether students have learned specific skills defined by the state in English language arts and mathematics. The CAHSEE is a pass/fail test, which is not timed. Over 90 percent of the class of 2008 passed both portions of the CAHSEE. The test is divided into two sections: Math and English/Language Arts.

What are the contents of the Math CAHSEE & how is it scored?

There are 5 Math areas & the percentage passed is found in the % (percentage) column.

Math Total Performance Levels:	Passing = 350	Proficient = 381	Advanced = 425
1	Math – Problems & Statistics		
2	Math – Number Sense		
3	Math – Algebra/Functions		
4	Math – Measurement/Geometry		
5	Math – Algebra 1		

Scaled scores range from 275 to 450, with a passing score of at least 350. This translates to students answering approximately **55% of the math questions correctly.**

What are the contents of the English/Language Arts CAHSEE & how is it scored?

There are 6 English/Language Arts areas & the percentage passed is found in the % (percentage) column.

ELA Total Performance Levels:	Passing = 350	Proficient = 380	Advanced = 404
1	ELA – Reading (Word Analysis)		
2	ELA – Reading (Comprehension)		
3	ELA – Reading (Literary Response & Analysis)		
4	ELA – Writing (Strategies)		
5	ELA – Written & Oral English Language Conventions		
6	ELA – Writing Applications (Essay 1)		

Scaled scores range from 275 to 450, with a passing score of at least 350. This translates to students answering approximately **60% of the ELA questions correctly.**