



Assessment Information

Several nationally norm-referenced standardized assessments, in addition to the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) are available for purchase and can be used by homeschooling families.. These assessments are designed to measure academic achievement and provide norm-referenced data, making them useful tools for gauging student performance relative to a national sample. Here are some options:

1. Stanford 10 (SAT-10) – This is a popular choice among homeschoolers. It provides comprehensive coverage across subjects and is often accepted for state documentation purposes. While it is no longer actively updated by Pearson, some vendors still offer it in paper format.
2. Iowa Assessments – Developed by Riverside Insights, the Iowa Assessments are one of the most widely used norm-referenced tests in the country. They are available in multiple forms and levels and are commonly accepted by states for homeschool reporting.
3. TerraNova, Third Edition (CAT/6) – Produced by DRC, TerraNova is widely used by private schools and homeschoolers alike. It includes both norm-referenced and criterion-referenced components.
4. California Achievement Test (CAT/5) – An older but still widely used test. It is cost-effective and available in online and paper formats through vendors such as Seton Testing Services and Christian Liberty Press.
5. MAP Growth (by NWEA) – A computer-adaptive test that is gaining popularity with some homeschoolers via approved vendors. It provides detailed instructional data and is available in multiple versions, including one aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

Most of the assessments listed above are not explicitly aligned to the Common Core State Standards, as they were either developed before the standards were introduced or were designed to be more broadly applicable across states. Here's how they compare:

1. MAP Growth is the only assessment on this list that offers a version specifically aligned to the Common Core. It is a strong option for parents who want results that align closely with what is taught in Common Core-based curricula.
2. Iowa Assessments and TerraNova include content that overlaps with the Common Core but were not originally built to target those standards. Some alignment guides exist, but they are not comprehensive.
3. Stanford 10 and CAT/5 are not aligned to the Common Core and are based on older curricular models.

The Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBA) or MAP Growth – Common Core version would be the most appropriate assessments for Common Core aligned curricula.

