

Measuring Mastery of State Standards on a Proven Platform

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

### 1. What is ClearSight?

*ClearSight* is a series of criterion-referenced assessments delivered on a digital assessment platform. Districts and/or schools can administer computer adaptive and fixed-form assessments periodically across subjects and grades. *ClearSight* provides immediate, actionable data to teachers and other educators. *ClearSight* also includes an authoring tool that can be used by educators to create items and tests they can use in their classrooms and share with others.

### 2. Who should use ClearSight?

Districts, schools, and/or teachers who want to determine students' progress toward the summative assessment can use *ClearSight* to measure student mastery of grade-level standards. *ClearSight's* pre-made, state-standards-aligned Interim and Checkpoint Assessments can track student progress during the school year.

### 3. What is the difference between Interim and Checkpoint Assessments?

Interim Assessments are adaptive assessments that measure the breadth of the grade-level standards. It is recommended that each Interim Assessment be administered twice per year, per student with significant instructional time between administrations so changes in standards mastery can be viewed through the growth reports. Items used on the Interim Assessments have been previously administered on state summative assessments.

Checkpoint Assessments are fixed-form assessments that measure an area or a reporting category within a grade-level-standard set such as Numbers and Operations in Mathematics and Informational Text in English Language Arts. There are typically two to three test forms of each Checkpoint, so students can be assessed on the same content with unique forms over time.

### 4. Can teachers author their own items and tests?

*ClearSight* contains tools for authoring items and building custom tests. Teachers can author items, including technology-enhanced item types, for use on tests in their classrooms and sharing with other educators.

A bank of new items, created by Cambium Assessment content specialists, is also available for use in the classroom. This bank has approximately 200 items per grade and subject area.

### 5. Is ClearSight aligned to my state standards?

*ClearSight* aligns items in the *ClearSight* Assessments and the *ClearSight* items to your state's standards and you will see your state standards in the reporting and authoring areas of the system when you view items/item information.

*ClearSight* Mathematics, Reading, and Writing items are initially aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). A crosswalk from the CCSS to your state standards is done by assessment experts and this results in an alignment to your state's standards.

#### 6. Is ClearSight built on research?

Yes, items in the *ClearSight* Interim item pool were created by assessment experts, have been through the review process required to meet the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) standards, have been field-tested, put through data review, and have been administered on operational state assessments. A statistical/psychometric study was done to vertically scale the items to allow for growth monitoring and reporting using the assessments created from these items.





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## 7. How many pre-made Checkpoint and Interim Assessments are in *ClearSight*, and how many items are included in each assessment?

Checkpoint Assessments typically have two to four test forms for each topic/reporting category and each range from six to 24 items per form. More details about the Checkpoint Assessments are available on the <u>ClearSight portal</u>.

The Interim Assessments for grades 3–HS are adaptive tests that contain about 35 to 45 items for each administration and should be able to be administered twice to the same student without items repeating.

### 8. How much time does it take for a student to complete each type of assessment?

Interim and Checkpoint Assessments are untimed and are intended to be completed in one class period.

### 9. What accessibility features will we have access to with ClearSight?

*ClearSight* offers the largest set of accessibility tools and accommodations in the industry, matching the offerings of Cambium Assessment summative assessment platform. The platform includes features such as text-to-speech, note pads, color contrast, and zoom, as well as tools like rulers, highlighters, and dictionary/thesaurus.

### 10. Will *ClearSight* Interim Assessments predict how well my students will perform on the summative state test?

The *ClearSight* Interim Assessments provide an indicator of how your student is tracking toward mastering the grade-level standards. Since your summative state test also measures mastery of grade-level standards, the *ClearSight* Interim Assessments are one strong indicator of how ready your student is to succeed on the summative state test.

#### 11. What measures have you taken to protect our PII?

*ClearSight* recognizes the importance of protecting user and student personal data, whether it is being transmitted, stored, or converted. All of our systems protect individual privacy and confidentiality in a manner consistent with privacy laws, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), and other federal laws. All secure data transmitted across the public Internet are encrypted using secure shell (SSH) advanced encryption standard (AES) or an Internet protocol security (IPSec) virtual private network (VPN).

### 12. What technology is required for ClearSight?

Educators and students must utilize a Windows, Mac, or Linux desktop/laptop, iPad, Android tablet, or Chromebook. Student devices must have the secure browser downloaded to gain access to the administrations of the tests. Individual technical specifications can be found in the <u>Resources</u> area of the *ClearSight* portal. Remote, browser-based administration allows students to use their own tablets, laptops, or computers and participate at school or at home.

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