Common Core State Standards:
Coming to a Higher Education Institution Near You

Joe Willhoft, Executive Director
SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium

WICHE Legislative Advisory Committee
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Common Core State Standards

- Define the knowledge and skills students need for college and career
- Developed voluntarily and cooperatively by states; more than 40 states have adopted
- Provide clear, consistent standards in English language arts and mathematics

Source: www.corestandards.org
By 2018, 63 percent of job openings will require workers with at least some college education.

Source: Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce
Next Generation Assessments

- More rigorous tests measuring student progress toward “college and career readiness”
- Have common, comparable scores across member states
- Provide achievement and growth information to help make better educational decisions and professional development opportunities
- Assess all students, except those with “significant cognitive disabilities”
- Administer online, with timely results
- Use multiple measures

Source: Federal Register / Vol. 75, No. 68 / Friday, April 9, 2010 pp. 18171-85
A National Consortium of States

- 29 states representing 48% of K-12 students
- 20 governing, 9 advisory states
- Washington state is fiscal agent
The Purpose of the Consortium

• To develop a set of comprehensive and innovative assessments for grades 3-8 and high school in English language arts and mathematics aligned to the Common Core State Standards

• Students leave high school prepared for postsecondary success in college or a career through increased student learning and improved teaching

• The assessments shall be operational across Consortium states in the 2014-15 school year
Summative assessments are benchmarked to college and career readiness

Common Core State Standards specify K-12 expectations for college and career readiness

Teachers and schools have information and tools to improve teaching and learning

Teachers can access formative assessment practices to improve instruction

Interim assessments are flexible, open, and provide actionable feedback

All students leave high school college and career ready
Higher Education Partners Involved in Application

• 175 public and 13 private systems/institutions of higher education
• Representing 74% of the total number of direct matriculation students across all SMARTER Balanced States
• Higher education representatives and/or postsecondary faculty serve on:
  • Executive Committee
  • Assessment scoring and item review committees
  • Standard-setting committees
A Few Questions You Might Have

• Why two consortia?
  Choice; Innovation through competition; Proof of Concept
• Will the tests from the two consortia be comparable?
  Yes; Collaborative effort across both consortia
• When do these new tests take effect?
  Start in 2014-15 school year
• How much will these new tests cost?
  Current estimates between $15-$20 per student (less than for 8 of 10 with data)
• Will my schools be ready for online testing?
  Jointly sponsored survey of IT readiness
• Will we be required to use these tests?
  No. Membership during development and participation in 2014 are state choice
To find out more...

...the SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium can be found online at

www.smarterbalanced.org

...the Common Core State Standards can be found online at

www.corestandards.org