



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
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Infrastructure Trial Guide

2023–2024

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Infrastructure Trial Overview

The Infrastructure Trial is an opportunity for districts and schools to prepare for operational computer-based test (CBT) administrations by simulating test-day network utilization, determining any school or district issues, and confirming that all computers and devices that will be used for testing can run the appropriate software.

Please note the following important information about the Infrastructure Trial:

- Schools will prepare by reading the applicable guides and manuals.
- Districts may create an environment that matches the expected school bandwidth utilization that will be used during testing.
- Schools may create the same testing environment (e.g., testing rooms, number of computers or devices, appropriate switches and hubs, power supplies) that will be used for testing.
- Schools will use the web-based Diagnostic Readiness Tool provided by Cambium Assessment, Inc. (CAI), to determine network user capacity and bandwidth requirements.
- Prior to the largest CBT administration of the year, or as directed by the district, schools will conduct a trial testing day that simulates the appropriate number of student logins based on the total number of computers that they intend to use concurrently for testing.
- The trial should take approximately 15 minutes. During this time, users will log in, supply random answers, and submit the trial.
- Schools are encouraged to run the trial in their testing rooms on their testing computers or devices and to troubleshoot any local issues prior to a district-wide Infrastructure Trial.

The Infrastructure Trial should be used only to test the school and district infrastructure; the content used for the Infrastructure Trial is **not appropriate for student practice**.

Subject-specific sample items are available for students on the [Students & Families](#) page on the FAST Portal. The sample items are intended to familiarize students with the types of items that will make up the tests and with the tools available in CAI's Test Delivery System (TDS).

Infrastructure Trial Guide Overview

The purpose of this guide is to provide district and school assessment and technology personnel with necessary information and instructions to administer the Infrastructure Trial. This guide will define important terms; explain the tasks required before, during, and after a trial; and describe the Test Administrator (TA) Interface and the TDS. It is recommended that all assessment personnel read the entire guide before starting the Infrastructure Trial.

The following are the major topics covered in this guide:

- [Contacting the Florida Help Desk](#)—This section provides instructions and information on contacting the Florida Help Desk with questions or technical issues.
- [Using the Web-Based Diagnostic Readiness Tool](#)—This section includes instructions for determining how many students can test simultaneously on your network by using a web-based tool.
- [Running the Infrastructure Trial](#) —This section provides instructions for the TA Interface, the Student Interface, and the Infrastructure Trial.
- [Follow-Up](#)—This final section includes instructions for providing the district and CAI with feedback regarding the Infrastructure Trial.

Glossary of Important Terms

Diagnostic Readiness Tool: This web-based tool performs a system check to assess the readiness of a particular computer or device for testing.

Florida Statewide Assessment Portal: This portal contains resources and information for district and school personnel and is accessed at <https://flfast.org/>. The portal also includes links to the Test Delivery System (TDS), the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE), the Florida Reporting Site, and the PearsonAccess Next Reporting System.

CAI Secure Browser: The CAI Secure Browser allows students to access the CBTs. This software must be installed on all computers or devices that will be used for student testing. A link to download the Secure Browser is located on the portal.

Session ID: Session IDs are unique codes generated in the TA Interface. In addition to their first names and usernames, students use the Session ID to log in to CBT sessions. TAs must record the Session ID as part of their required administration information.

Test Delivery System (TDS): All CBTs are administered via the TDS, which includes the TA Interface and the Secure Browser.

Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE): TIDE is the enrollment and user management system for the Florida Statewide Assessments. Student enrollment and test eligibility information is managed in TIDE. All school and district personnel involved in the administration of Florida Statewide Assessments must have TIDE user accounts.

Contacting the Florida Help Desk

If technical assistance is needed at any point during the Infrastructure Trial, contact the Florida Help Desk at 866-815-7246 or FloridaHelpDesk@CambiumAssessment.com.

Make sure that you know the answers to all the following relevant questions so that CAI can assist you effectively and efficiently:

- What device are you using (Windows, Mac, mobile device, etc.)? What device is the student using?
- What is your role (district assessment coordinator [DAC], district technology coordinator [DTC], private school administrator [PSA], school assessment coordinator [SAC], school technology coordinator [STC], student data entry [SDE], or test administrator [TA])?
- What task were you trying to complete when you encountered an error?
- What error message did you receive? If there was not an error message, what are you unable to do?
- What step of the Infrastructure Trial was the student or volunteer trying to complete when they encountered an error?

Using the Web-Based Diagnostic Readiness Tool

Prior to running the Infrastructure Trial, schools should use the web-based Diagnostic Readiness Tool to assess the capability of a particular computer for testing. The tool also provides a download and upload speed analysis that includes an estimate of the number of simultaneous students who can test at the same location. The Diagnostic Readiness Tool uses a sophisticated statistical model of the testing process that replicates variation in instantaneous demand (e.g., the number of students who simultaneously press the Next button) and evaluates the likelihood that peaks will exceed network free capacity (i.e., network capacity not used by other processes) with a frequency likely to cause noticeable delays in testing.

To access the Diagnostic Readiness Tool, follow these four steps:

1. From the Student Practice Test **Please Sign In** screen, click **Run Diagnostics**, which can be found in the middle of the screen, as displayed in the following graphic.

Please Sign In

Guest User
Switch to OFF to sign in with a test ticket

Guest Session
Switch to OFF to enter a Session ID

Run Diagnostics Browser: Chrome v114

Florida Statewide Assessments Practice Tests and Sample Test Materials
The purpose of the practice tests and sample test materials is to enable users to become familiar with the functionality and item types that students will encounter in CAI's Test Delivery System; the tests are not intended to guide classroom instruction. For more information about taking the practice tests and sample test materials, please access the Practice Test and Sample Test Materials guide at www.FLfast.org.
Login information is not required for the Practice Tests. Click Sign In to access the Practice Test and Sample Test Materials as a Guest.

Sign In

2. On the **Network Diagnostics** page displayed in the following image, select the button indicating you work for the school or district, and then input the number of students you expect to test at once. The system will then test the bandwidth and calculate the peak simultaneous loads given the provided information.

The screenshot shows the 'Network Diagnostics' page. At the top, it displays system information: 'Your Operating System: Windows 10' and 'Version: Chrome v114'. Below this, it indicates 'Secure Browser: false'. The main section is titled 'Bandwidth Diagnostic' and contains a paragraph explaining the purpose of the tests. There are three radio button options: the first is selected and reads 'I work for the school or district and I'd like to know how many students I can expect to test concurrently at my location.' The other two options are 'I am a student who will be taking a test remotely.' and 'I am a test administrator who will be proctoring an exam remotely.' Below the options is a text input field labeled 'How many students will be in your session at once?' and a 'Run Test' button. At the bottom of the page, there are four buttons: 'Return to Login', 'Audio and Video Checks', 'TTS Check', and 'Remote Connectivity Check'.

3. After the Diagnostic Readiness Tool runs, the system either confirms that bandwidth is adequate, as shown below, or suggests a likely maximum number of students supported.

The screenshot shows the results of the diagnostic tool. At the top, it displays 'Download Speed: 137.816 Mbps' and 'Upload Speed: 11.466 Mbps'. Below this, a green box contains the following text: 'Given the current load on your system, you should be able to test the requested number of students at this location. (Please note: The throughput estimates include the encryption/decryption overhead for data transfer. Throughput estimates change as the network conditions change and can vary each time you run this tool.)'

4. Work with your district technology coordinator to ensure that you can test the appropriate number of students for each administration.

Running the Infrastructure Trial

Download and Install the CAI Secure Browser

Visit the [Secure Browsers](#) page on the portal to download the latest version of the CAI Secure Browser and review the [Technology Guide](#) for instructions on how to do so. Please note that all technology information is visible on the web page and not as a separate PDF document. Install the Secure Browser on each computer or device to be used for the Infrastructure Trial.

Session Management

This section provides all the necessary information and steps for setting up sessions in the TA Interface for the Infrastructure Trial. For more detailed information on the TA Interface, see the *Test Administrator User Guide*, available on the portal.

Creating a Test Session

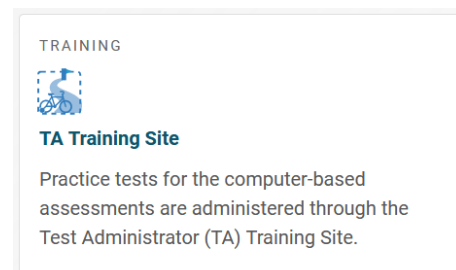
To access the TA Training Site, follow these five steps:

1. Open your Internet browser and navigate to the portal at <https://flfast.org/fast.html>.
2. Select the **Teachers & Test Administrators** card on the portal.
3. Select **TA Training Site**.
4. You will be directed to the login screen. Enter your email address and password.
5. Select **Secure Login**. You will be directed to the TA Training Site.

Teachers & Test Administrators Card



TA Training Site Card



- a. If the **Enter Code** page appears, an authentication code will be emailed to you. You must enter this code in the *Enter Emailed Code* field and click **Submit** within 15 minutes of the email being sent. If the code expires, click **Resend Code** to request a new one on the **Enter Code** page.

Note: This page will appear every 7 days for users to verify their identity by entering a code when they log in. The same authentication process will also be initiated when the cache is cleared, when a user logs into a new device, or when a private browser session is in use.

Enter Code Page

Enter Code

A code has been sent to your email address. The code will expire after 15 minutes.

Enter Emailed Code

Submit

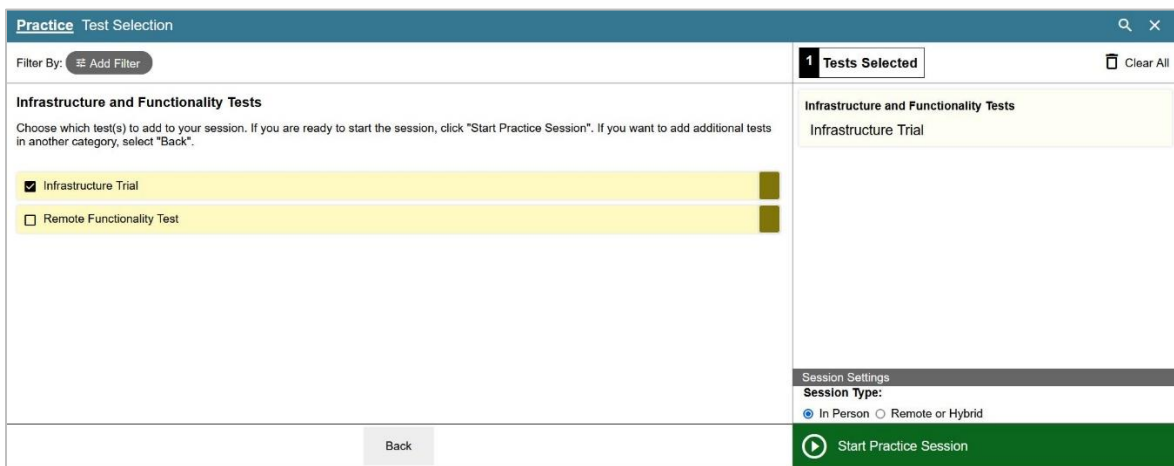
Resend Code

[Cancel](#)

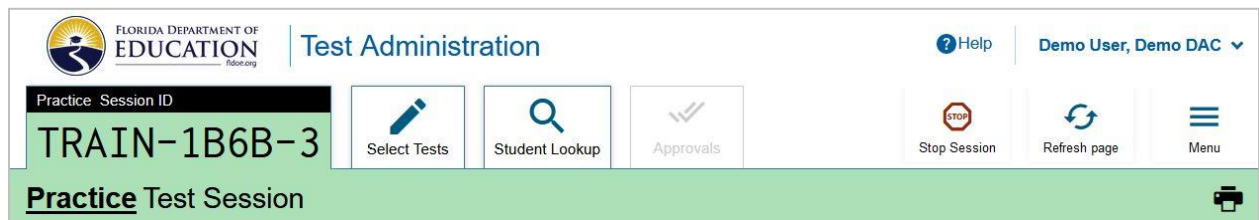
Starting a Session

A session must be started before guest students are able to log into the Secure Browser for the Infrastructure Trial. The following four steps show how to start a session:

1. In the TA Training Site, the ***Practice Test Selection*** window opens automatically when you log in.
2. Click **Infrastructure and Functionality Tests** and then select the checkbox next to the **Infrastructure Trial** to include it in the test session. Once you have selected the test, the **Start Practice Session** button will become active, as shown in the following image.



3. Select the **Start Practice Session** button.
 - a) The ***Practice Test Selection*** window will close.
 - b) The Session ID will generate and appear next to the Select Tests tab, as shown in the following image.



4. Provide the Session ID to the users who will log into your test session. Display this Session ID in a location where it is visible to all users. For example, write the Session ID on the board. **Users must enter the Session ID exactly as it appears on the TA Training Site.**

Starting the Infrastructure Trial

The following four steps show how to start an Infrastructure Trial:

1. Before students or volunteers arrive, ensure that the testing room is prepared as it will be on the day of the test.
2. Ensure that each student or volunteer has a pen or pencil and paper to make note of any issues.
3. Ensure that all software applications, including Internet browsers, are closed on all student computers or devices before the trial begins.
4. You will be asked to test audio on computers and devices during the trial. Earbuds or headphones are optional but are recommended to test their setup. If using earbuds or headphones, check that each student or volunteer has plugged them in and adjusted volume prior to launching the trial.

Logging In as Guest Users

Because the purpose of an Infrastructure Trial is to test district and school infrastructure, it is not necessary to use real student data. Users will log into the Secure Browser as Guest Users.

Script for the Infrastructure Trial

Note: The Infrastructure Trial is not to be used for student practice. The Infrastructure Trial uses mock content to allow districts and schools to simulate a computer-based test administration for testing hardware and network connectivity prior to the operational administration.

At the beginning of the Infrastructure Trial, say the following:

SAY	Thank you for participating in the Infrastructure Trial. If you encounter any problems during the trial, please describe the problem and record the number of times it occurred on your sheet of paper. If the problem prohibits you from proceeding with the trial, please raise your hand and someone will assist you.
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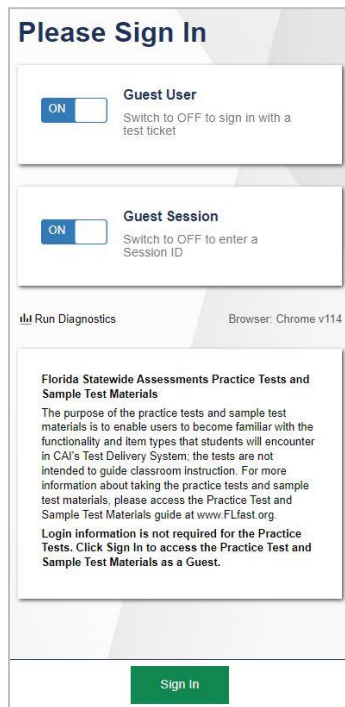
If students are participating in the trial, please say the following:

SAY	Please remember that the Infrastructure Trial is only for the purpose of testing our school's systems for online testing. It is not meant to introduce you to the test items or to be used for practice. Practice tests and sample items are provided to introduce you to the tools and the format of the computer-based test questions. After testing today, I will provide you with a web address you can use to access the practice tests and sample items. Are there any questions?
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Answer any questions.

SAY	<p>Launch the Secure Browser icon on your computer or device.</p> <p>Click Go to the Practice Test Site to access the Student Practice Test site.</p> <p>A Please Sign In screen should be displayed. Raise your hand if you do not see the Please Sign In screen.</p>
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Assist users as needed and make sure that everyone is able to get to the Student Practice Test **Please Sign In** page, as shown in the following image.






SAY	<p>Make sure the box for Guest User is switched to ON. Make sure that the box for Guest Session is switched to OFF and enter the Session ID TRAIN-_____ - _____. Click Sign In.</p> <p>The Your Tests screen will appear. From the Student Grade Level drop-down menu, select any grade level.</p> <p>Select the arrow beside Start Infrastructure Trial. Raise your hand if you are having trouble with any of these steps.</p>
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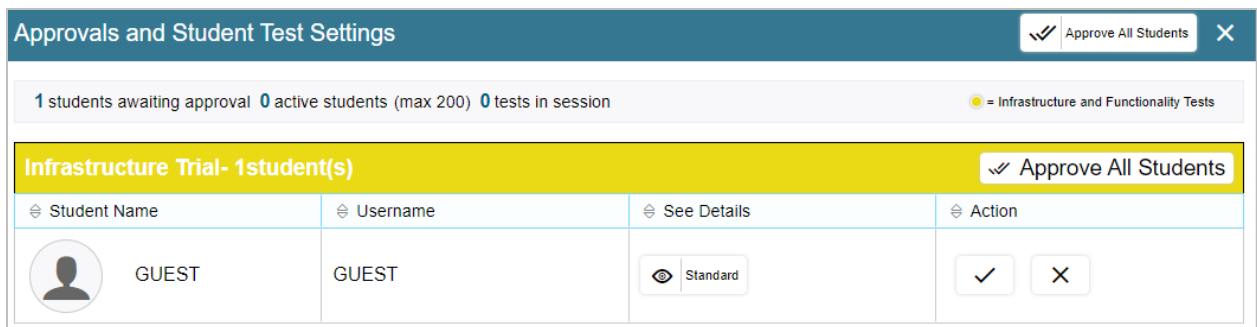
Assist users as needed and make sure that everyone has proceeded to the **Waiting for Approval** screen. Then, say the following:

SAY	<p>I will now approve you to enter the trial.</p>
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To approve users in the TA Interface, first select the **Approvals** tab [] on the left side of the screen; this will open the **Approvals and Student Test Settings** screen. A list of all users/students waiting for approval will appear.

- If you wish to view or modify a student's test settings before approving the user/student to test, click the test settings icon [] in the See Details column. The **Test Settings** window will appear. In this window, you can assign students accommodations, such as text-to-speech (TTS) and masking. After assigning accommodations, click **Set** at the top of the window.
- To approve individual users/students, click the checkmark button [] for each user/student. The student will be approved.
- To approve all users currently displayed in the list, select the **Approve All Students** button at the top right of the test table, as shown in the image. An **Important!** pop-up window will appear. Read the information and click **Yes**. All users and students listed will be approved. However, please note that if you use this option, any users and students who reach the **Waiting for Approval** screen after you have selected Approve All Students will need to be approved separately.



Once users have been approved, say the following:

SAY	<p>The Audio Checks screen will appear.</p> <p>In the Sound Check section, click the sound icon [🔊] to hear the sound. If you cannot hear the sound, raise your hand. If you can hear the sound, click Yes. <i>(Assist any users/students who raised their hands. Once students click Yes on the last applicable audio check, they will automatically be sent to the Before you Begin screen.)</i></p> <p>If speech-to-text was assigned, in the Recording Device Check section, click the microphone icon and say your name into your recording device. When you are done, press the Stop button. To listen to your recording, press the play button. If you heard your recording correctly, select I heard my recording. A green tab with a checkmark will appear in the upper-right corner of the section. If you did not hear your recording, please raise your hand now. <i>(Assist any users/students who raised their hands.)</i></p> <p>If text-to-speech was assigned, in the Text-to-Speech Sound Check section, click the speaker icon [🔊] to make sure that you can hear the voice. Then click I heard the voice. If you do not hear the spoken phrase, click I did not hear the voice, and raise your hand. <i>(Assist any users/students who raised their hands.)</i></p> <p>Once you complete all applicable audio checks, you will see the Before You Begin screen. At the bottom of this screen, click Begin Test Now.</p> <p>Now that the Infrastructure Trial has loaded, take about 10 seconds on each item before proceeding to the next question by selecting the forward arrow at the top of the screen. Your answers do not need to be correct; just mark a random answer and move on.</p> <p>For the purposes of this trial, do not pay attention to the content of the questions. During the course of this Infrastructure Trial, take some time to use each tool, as available. These include the Tutorial, Mark for Review, Calculator, Notepad, Highlighter, Zoom, Notes, Strikethrough, Periodic Table, and Line Reader tools. Click play on the audio passage in Session 1 to ensure that it plays correctly. The audio passage can be found in Question 4 in the reading passage panel. Does anyone have any questions about how to use the tools or how to navigate between questions? <i>(Answer any questions.)</i></p> <p>You will proceed to the second session of the trial by clicking Next on the first Review screen and clicking Yes on the pop-up window. After you reach the last question of the test click Next to proceed to the Review screen. Then click End Test on the Review screen. Use your sheet of paper to record any additional comments about your experience.</p> <p>Now, proceed through the trial by spending about 10 seconds on each item.</p>
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Walk around the room and assist users as needed to complete the trial. When users have completed the trial, say the following:

SAY	When you have completed the Infrastructure Trial, click End Test on the Review screen and Yes on the pop-up window. Click Log Out to be directed back to the Login page.
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When everyone in the session has completed the trial, stop the session in the TA Training Site.

Stopping a Session

To stop the trial session, do the following two steps:

1. Click **Stop Session** in the upper-right corner of the screen. An **Important!** box will appear, requesting verification that you want to end the session and log out students.
2. Click **Yes** to continue. The test session will close.

Follow-Up

If students participated in the trial and they are interested in accessing [practice tests](#) or [sample items](#), direct them to the Students & Families page on the portal.

Once your Infrastructure Trial has been completed, the computer-based testing team at your school should review all notes from the Infrastructure Trial. Follow up with the Florida Help Desk on any specific technology issues. The school should also share these notes with the computer-based testing team at the district level. The district may also request additional confirmation that the trial has been completed successfully. Please report any additional issues or concerns to your DAC.

Appendix A. Change Log

Location	Change	Date
Throughout Guide	Updated screenshots where appropriate.	7/10/23
Creating a Test Session	Added information for two factor authentication.	7/10/23
Script for the Infrastructure Trial	Updated instructions for new end test procedures.	7/10/23

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Descriptions of the operation of the Test Information Distribution Engine, Test Delivery System, and related systems are property of Cambium Assessment, Inc. (CAI), and are used with CAI permission.

