Overview:
Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium
A National Consortium of States

• 25 member states
  21 governing
  4 advisory

• Washington is fiscal agent

• WestEd provides project management services
Next-Generation Assessments

- Rigorous assessments of progress toward “college and career readiness”
- Common cut scores across all Consortium states
- Information about grade-level achievement and growth
- Valid, reliable, and fair for all students (except those with “significant cognitive disabilities”)
- Administered online, using multiple measures (paper/pencil option for 3 years)
- Fully operational in 2014-15 school year
A Balanced Assessment System

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

Summative: College and career readiness assessments for accountability.

Teachers and schools have information and tools they need to improve teaching and learning.

Interim: Flexible and open assessments, used for actionable feedback.

Formative resources: Supporting classroom-based assessments to improve instruction.

All students leave high school college and career ready.
A Smarter Solution for States

• **GOVERNANCE:** A state-led consortium with equal representation across member states
• **ECONOMIES OF SCALE:** High-quality assessments beyond what any single state can afford
• **APPLES-to-APPLES:** Equivalent levels of rigor across all member states
• **STATE FLEXIBILITY:** Different packages of “core” and “optional” services available to meet state needs