

UCLA Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium

Smarter Balanced became a center in the UCLA Graduate School of Education last August. We are a multi-state consortium to develop high quality assessments for K-12 students. Between March and June of this year, more than 7 million students in 19 states will take the Smarter Balanced tests.

A key part of our strategy is an open source assessment production and delivery system. Source code and specifications for the project are managed at [GitHub.com/SmarterApp](https://github.com/SmarterApp) and SmarterApp.org. **Smarter Balanced would like to explore with you the prospect of involving UCLA Computer Science students in the open source software development effort.** This could take the form of internships, a summer development camp, codeathon, collaboration with a Software Engineering class, graduate student research, workstudy or some other variation. Smarter Balanced would be able to contribute funds to these efforts.

Working with Smarter Balanced would expose students to real-world software engineering challenges. We have more than 180,000 teachers that use our digital library regularly. More than 7 million students will take our tests this year and we have to maintain data on all test results and ensure that reports are available to the right people and kept secure according to state and federal regulations. Our assessment production system must support creation of 2000-5000 new assessment items (questions) per year – fully calibrated and accessible to students with disabilities. We make use of single sign-on, web applications in multiple languages, databases, cloud computing and storage, and a host of other contemporary technologies.

If interested, contact Brandt Redd at brandt.redd@smarterbalanced.org