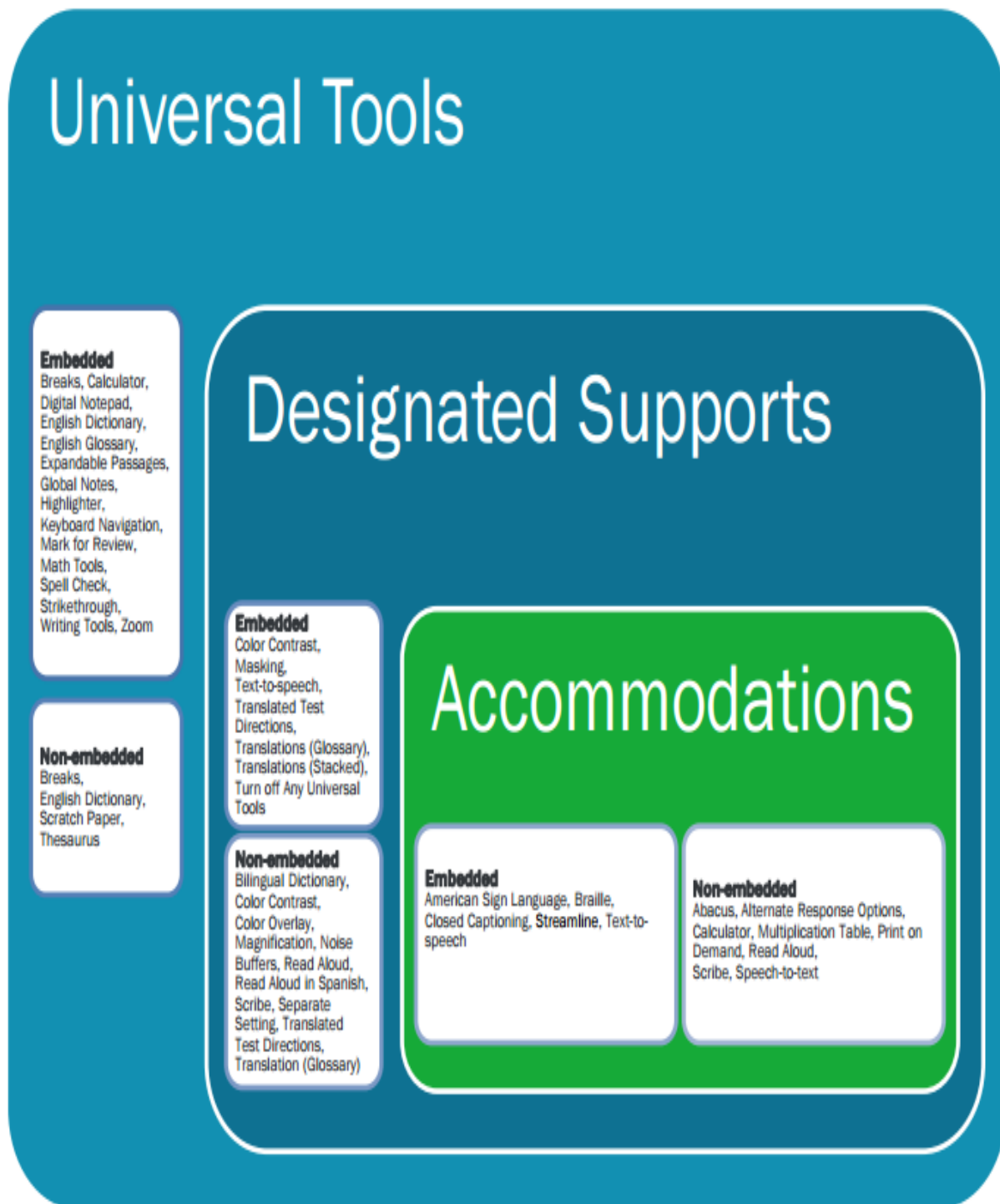




Figure 1: Conceptual Model Underlying the Smarter Balanced *Usability, Accessibility, and Accommodations Guidelines*.



These *Guidelines* present the current universal tools, designated supports, and accommodations adopted by the Smarter Balanced members to ensure valid assessment results for all students taking its assessments.

**Table 1: Definitions for Universal Tools, Designated Supports, and Accommodations**

Type	Definition
Universal Tools	Access features of the assessment that are either provided as digitally delivered components of the test administration system or separate from it. Universal tools are available to all students based on student preference and selection.
Designated Supports	Access features of the assessment available for use by any student for whom the need has been indicated by an educator (or team of educators working with the parent/guardian and student). They are either provided as digitally delivered components of the test administration system or separate from it.
Accommodations	Accommodations are changes in procedures or materials that increase equitable access during the statewide assessments. Assessment accommodations generate valid assessment results for students who need them; they allow these students to show what they know and can do. Note: accommodations are available only for students with documented Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) or Section 504 Plans. Accommodations do not compromise the learning expectations, construct, grade-level standard or intended outcome of the assessment.

Iterative Process

The specific universal tools, designated supports and accommodations approved for Oregon's statewide assessments (**including Smarter Balanced**) may change in the future if additional tools, supports or accommodations are identified for the assessment based on state experience and research findings. Educational teams or individuals are encouraged to complete a description of the support and submit it to ODE for the Accessibility Panel to review. The Accessibility Panel uses current research, state practice, federal and state policy (including, if applicable **Smarter Balanced guidance**), and professional and technical expertise to guide their review. The Accessibility Panel determines whether to submit the proposed accessibility support to the Smarter Balanced Consortium accessibility supports standing committee (UAAG; which includes members from Governing States), charged with reviewing proposed additions and/or changes to the accessibility supports. If the standing committee determines additions and/or changes are warranted, these will be brought to the Governing States of the consortium for review, input and vote for approval.