



2026 SMOWL USER GUIDE

Moodle 4.3.3+ (Build: 20240405)

Introduction

SMOWL is an online proctoring tool integrated into Moodle to ensure academic integrity during assessments. Follow these steps to access and use **SMOWL** effectively.

What is the SMOWL browser extension?

It is a browser extension developed by Smowltech, which allows SMOWL to integrate into the client's platform on the one hand, and to deploy the functionality of the browser block on the other hand. The browser extension will allow you to perform the activity within your institution's platform.

What is SMOWL LOCK browser?

The browser lockdown is a feature that forces the browser to full screen during the exam. This full screen prevents you from browsing the internet or exiting the exam. This tool is executed through the browser extension.

How do I download and install the extension?

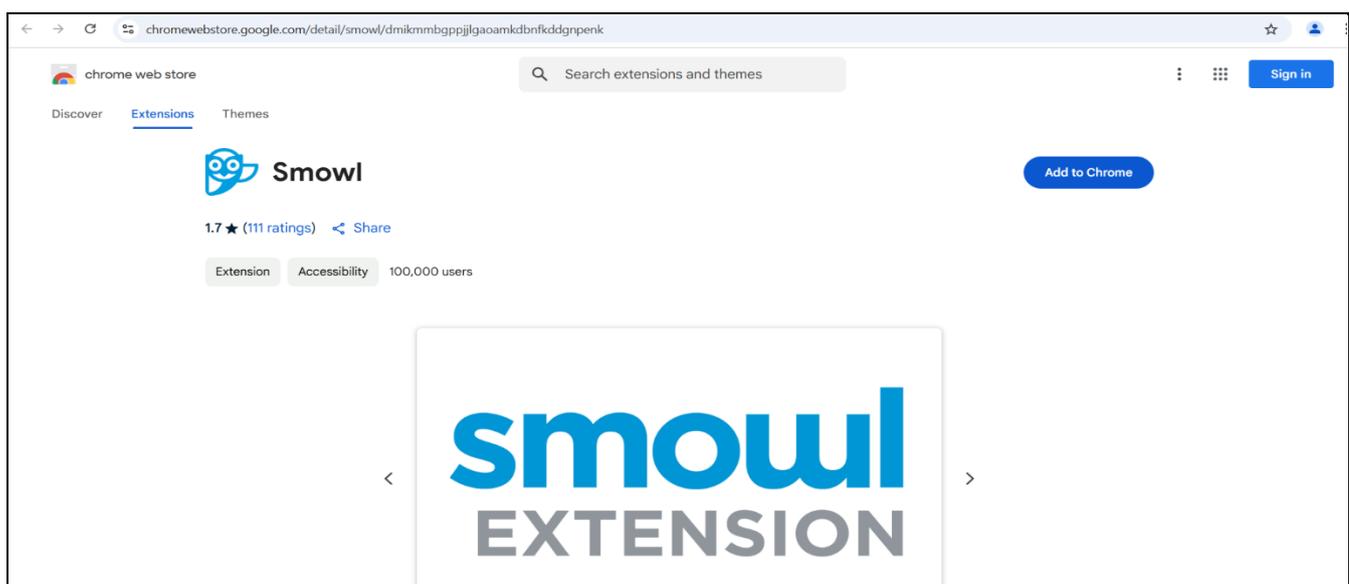
Downloading and installation are very simple, please note the following considerations:

Download

AAA School of Advertising will provide a link through our Moodle platform to add the extension in Google Chrome prior to the activity, if you have not received it, you can download it here:

- [Download link](#)

The next step is to add it to Chrome.



Supported browsers

The SMOWL extension works with Chromium-based browsers, such as:

- **Google Chrome**
- Microsoft Edge
- Opera
- Brave
- Vivaldi

Our recommended browser: **Google Chrome.**

The SMOWL extension is not compatible with Safari or Mozilla Firefox.

What is not allowed by the extension?

During the online activity you must always remain on the exam page and not perform any improper actions, such as:

- Opening any program.
- Open a text document, PDF, spreadsheet... Etc.
- Open another web browser.
- Execute keyboard commands.

The extension detects this inappropriate behaviour and alerts the user. Any action that can be considered improper or inappropriate is collected and compiled by SMOWL and presented to the faculty who will evaluate the user's actions.

The user has a maximum number of incidents he/she can commit. Once he exceeds the number of alerts set by his institution he will be expelled from the exam and the browser will be closed, delivering his activity in the state it was in when the closure occurs.

Once the activity has ended, or the user has been expelled from the activity, the browser extension stops working and allows the user to continue browsing the computer as usual.

How to register in SMOWL?

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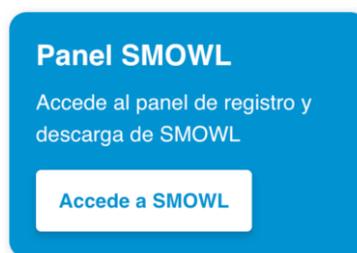
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How does the registration work?

Before taking your first proctored exam, you must register on the SMOWL platform. To do this, you should access the SMOWL registration link in your Richfield Moodle course where you will be taking the exam (a mock test will be made available to assist students and to help speed up the registration process)

In MOODLE you will find a block like this one within your course. If you don't find it, please contact your Distance Learning Administrator/Campus Manager/Moodle Support.

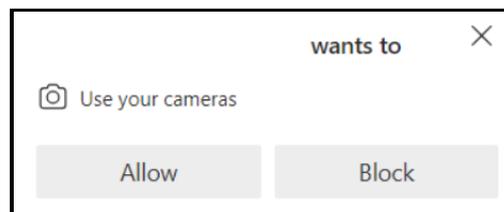


Registration process

We recommend registering with enough time before your first proctored exam. Registering with SMOWL is easy. You just need to sign up once from your course. It will be valid for all monitored activities in your Richfield Moodle.

Before starting

Before you begin, remember that you must [Allow permission to use the camera](#),



and accept the terms and conditions to be monitored by Smowltech. If you have any doubts about them, you can contact your Distance Learning Administrator/Campus Manager/Moodle Support.

Capture of images

It's important to allow the SMOWL system to access your webcam to capture images.

A set of basic recommendations will guide you on how to position yourself before taking the photograph.

These recommendations should also be taken into account each time you engage in an activity monitored by SMOWL.

2. Take the image



Place yourself correctly in front of the webcam. Ensure that you appear centered in the frame, looking directly to the camera and make sure your face is well lit and clearly visible



Make sure you are not wearing any unallowed electrical device (Headphones, phones, etc) and that you are the only person in front of the camera



 Capture

Once you are sure that you comply with our recommendations, you should capture a photo of your face, trying to align it with the circle displayed when you click on "**Capture**".

Important: Once the photograph has been accepted, it will allow you to proceed with the process.

In case there has been a problem with your photos, a warning window will appear and you will have to retake them. After 3 attempts, they will be reviewed manually.

Image not valid



Download your monitoring tools

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You will need to download and install monitoring software (SMOWL CM and/or the browser extension) on your device.

On the last page of the registration, you will find some last recommendations before starting to be monitored by Smowltech.

To complete the registration, click on “Finish”.

Experiencing issues with your registration?

If your camera is not being detected during registration process, try opening our registration window in a new tab. You only need to right click on the register button and open on a new tab, at the registration button and with the **right button** of your mouse  click on **open link in new tab**. This will open our registration process on a new page and allowing you to continue. If the issue keeps going you can reach our support team through our support chat.

Technical and system requirements

These requirements will allow you to use all SMOWL's features efficiently and ensure proper monitoring during your activities. Below you will find all the necessary information about supported operating systems, recommended browsers, and the technical specifications that your device must meet. In addition, we will guide you through the registration process and the appropriate conditions for effective monitoring.

By following these steps, you will be able to make the most of the tools that SMOWL offers for your online studies and activities.

WHERE SMOWL WORKS

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	Windows	MacOS	Linux	Chrome OS	iOS**	Android**
Registration process	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Camera Monitoring	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Audio captures	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Computer Monitoring	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
External Camera Monitoring	NA*	NA*	NA*	NA*	✓	✓
Browser Extension	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗

*Not applicable, external camera monitoring must be done with a mobile device or tablet.

SMOWL CM is compatible with Linux environments: Ubuntu 20, Ubuntu 22 and Mint 21

**In case a course is being conducted on a Canvas or Blackboard Ultra platform, it is necessary to use a computer. SMOWL is not compatible with this type of OS within these platforms.

RECOMMENDED BROWSERS

SMOWL works on all Chromium-based browsers, for a best user experience while monitoring an online activity we recommend using **Google Chrome**.

SMOWL does not work with Safari, we encourage all users to keep using **we recommend using Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge**.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Operative system	Windows 10+	MacOS 10.15+	Linux Ubuntu 20 and 22
Processor	Intel premium 4+	Intel premium 4+	Intel premium 4+
Hard disc space	250MB	250MB	–
RAM	2GB**	2GB**	2GB**
Upload speed	0.077Mbps – 0.165Mbps	0.077Mbps – 0.165Mbps	0.077Mbps – 0.165Mbps
Camera*	640×480 px	640×480 px	640×480 px
Microphone*	Any type of microphone, internal or external	Any type of microphone, internal or external	Any type of microphone, internal or external

*Those devices with iOS or Android operating system are supported as SMOWL360 external camera monitoring tool.

**4GB RAM recommended

USER FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The different functional requirements to be fulfilled by the user to be monitored by Smowltech are listed below.

Registration

- The user registers using the [SMOWL registration](#) application where 1 image of their face, and optionally an ID picture, will be captured.
- The user must guarantee that he meets the appropriate conditions for a correct registration.
- The user must accept the Terms and Conditions of the registration to be monitored during the activity.

SMOWL CM and/or SMOWL LOCK installation

- The user must install the [SMOWL CM](#) desktop monitoring tool or the [SMOWL LOCK](#) browser extension.
- The installation must be done before the start of the first activity, and it will allow to monitor the user’s activity on the computer during the activity.

- The user must accept the Terms and Conditions of the download and installation of SMOWLCM or SMOWL LOCK to be monitored during the activity.

Access and development of the activity

The user must

- Allow access to the webcam during the entire activity.
- Allow the SMOWLCM desktop monitoring tool and/or the SMOWL LOCK browser extension to run.
- Allow the monitoring with an external camera during the entire activity. Allow access to the microphone during the entire activity.
- Ensure that he/she meets the appropriate monitoring conditions throughout the activity.

Adequate monitoring conditions

Webcam

- The user should position the camera in front of him facing the camera.
- The user should avoid placing the camera to the side.
- The user shall ensure that the user's face is properly illuminated. The user must avoid windows or spotlights behind the user's head that may obscure the user's face.
- The user may not wear accessories that may completely or partially obscure the user's face.

External camera or secondary camera

- The user must [position the camera to the side \(right or left\)](#) of the working area. The image should capture:
 - The side of your face
 - Your working area: entire computer and table surface (right, left and background around the computer).
- The user should position the camera at a certain height from the table, with some downward tilt, and at a sufficient distance from the table to capture the whole required area.

First Test with SMOWL: Quick Guide

STEP 1: Log into your Richfield Moodle Portal and locate a course with the Mock Test.

2026 SMOWL REGISTRATION MODULE (2026SMOWLREG)

Course Grades Competencies

General

Collapse all

SMOWL panel

2026 SMOWL REGISTRATION MOCK TEST (CONTACT)

2026 SMOWL REGISTRATION MOCK TEST (CONTACT)

Opened: Friday, 20 February 2026, 9:00 AM Closes: Monday, 20 April 2026, 11:59 PM

SMOWL

SMOWL panel

Access the SMOWL registration and download panel

Access SMOWL

Navigation

Dashboard

Site home

AAA

My courses

STEP 2: Once on the course overview page, located on the right-hand side panel on Moodle, you will find a blue block indicating access to the **SMOWL Panel**. A direct link to the registration in the **SMOWL** system, follow the provided steps to register, (You only need to register once). The panel will indicate in red/green the status of your registration.

2026 SMOWL REGISTRATION MODULE (2026SMOWLREG)

Bulk actions

Course Settings Participants Grades Reports More

General

Collapse all

SMOWL panel

Add an activity or resource

2026 SMOWL REGISTRATION MOCK TEST (CONTACT)

2026 SMOWL REGISTRATION MOCK TEST (CONTACT)

Opened: Friday, 20 February 2026, 9:00 AM Closes: Monday, 20 April 2026, 11:59 PM

SMOWL

Monitoring dashboard

Set up monitoring and review results

Access SMOWL

Navigation

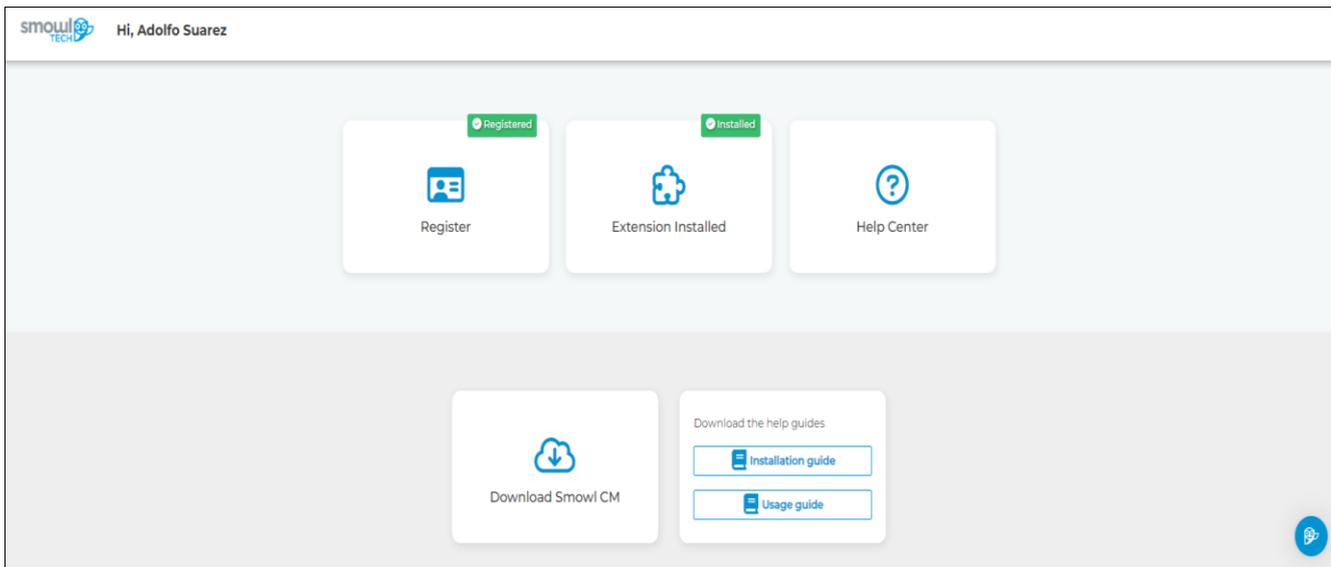
Dashboard

Site home

AAA

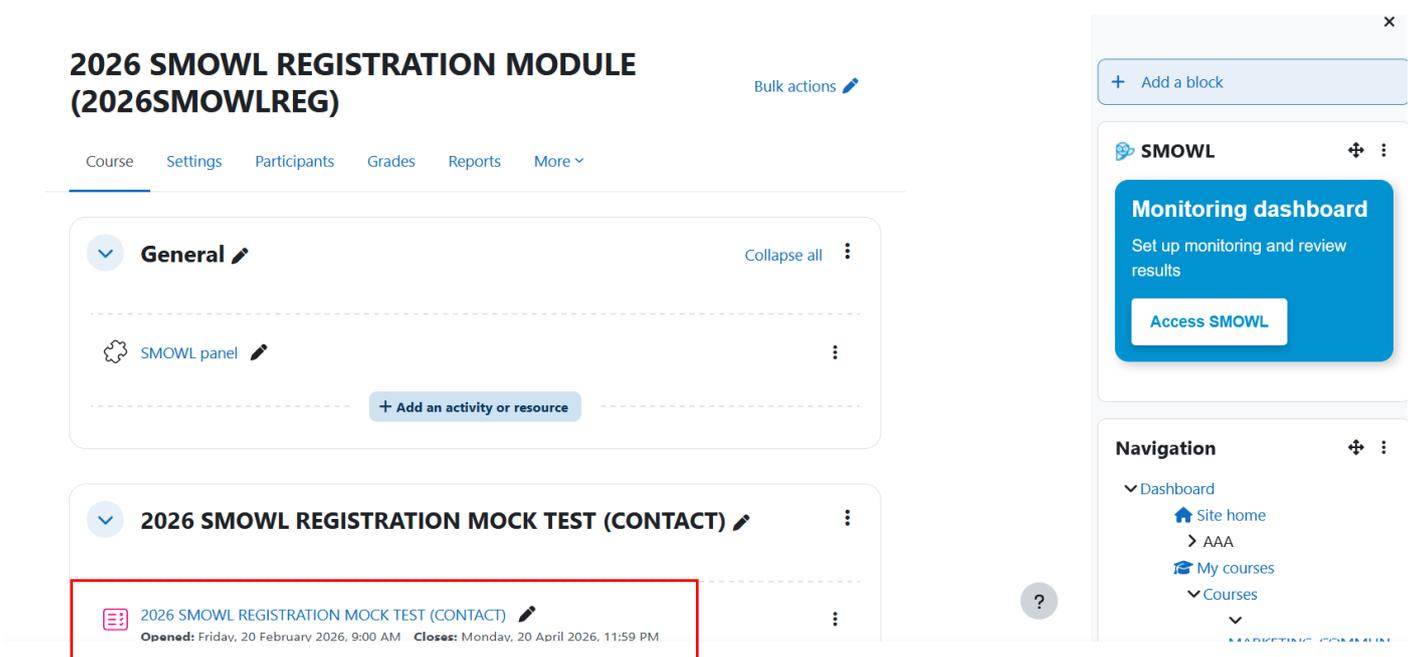
My courses

Courses

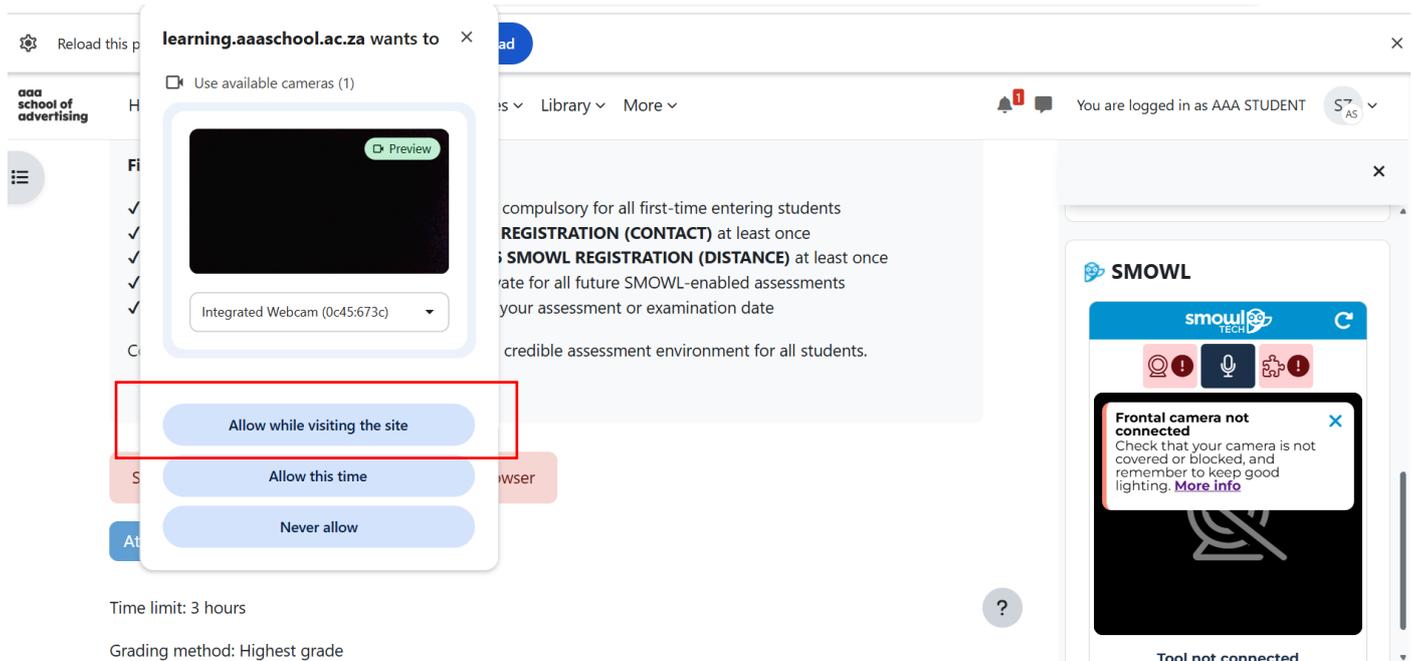


Once You have completed the registration successfully, navigate back to the course page on Richfield Moodle to start your Mock Test attempt

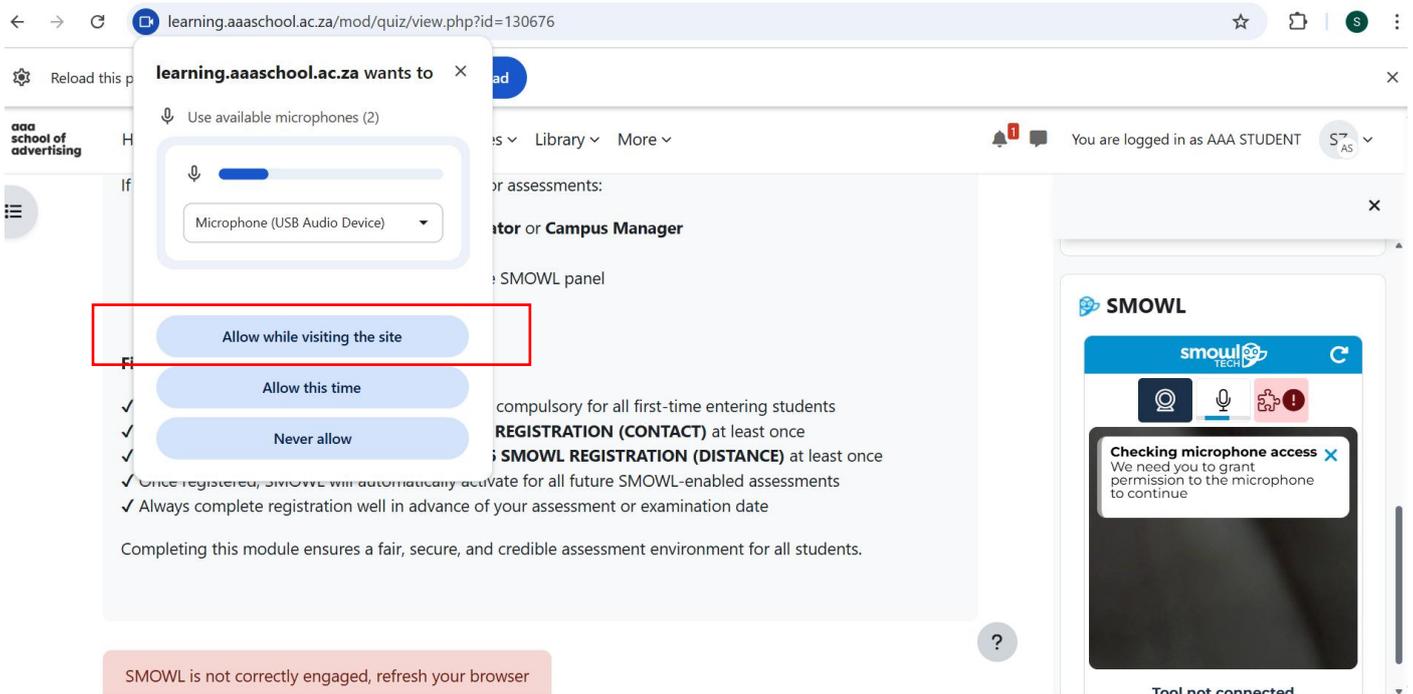
STEP 3: Click on **2025 MOCK TEST (LD)** or **2025 MOCK TEST (CM)** (depending on which mock test is loaded on that module – However, both are valid) to begin your mock test attempt.



STEP 4: Your browser will prompt you to allow SMOWL to use your devices integrated camera, please click *“Allow while visiting the site”* (ensure your webcam is enabled in settings).



STEP 5: Your browser will again prompt you to allow SMOWL to use your microphone, please click *“Allow while visiting the site”* (ensure your microphone is enabled in settings)



STEP 6: On the SMOWL block located on the right side of the screen, you will see a pop-up message that reads “*Extension LOCK not connected*” and a “**DOWNLOAD**” link next to it, please click on the “*Download*”. This will open a new window for downloading the **SMOWL** extension as shown below.

- The time limit for the test is 120 minutes. After 120 Minutes, the system will automatically “lock” and deny access to the test.
- Please ensure that after completing the test questions you press the “submit” button to submit the test.
- You will only be allowed one attempt and after you submit your test, you will not be allowed to attempt the test again.

All other aspects of the module will be disabled during the test and enabled afterwards.

Good luck!

Attempts allowed: 1

Time limit: 2 hours

This quiz is currently not available.

SMOWL is not correctly engaged, refresh your browser

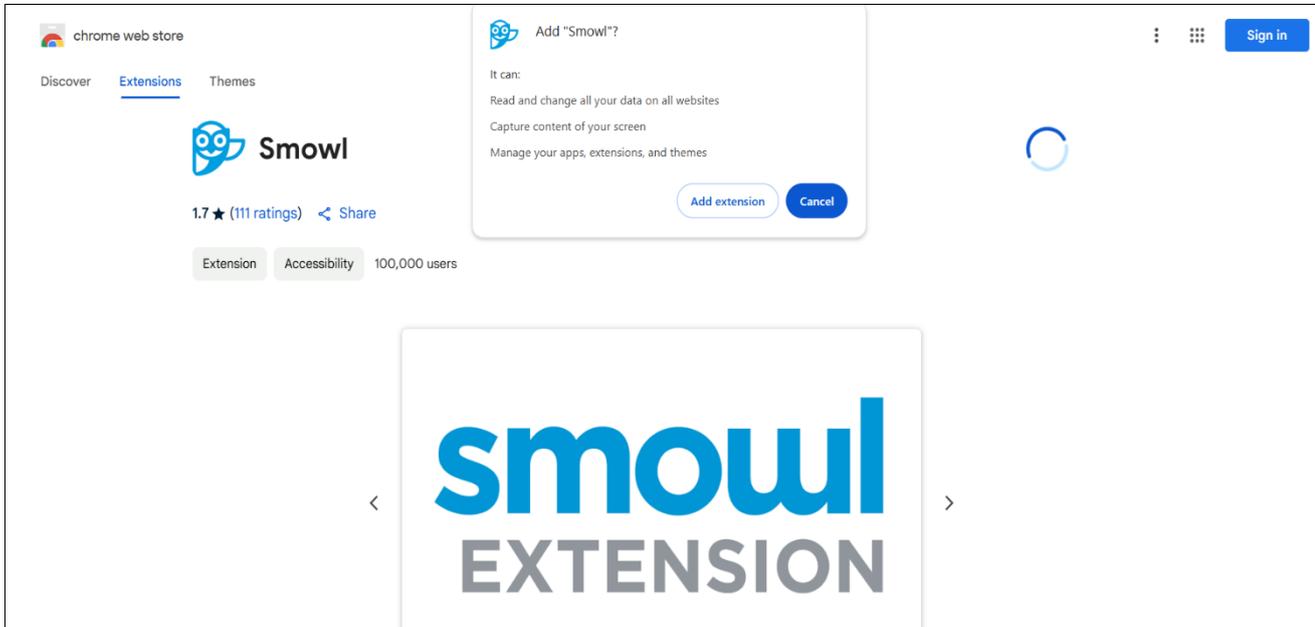
Back to the course

The screenshot shows the SMOWL extension interface. At the top, there are icons for camera, microphone, and a red error icon. Below this, a white error box with a blue 'X' in the top right corner reads: "Browser extension not connected. Extension LOCK is not installed or is disabled. Download". Below the error box is a video thumbnail of a person. At the bottom of the interface, it says "Tool not connected".

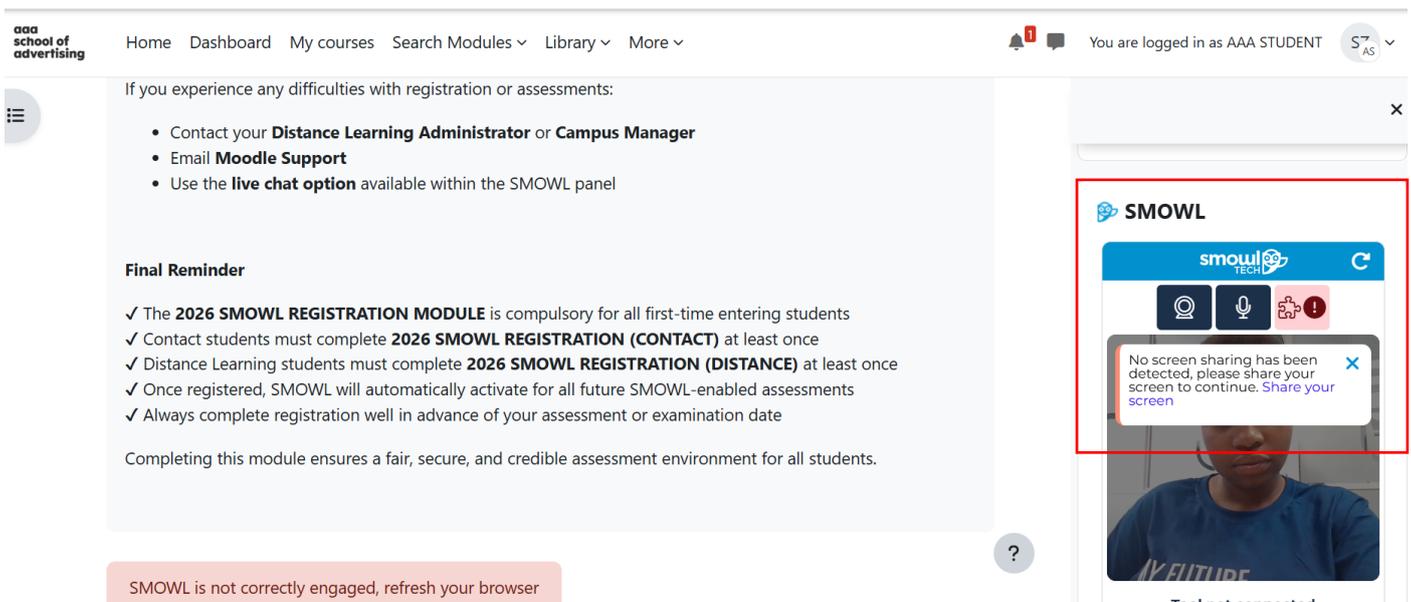
STEP 7: Click on “Add to Chrome”

The screenshot shows the Chrome Web Store page for the "Smowl" extension. The page includes the extension's name, a 1.7 star rating from 111 reviews, and a "Share" button. Below this, there are tags for "Extension" and "Accessibility" and a note that it has "100,000 users". A large banner at the bottom of the page displays the "smowl EXTENSION" logo. A red box highlights the "Add to Chrome" button in the top right corner of the extension card.

STEP 8: Click on “Add extension”, this will install and activate the extension on your browser and will allow **SMOWL** access to monitor your **MOCK** test and all other subsequent assessments configured to use **SMOWL**.



STEP 9: Click on the “Share your screen” link below the Extension Icon, this will open a separate window (Please ensure pop-up are allowed/unblocked). Please select the Moodle Window under the Entire screen tab then click share, this will correctly engage all the necessary tools. You can now proceed with attempting your test.



Choose what to share with SMOWL

The site will be able to see the contents of your screen

Chrome Tab Window **Entire Screen**

Entire screen

Share Cancel

SMOWL is not correctly engaged, refresh your browser

SMOWL

No screen sharing has been detected, please share your screen to continue. [Share your screen](#)

Tools not connected

SMOWL

Tools connected

SMOWL is engaged, you can access your activity

Back || Smowl is sharing your screen. [Stop sharing](#) [Hide](#)

STEP 10: Scroll down and select "Start attempt", once you have answered all your questions, click "Finish Attempt", then select "Submit all and finish", then select "Finish review" and select "Back to course" to return to the main module page.

Important: The registration process is only done once, SMOWL will be automatically activated for all your assessments once you have successfully registered and validated.

If you experience any issues while using SMOWL, please reach out to your Distance Learning Administrator, Campus Manager or send an Email to Moodle Support.

You also have the faster option on chatting directly to the SMOWL support team on your SMOWL panel.

Helpful Links:

[Information for Users- SMOWL](#)

[First Test with SMOWL: Quick Guide](#)

[SMOWL panel for Students](#)

[AAA Moodle Login](#)

[AAA Moodle Support Email](#)