With the promotion of Chinese language education in the United States, the number of Chinese learners has increased significantly. The demand for Putonghua, also known as Standard Mandarin, has grown among Chinese learners in schools ranging from elementary schools to universities. In response to this new demand for the teaching of Chinese as a second language in North America, the China Center and Confucius Institute at Stony Brook University established the Putonghua Testing Center, the very first testing site in North America. On January 11, 2018, Stony Brook University and Communication University of China met at the China Center/Confucius Institute conference room for the Putonghua testing consultation meeting. This is the initial meeting between the two universities on the collaboration to develop training programs and establish testing structures for the Putonghua Testing Center.

The Putonghua Testing Center at Stony Brook University is the first Putonghua training and testing center in North America to cooperate with the Department of Linguistics, the Chinese Ministry of Education, the Putonghua and Putonghua Training Center of the National Language Committee, and the School of Broadcasting at the Communication University to promote Chinese language teaching and provide standard tests for American Chinese teachers and Chinese learners.