

## Memorandum

**To:** Formative (Interim) Assessment Program Vendors  
**From:** Dr. Charity Flores, Director of Student Assessment  
**Re:** School Year 2020-2021 Indiana Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant Updates  
**Date:** November 22, 2019

Indiana's Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant for school year 2020-2021 is updated to include additional guidance for vendors. Access to this updated guidance is available via the [Indiana Formative \(Interim\) Assessment Grant website](#).

The Indiana General Assembly enacted new legislation (I.C. 20-32-5.1-17) that requires any assessment program approved for Indiana's Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant to provide predictive study results for student performance on the statewide assessment (ILEARN). This legislation affects program approvals beginning school year 2020-2021.

In response to the new requirement, the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) updated the [Formative \(Interim\) Assessment Grant Assessment Program Rubric](#) by adding Criterion 6: Predictive Measures.

In order to ensure all assessment programs meet the updated criteria, all vendors are required to participate in an approval process for school year 2020-2021. **Two approval processes are available: an abbreviated process for assessment programs which were approved for school year 2019-2020, and the full process for all other assessment programs.** The [Assessment Program Approval Process](#) provides specific step-by-step direction for vendors in either of these categories.

Vendors who wish to submit for approval for school year 2020-2021 must understand and adhere to the following:

- All vendors must resubmit documentation for approval per the updated guidance and process.
- All vendors wishing to participate must submit a letter of intent by January 20, 2020. The letter of intent does not bind a vendor to submit, but indicates that submission is intended. **Only programs which submit a letter of intent by December 20, 2020 will be reviewed.** The letter should include the vendor name, any assessment program names that are intended for submission, acknowledgement of the published process, and agreement to follow the published process. The letter of intent should also include a request to initiate a data sharing agreement with the IDOE for use of ILEARN assessment data for the required predictive measures study (Criterion 6).
- All vendors must submit documentation between December 1, 2019 and April 8, 2020 to be considered for approval for the 2020-2021 school year.  
**Note: Vendors wishing the opportunity to respond to feedback must submit by March 6, 2020. No additional documentation will be accepted after April 8, 2020.**
- The IDOE does not work directly with vendors in any type of iterative process intended to culminate in approval. Vendors are responsible to supply a quality product and submit

documentation verifying that quality to the IDOE if they wish to be include for approval through this process.

- Per updated Indiana legislation, an additional criterion, *Predictive Measures*, is added to the evaluation rubric. All vendors complying with study requirements for year one will receive probationary approval status for this category for school year 2020-2021.
- Vendors of programs which provide a platform for data analysis or district-created assessments only (i.e., do not provide assessment content) no longer need to apply for approval status. These programs are now included in a separate allowable use of funds and do not require approval from IDOE.

Please direct any questions that you have to Mary Williams, Senior Assessment Specialist.  
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