



2021-2022 Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant Guidance

<http://www.doe.in.gov/assessment/formative-assessment-grant>

Vision and Purpose

Eliciting and analyzing evidence of student learning to guide classroom instruction at the individual student level results in increased academic success. Indiana's Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant provides funding to schools for approved formative (interim) assessment programs to increase data-driven instructional practices and enrich learning for all students.

Indiana Code

Monies set aside for the Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant are governed by [Indiana Code 20-32-5.1-17](#).

Eligibility

All Indiana public school corporations, charter schools, and accredited nonpublic schools (including choice schools) for students Grades K-10 (capped at the corporation's most recent official Pupil Enrollment Count) are eligible. Schools which successfully submit an application for funds will receive funds based on the funding allocation rules. This is not a competitive grant.

Allowable Uses of Funds

- Approved Mathematics and/or English Language Arts formative/interim/benchmark (or similar) assessment programs.
Note: Visit the Formative Assessment Grant website for the current list of approved assessment programs.
 - Approved programs must include interim/benchmark assessments to be provided to students at intervals throughout the year.
 - Approved programs must measure student achievement and/or growth on Indiana Academic Standards over the course of the year.
 - **New 2021-2022:** Approved programs at grades kindergarten through two may include assessments focusing on literacy and numeracy. These programs may include dyslexia screeners required by Indiana Code 20-35.5-2-2. Approved programs for the Formative Assessment Grant do not replace the full list of dyslexia screeners available for use; however, they expand the list of dyslexia screeners which are funded through this grant.
 - **New 2021-2022:** Approved programs at grades eight through ten may include assessments focusing on college-and-career readiness aligned to Indiana's selected college entrance exam.
- Professional development and implementation support for selected approved assessment programs offered through the selected (approved) assessment program vendor.

Funding Allocations

The State of Indiana allocates \$11,711,344.00 for the 2021-2022 Formative Assessment Grant. Funding is allotted per student, per assessment program (i.e., a student may receive funding for Mathematics as well as for English/Language Arts). The distribution algorithms are described in Table 1.

Table 1: Funding Allocations

Allocation per Assessment	$\frac{\$11,711,344.00}{\text{Total Number of Assessments (Math + ELA)}}$
Allocation per Student	$(\text{Allocation per Assessment}) \times (\text{Number of Assessments})$ <i>Note: The number of assessments is limited to 1 or 2 (Math and/or ELA)</i>
Allocation per Corporation	<i>Sum of All Student Allocations</i>

The **estimated** allocation per student per assessment for school year 2021-2022 is \$6.25. Therefore, a student could receive \$6.25 for Mathematics and \$6.25 for English/Language Arts for a total of \$12.50 per student. The actual amount may be higher or lower based on the total number of participants. Indiana State Board of Education approval of allocations is required annually prior to distribution.

Local Contracts

Funds from this grant are distributed directly to corporations. Corporations and schools will enter into local contracts with assessment program vendors from the approved assessment program list. Corporations may choose to contract with and implement formative assessments prior to fund distribution; however, the corporation would be responsible for any costs incurred above the final distribution amount.

Flexibility

Corporations and schools determine details regarding the use of grant funds. Corporations may determine:

- What schools are participating
- What grade levels are participating
- What content areas (Mathematics and/or English/Language Arts) are being assessed
- What assessment programs are being used for each school/grade level
- When the programs are in use (i.e., when to enter into the contract within the school year, when testing windows occur, etc.)

Data Sharing Agreements

The Indiana Department of Education will collect student-level data from each corporation's selected assessment vendor following each interim assessment window (as required in updates to [Indiana Code 20-32-5.1-17](#)). Corporations must sign agreement to data collection in order to submit an application and receive funds. **New 2021-2022:** Assessment program vendors must

enter into a data sharing agreement with the Indiana Department of Education prior to receiving approval from the Indiana State Board of Education for use under this program.

New for 2021-2022 Dyslexia Screener Waivers and Requests for Funding

Corporations and schools which request Formative Assessment Grant funds to implement required dyslexia screeners in grades kindergarten through two (as required by Indiana Code 20-35.5-2-2) may not seek a 1003 waiver from the dyslexia screener requirement. Corporations and schools which previously requested a 1003 waiver from the dyslexia screener requirement may not request Formative Assessment Grant Funds for grades kindergarten through two with the intent to purchase a dyslexia screener.

Timeline of Important Dates

Corporations and schools should use this timeline of important dates to complete required tasks to participate in this grant opportunity.

Date	Event or Task	Additional Information
June 2, 2021*	Initial assessment program approval list presented to the Indiana State Board of Education for approval.	Access the most up-to-date list of approved assessment programs on IDOE's website .
June 7, 2021*	Initial approved assessment program list published.	Approved assessments are published through the IDOE weekly update, CTC weekly listserv, and on IDOE's website .
July 14, 2021*	Updated assessment program approval list (grades K-2 and 8-10 updates only) presented to the Indiana State Board of Education for approval	Access the most up-to-date list of approved assessment programs on IDOE's website .
July 19, 2021*	Updated approved assessment program list published.	Approved assessments are published through the IDOE weekly update, CTC weekly listserv, and on IDOE's website .
July 26 – August 11, 2021	Grant application window is open.	Directions for applying will be posted through the Formative Assessment Grant listserv and Dr. Jenner's weekly update.
September 1, 2021	Recommended fund distributions provided to the Indiana State Board of Education and Indiana State Budget Agency for approval.	Indiana State Board of Education materials and meeting agendas can be accessed on the Indiana State Board of Education website. https://www.in.gov/sboe/index.htm
September 6, 2021*	Distribution list published to schools.	The distribution list is published via listserv to CTCs and additional Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant contacts at local schools.
September 30, 2021* (or earlier)	Funds distributed to schools.	Funds are deposited via electronic transfer. Contact the Office of Student Assessment for additional information.
July 6 - August 5, 2022	Final report form is open.	All participating schools must complete a final report verifying use of grant funds. The final report form will be provided to CTCs and additional contacts via the Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant listserv.

August 31, 2022	Any unused funds must be returned to the Indiana Department of Education.	Unused funds must be returned via the directions published through the Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant listserv (also available on the grant website).
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* Dates are dependent on Indiana State Board of Education and/or State Budget Agency approvals and may be subject to change.