Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

IREAD-3 Frequently Asked Questions

General Guidance

Number	Question	Answer
1	**What is the purpose of IREAD-3?**	IREAD-3 is a reading assessment that measures foundational reading skills, including students' ability to read and understand grade-level text.
2	**Which students are required to participate in IREAD-3 in the spring?**	All grade three students currently enrolled in an accredited Indiana school, including English learners (ELs) and students with disabilities, must participate in IREAD-3. Any other students who need to retest should also participate. Students participating in Indiana's Alternate Measure (I AM) do not participate in IREAD-3. Schools may also opt-in to assess grade two students.
3	**Are students participating in IREAD-3 also required to take ILEARN?**	Yes. IREAD-3 and ILEARN are separate assessments developed for different purposes. Legislative requirements call for participation in both assessments during the spring of grade three. Students who pass IREAD-3 in grade two will not be required to participate again in grade three.
4	**What should schools do if their spring break is scheduled for the same week(s) as the spring IREAD-3 window?**	The Corporation Test Coordinator (CTC) should make a request through the Test Administration Considerations Request Form regarding an extension of the IREAD-3 assessment window. Contact the Indiana Department of Education's (IDOE's) Office of Student Assessment for assistance.
5	**How long will students have to complete the IREAD-3 assessment?**	Students will have approximately two hours to complete the IREAD-3 practice and operational tests, including directions and actual working time. The specific number of minutes allotted for each test segment is noted in the IREAD-3 Test Administrator's Manual (TAM) available on the Indiana Assessment Portal.
6	**Are schools allowed to administer all three segments of IREAD-3 to a student in a single day?**	IDOE strongly recommends that schools administer IREAD-3 over the course of at least two days. Schools choosing to administer the entire test in a single day are encouraged to provide students with breaks between each segment and adjust schedules as needed to accommodate students' fatigue levels.
7	**Are schools allowed to administer test segments out of sequence?**	Schools should administer test segments in numerical order (e.g., Segment 1, Segment 2, Segment 3) to all students. However, a student who returns to class after missing one or more test segments should complete any remaining segments per the testing schedule and make up any missed test segment(s) later in the assessment window.

8	What kind of items appear on IREAD-3, and what resources are available for parents and students to better understand the IREAD-3 assessment?	IREAD-3 consists of multiple-choice items that measure foundational reading skills aligned to the Indiana Academic Standards. Below are a list of resources available to parents and students: • The IREAD-3 Released Items Repository, available on the Indiana Assessment Portal, includes items that may be used as sample assessments to familiarize students with test content and format. • The IREAD-3 Test Blueprint outlines specific Indiana Academic Standards assessed by IREAD-3. • IREAD-3 Item Specifications detail how each Indiana Academic Standard can be measured by items on the assessment. • The IREAD-3 Parent Guidance provides an explanation of IREAD-3 for parents and families. These resources and more are located on IDOE's IREAD-3 webpage.
9	Are students required to participate in the IREAD-3 practice test?	Yes. Schools are required to administer the IREAD-3 practice test to students prior to administering the IREAD-3 assessment. If a student is absent when the practice test is administered and returns to school during the assessment window, the school must administer the practice test to the student before the operational assessment. Schools may administer the practice test to students more than once, as needed. Students participating in the summer retest administration are not required to participate in the practice test if they have already completed the practice test during the spring administration.
10	What materials do Test Administrators (TAs) need to successfully administer IREAD-3?	• All TAs must use the IREAD-3 TAM when administering the assessment to all students. • Additionally, TAs must use the "IREAD-3 Secure Segment 1 Script" to administer phonics items to all students except students who are deaf or hard of hearing. • TAs will also use the "IREAD-3 Read Aloud Script for Accommodated Paper-and-Pencil Assessments" when administering the assessment to any students testing via pencil-and-paper or hard of hearing (HoH) students testing paper-and-pencil who require the human reader accommodation. These secure scripts will be sent to CTCs' secure inbox in the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) prior to the IREAD-3 assessment window.

Accommodations

Number	Question	Answer
11	**What accommodations are available to students taking IREAD-3?**	Please review Section 3, beginning on page 13, of the [2022-2023 Accessibility and Accommodations Information for Statewide Assessments](#) for a list of embedded and non-embedded accommodations available on IREAD-3.
12	**How can schools ensure students who are deaf or HoH have access to the appropriate test form?**	Schools must submit the IREAD-3 [2022-2023 Special Forms Request for IREAD-3 (HoH)](#) to ensure those students receive the appropriate test form. Students who receive this test form will not receive items measuring phonics standards, and their scores will be calculated without penalty.
13	**Are students who are deaf or HoH (receiving the IREAD-3 HoH test accommodation) required to complete items in all three test segments?**	Yes. While these students do not engage with Segment 1 items measuring phonics standards, there are items in the latter part of Segment 1 that all students must complete, in addition to all items in Segments 2 and 3. If a student does not answer any items in one or more test segments, a valid scale score cannot be achieved. Review the IREAD-3 TAM for more details.

Grade Two Opt-In

Number	Question	Answer
14	**What is the purpose of administering IREAD-3 to grade two students?**	IDOE is committed to supporting early literacy by providing reading proficiency information earlier, allowing schools to respond quickly and provide targeted support for students who need it most. The opportunity for schools to voluntarily administer IREAD-3 to grade two students will allow earlier intervention and will provide indicators on how students are advancing in their reading abilities.
15	**What are the benefits of administering IREAD-3 to grade two students?**	● Early indicators of proficiency mean earlier intervention and support for students. ● Early reading support may lead to higher rates of reading success at grade three. ● There is reduced testing at grade three for students who pass in grade two. ● Early reading support may lead to fewer Good Cause Exemptions in grade three.

16	How will grade two students receive accommodations for IREAD-3?	For schools that utilize Indiana IEP (IIEP), a report will be generated for all participating grade two students, including their general accommodations to be imported into TIDE. The report will identify students who require the classroom accommodation of directions and content read aloud, known as text-to-speech (TTS). For a student to receive TTS except items that test reading comprehension on IREAD-3, the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) must state the classroom accommodation. Non-embedded accommodations that occur outside of the Secure Browser will not be collected. Test Administrators (TAs) will need to review non-embedded accommodations prior to test administration. Students with Section 504 Plans, Choice Special Education Plans (CSEPs), and Individualized Learning Plans (ILPs) must be provided through the Data Exchange Validation Portal with a direct connection from a school's Indiana certified student information system (SIS) vendor. For students who require the streamline accommodation, please contact IDOE's Office of Student Assessment and provide the student's STN to ensure that the student receives this accommodation.
17	How will the scores for grade two students be reported?	Students who receive a passing score of 446 or higher on IREAD-3 in grade two will be reported the following year with their cohort and included in statewide data following the grade three administration.
18	Can a grade two student be granted a Good Cause Exemption?	No. Good Cause Exemptions cannot be granted until after the grade three IREAD-3 administration.
19	Will grade two students be administered the same test as grade three students?	Yes. Grade two and grade three students will be administered the same assessment.
20	When is the assessment window for grade two students taking IREAD-3?	Grade two students will test during the same window as grade three students. The IREAD-3 assessment window for spring 2022 is from Monday, March 6, through Friday, March 17.
21	How can schools opt in to administer IREAD-3 to grade two students?	Schools can opt-in to administer IREAD-3 to grade two students via this JotForm. IDOE requests submission by Friday, February 24.
22	Are grade two students required to retest during the summer administration if they do not receive a passing score in the spring?	No. Grade two students who did not pass IREAD-3 in grade two will not take the assessment again until the spring administration in grade three.

Scoring and Reporting

Number	Question	Answer
23	**How is IREAD-3 scored? Is there a rescore process? What score is required to pass IREAD-3?**	IREAD-3 consists of multiple-choice items only. The scoring vendor machine scores all items, and there is no rescore process. Students must attain a scale score of 446 or higher in order to pass IREAD-3. Please review the 2022-2023 Indiana Interpretive Guide for Statewide Assessments on the Indiana Assessment Portal for more details.
24	**How soon after students complete the IREAD-3 assessment will spring results become available to schools?**	Individual student scores will begin populating in the Centralized Reporting System (CRS) 24 hours after test completion. Once IDOE and Cambium Assessment, Inc. (CAI) complete quality control protocols of early return data, final results for students testing online will be available for schools in CRS on April 21, 2023. No student score labels will be shipped to schools.
25	**Will schools receive printed copies of students' Individual Student Reports (ISRs)?**	No. Schools can download and print ISRs locally as soon as student results are posted in CRS.
26	**How does IDOE calculate a corporation's or school's passing percentage?**	Only grade three students enrolled during the entire spring IREAD-3 assessment window are included in this calculation. Students who test during grade two will be included the following year with the participating school's results for grade three. Students not included are those who participate in I AM and any grade four or five retesters.
27	**What are the score indicators for grade three students?**	Grade three students will receive initial 'Pass' and 'Did Not Pass' indicators, along with the scale score and reporting category subscores within two weeks of completing the assessment. ● Students who receive the 'Pass' indicator (a cut score of 446 or higher) have achieved proficient understanding when reading and responding to grade-level literary and informational texts. ● Students who receive the 'Did Not Pass' indicator (a cut score of 200-445) have demonstrated limited understanding when reading and responding to grade-level literary and informational texts.

| 28 | What are the score indicators for grade two students? | Grade two students will receive initial 'Pass', 'On Track', or 'At Risk' indicators, along with the scale score and reporting category subscores within two weeks of completing the assessment.

 • Students who participate in IREAD-3 during grade two and receive the 'Pass' indicator (a cut score of 446 or higher) will not have to participate in IREAD-3 during grade three. They have achieved proficiency in foundational reading.
 • Students who participate during grade two who receive the new 'On Track' indicator (a cut score of 405-445) are not flagged for specific remediation, but will still participate in the grade three administration to confirm that they have achieved proficiency in foundational reading.
 • Students who participate during grade two who receive the 'At Risk' indicator (a cut score of 200-404) are flagged for early support and remediation to ensure that they can achieve proficiency by the end of grade three. |
| 29 | If two students have the same *percent correct* scores on their reporting categories, will they always have the same scale score? | No. The reporting category *percent correct* scores only considers how many items a student answered correctly. The scale score considers both how many *and* what type of items a student answers correctly. When a student answers a more difficult item correctly, they receive more scale score points than when they answer an easy item correctly.

 • Example: Two students answer 20 questions. Student A answers the 10 easiest questions correctly. Student B answers the 10 hardest questions correctly. The two students would have the same percent correct (50), but Student B would have a higher scale score because he answered the more difficult items correctly. |

Remediation & Retesting

Number	Question	Answer
30	What action must be taken to support a student who does not pass IREAD-3 in the spring?	Schools are required to provide reading remediation to grade three students who do not achieve a passing score on the spring IREAD-3 assessment (e.g., Did Not Pass, Undetermined, No Record). Schools must provide these students an opportunity to participate in IREAD-3 during the summer retest. Students who do not pass in grade two will participate in the spring administration of grade three as the next assessment opportunity.

31	What guidelines should schools follow when providing remediation for students who do not pass IREAD-3 in the spring?	Students who do not pass IREAD-3 this spring should receive additional support on the five components of reading, including foundational reading skills and reading comprehension. More information can be found on IDOE's Literacy Development webpage.
		Remediation may look different for each student and should be based on individual student needs; however, all remediation should be based on the Science of Reading. Schools are encouraged to consult the Literacy Frameworks as they plan remediation for students.
32	Which students must participate in the summer retest?	- Students from a non-accredited Indiana school or out-of-state school who enrolled in grade three at an accredited Indiana school after the spring IREAD-3 test window but before the end of the school year; - Students in grades three, four, and five who took the spring IREAD-3 but do not have passing results (e.g., Did Not Pass, Undetermined, No Record) and have not been granted a Good Cause Exemption.
33	How many times may a student participate in the summer retest? What flexibility do schools have when scheduling students for the summer retest?	Schools are responsible for scheduling individual students to participate in IREAD-3 during the defined summer window and communicating this opportunity with parents. A student participating in the IREAD-3 summer retest is allowed one testing opportunity.
34	Is paper testing an available accommodation for students participating in the summer retest? How can schools request a paper test?	Regular print, large print, and braille test books are available as formal accommodations. Schools are responsible for reporting student accommodations to IDOE (e.g., Data Exchange, Indiana IEP) and placing paper orders in TIDE during the defined Additional Order Window prior to testing.

Good Cause Exemptions

Number	Question	Answer
35	What is a Good Cause Exemption, and who is eligible?	A Good Cause Exemption serves to exempt an eligible student from additional IREAD-3 testing. ELs, students with disabilities, and students who have already been retained twice (or received two additional years' worth of grade three reading instruction) are eligible for a Good Cause Exemption. **Grade two students are not eligible for a Good Cause Exemption.** Educators and families should review the Process and Considerations For Issuing a Good Cause Exemption to help guide decision-making.

36	**When can schools grant Good Cause Exemptions to students who do not pass IREAD-3? Who is able to grant exemptions?**	Good Cause Exemptions can be granted to eligible students only after schools review the students' IREAD-3 results. ILP committees are able to grant exemptions for ELs, case conference committees are able to grant exemptions for students with disabilities, and school officials may grant exemptions for students who have already been retained twice (or received two additional years' worth of grade three reading instruction).
37	**How and when should schools report Good Cause Exemption data to IDOE?**	Schools should report Good Cause Exemptions using the Good Cause Exemption (GCE) Intervention Plan Jotform. Ideally, this form should be completed during or shortly thereafter the case conference or ILP committee meeting. Please contact IDOE's Office of Student Assessment with any questions regarding this submission.
38	**Would a student who becomes eligible for special education services become eligible for a Good Cause Exemption if they did not pass IREAD-3 in the spring?**	Yes. As long as the student has participated in at least one IREAD-3 test administration in grade three with valid results, the case conference committee may grant an exemption. After granting a GCE, schools should refer to the following resources: ● After the Good Cause Exemption: Students with Disabilities ● After the Good Cause Exemption: ELs ● Indiana Learning Lab: IREAD-3 Resources
39	**Are students who receive a Good Cause Exemption still required to receive reading remediation?**	Students who receive a Good Cause Exemption should receive targeted instruction designed to meet the goals within their IEPs and ILPs.

For additional information, please contact IDOE's Office of Student Assessment.

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