



2024-2025 Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant Guidance

The Indiana Department of Education's (IDOE's) Office of Assessment provides the following guidance to support the Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant. Using formative and interim assessment data can assist schools in providing the most effective support for students. Additional information can be found on IDOE's [Formative \(Interim\) Assessment Grant webpage](#).

ILEARN Checkpoint Pilot and Interim Assessments

Schools who opted in to participate in the ILEARN Checkpoints pilot may still apply for formative grant funds and are eligible to receive the same allocations as schools not participating in the checkpoints pilot. It is a local decision to administer both the checkpoints and an approved interim to students in grades three through eight. When determining whether to provide interim assessments in addition to the checkpoints, schools should consider the amount of testing students will participate in.

- If a school does not plan to administer additional interim assessments in addition to the checkpoints, do not request funds through the application jotform for the applicable grade levels.
- If administering the ILEARN Checkpoints pilot for grades three through eight, schools may choose to only request formative assessment funds for students in grades kindergarten through two and students preparing for college and career readiness exams.
- Formative assessment funds may not be used to purchase materials to administer any assessment, including the ILEARN Checkpoints (i.e., headphones, computers, etc).
- Professional development for the ILEARN Checkpoint is provided by the state at no cost. Schools should not apply for formative funds specifically to pay for professional development for ILEARN Checkpoints.

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 and specific universal screeners for dyslexia (that meet legislative requirements) to increase data-driven instructional practices and enrich learning for all students.

- [Indiana Code \(IC\) 20-32-5.1-17](#) governs funding set aside for the Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant.

Grant Eligibility

All Indiana public school corporations, charter schools, and accredited non-public schools (including Choice scholarship schools) serving students in kindergarten through grade ten are eligible. Schools that successfully submit the grant application will receive funds based on allocation guidelines. This is not a competitive grant.

Allowable Uses of Funds

- Approved mathematics assessment programs ([see Appendix A](#)).
- Approved English/language arts assessment programs ([see Appendix A](#)).
- Specific approved dyslexia universal screeners ([see Appendix A](#)). Diagnostic assessments for dyslexia are **not** covered by this grant.
- Professional development and implementation support for and provided by selected, approved assessment programs offered through the program vendor.

Fiscal Responsibility

Schools must have a plan for how they will use funds prior to applying. Funds that are distributed and then returned can no longer be used for education purposes.

Funding Allocations

The State of Indiana allocates \$14,126,474 for the 2024-2025 Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant. Funding is allocated per student, per assessment program. Schools may apply for up to three assessment allocations for students in kindergarten through grade two (mathematics, English/language arts, and/or dyslexia universal screeners). Schools may apply for up to two assessment allocations (mathematics and/or English/language arts) for students in grades three through ten. The distribution algorithms are described in Table 1.

The **estimated** allocation per student per assessment for the 2024-2025 school year is \$6.64. Therefore, a student in grade three through ten could receive \$6.64 for mathematics and \$6.64 for English/language arts for a total of \$13.28 per student. Students in kindergarten through grade two could receive \$6.64 for mathematics, \$6.64 for English/language arts, and \$6.64 for specific dyslexia universal screeners for a total of \$19.92 per student. The total amount may be higher or lower based on the total number of participants. Approval from the Indiana State Board of Education (SBOE) 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 their selected assessment program vendor(s) from the approved assessment program list. Corporations may choose to contract with and implement assessments prior to fund distribution; however, the corporation would be responsible for any costs incurred above the final distribution amount.

Flexibility

The level of flexibility differs for formative/interim/benchmark assessment programs and dyslexia universal screening assessment programs.

For formative/interim/benchmark assessments, corporations and schools determine details regarding the use of grant funds. Corporations may determine:

- Participating schools
- Participating grade levels
- Which content areas (mathematics and/or English/language arts) are being assessed
- Which 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.)

For dyslexia assessments, corporations must follow the requirements listed in IDOE's [Dyslexia Programming Guidance for Schools](#).

Timeline of Important Dates

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

Date	Event or Task	Additional Information
Tuesday, May 7, 2024*	Initial assessment program approval list presented to SBOE for approval.	Access the most up-to-date list of approved assessment programs in Appendix A.
Friday, May 17, 2024*	Initial approved assessment program list published.	Approved assessments are published through the Corporation Test Coordinator (CTC) weekly listserv (Formative Assessment Update), on the Formative Assessment Grant website , and in IDOE's weekly update .
Monday, May 20, through	Grant application window is open.	Instructions and link for applying will be published through the CTC weekly listserv

Friday, June 28, 2024		(Formative Assessment Update) and on the Formative Assessment Grant website .
Wednesday, August 14, 2024	Recommended fund distributions provided to SBOE for approval.	SBOE materials and meeting agendas can be accessed on SBOE's website .
Monday, August 19, 2024*	Distribution list published to schools.	The distribution list is published through the CTC weekly listserv (Formative Assessment Update) and additional Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant contacts at local schools.
Monday, September 30, 2024* (or earlier)	Funds distributed to schools.	Funds are deposited via electronic transfer. Details are provided above under <i>Distribution Method</i> . Contact the Office of Student Assessment for additional information.
Sunday, June 2, through August 29, 2025	Final report form is open.	All participating schools must complete a final report verifying use of grant funds. The final report instructions and link will be published through the CTC weekly listserv (Formative Assessment Update) and additional Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant contacts at local schools.
September 5, 2025	Any unused funds must be returned to IDOE.	Unused funds must be returned via the instructions in the Final Report Guidance published through the CTC weekly listserv (Formative Assessment Update) and the Formative Assessment Grant website ..

*Dates are dependent on SBOE and/or State Budget Agency approvals and may be subject to change.

Appendix A: Approved Assessment Programs and Dyslexia Universal Screeners

English/Language Arts and Mathematics Assessment Programs:

- Amplify: mCLASS with DIBELS (grades K-2)
- Cambium Assessments, Inc.: ClearSight (grades 3-10)
- College Board: PSAT 8/9
- Curriculum Associates, LLC: i-Ready Assessments (grades K-8)
- Edmentum: Study Island (grades 3-10)
- Edmentum: Exact Path (grades 3-8)
- NWEA: MAP Growth (grades K-10)
- NWEA: MAP Suite for Early Learners (grades K-2)

Dyslexia Universal Screeners

- Amplify: mCLASS with DIBELS (grades K-2)
- NWEA: MAP Reading Fluency Dyslexia Screener