



# Indiana's I AM Assessments: Information for Educators

*"Educator-Created: Student-Centered"*



## 1. What is I AM?

Indiana's Alternate Measure (I AM) is an accountability assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities in grades 3–8 and high school. I AM is developed by educators and tailored to student needs. It measures achievement according to Indiana's Alternate Academic Standards or Content Connectors. The primary mode for administering I AM is through the online Test Delivery System (TDS). I AM is a stage-adaptive untimed assessment delivered in a one-on-one setting by a classroom educator.



## 2. What features and supports are available for students?

I AM is accessible to students who require accommodations while testing. Tools and accessibility features for I AM assessments include:

- Strikethrough
- Calculator
- Expandable passages and items
- Highlighter
- Line reader
- Text-to-Speech
- Zoom in and zoom out
- Color contrast
- Masking
- Mouse pointer passages and items (size and color)
- Print size
- Translation-Spanish (Stacked) for Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies



## 3. What are the participation criteria for I AM?

Students taking I AM must meet four participation criteria:

1. The student's records must indicate a disability that significantly impacts intellectual functioning and adaptive behavior. Adaptive behavior is defined as essential for someone to live independently and function safely in daily life.
2. The student requires extensive, repeated, individualized instruction and support that is not identified as a temporary accommodation.
3. The student must use substantially-adapted materials and individualized methods of accessing information in alternative ways to acquire, maintain, generalize, demonstrate, and transfer skills across multiple settings.
4. The goals listed in the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) must be linked to the enrolled grade-level Alternate Achievement Standards (Indiana Content Connectors).

*Please note that in a given year, a student must participate in either all general education assessments or all alternate assessments—not parts of both.*



## 4. When will I AM be administered?

I AM assessments will be administered during the spring of the school year to students in grades 3–8 and high school as a single testing window.

| Subject                    | Grade(s)                     |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| I AM English Language Arts | Grades 3–8 and 10            |
| I AM Mathematics           | Grades 3–8 and 10            |
| I AM Science               | Grades 4, 6, and high school |
| I AM Social Studies        | Grade 5                      |

*Final scoring information for all grades will be available by July 1 for this school year.*



# Indiana's I AM Assessments: Information for Educators (continued)

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## 5. What is a Stage-Adaptive Test?

In a stage-adaptive test, the student's answers help determine the next group of items the student receives, building the test in stages.

In Part One, a placement test is administered to all students to determine the student's general level of performance. In Part Two, a more targeted test is administered to the student based on their performance in Part One. There are three versions of Part Two: Form A (low difficulty), Form B (moderate difficulty) and Form C (high difficulty). The student's form placement in Part Two will be determined by their performance in Part One. The student's total score is based on performance from both stages of the test.



## 6. How are educators involved in building the I AM assessments?

Educators have been involved in developing I AM at each step of the process including:

- Defining Content Connectors
- Developing test blueprints
- Developing item specifications
- Reviewing content for bias/sensitivity issues
- Developing new items
- Reviewing data from field-test items
- Determining cut scores for proficiency



## 7. What can I expect in the upcoming year regarding I AM assessments?

We will continue to work closely with Indiana educators throughout the school year to build an assessment system that benefits our students and drives educational improvement. We encourage Indiana

educators to participate in the future development milestones of I AM Assessments.

New I AM Test Administrators (TAs) will be able to register in December for the recorded First Year I AM TA Webinar offered in March. In addition, all TAs will be required to take an online training certification course, composed of three modules and an associated quiz. The I AM TA Certification Course will be available in January.



## 8. What resources are available to help prepare my students for I AM?

You can prepare students for taking I AM by using I AM blueprints to support instruction. Blueprints define essential content that will be measured by the assessment. I AM blueprints are located on the Indiana Department of Education website, <https://www.in.gov/doi/students/assessment/i-am/>.

Indiana's Released Items Repository (RIR) allows students to interact with released items and try some of the assessment's tools and features. The RIR can be found at: <https://iam.portal.cambiumast.com/>. New items are added each school year to provide more examples.

**Visit the following resources for more information on I AM assessments:**

- Indiana I AM website  
<https://www.in.gov/doi/students/assessment/i-am/>
- Indiana Portal  
<https://iam.portal.cambiumast.com/>

**Please direct questions to [inassessments@doe.in.gov](mailto:inassessments@doe.in.gov).**