

Understanding Statewide Assessments

Indiana Department of Education
Office of Student Assessment



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Assessment Truths

Statewide assessment truths

- There are federal requirements for statewide assessments that affect decisions made at the state level.
- Educators are included in the selection of test vendors and the development of statewide assessments.
- IDOE provides resources that help teachers understand which standards will be assessed on statewide assessments and how those standards will be assessed.

Statewide assessment truths CONTINUED

- The results of statewide assessments should not be used in isolation to determine grade placement, reading ability, and/or the type of special education services students receive.
- The results of statewide assessments are one piece of evidence used by parents and schools to understand students' abilities and progress.

FEDERAL LAW

There are federal requirements for statewide assessments that affect decisions made at the local level.

These federal requirements include:

- The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (1965) and additional legislation that built on those established requirements:
 - No Child Left Behind (2002); and
 - The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) (2015).

Every Student Succeeds Act

- **All students must be assessed in ELA and mathematics every year in grades three through eight and once during high school (grades 10 through 12).**
 - Indiana uses a passing score on this ESSA-required assessment as a graduation pathway.
- **All students must be assessed in science once between grades three through five, six through nine, and 10 through 12.**
- **All states must provide accommodations to students who need them for statewide assessments. These accommodations must be captured in the students' educational plan.**
 - IEP, ILP, CSEP, or Section 504 Plan.

Every Student Succeeds Act CONTINUED

- **ESSA limits the number of students who may take alternate assessments to 1% of all tested students in a given subject under average conditions.**
- **States must establish college- and career-ready standards and maintain high expectations when assessing student proficiency of those standards.**
- **States must develop assessments using the principles of universal design for learning.**
- **Assessments must measure higher-order thinking skills.**
 - Reasoning, analysis, complex problem solving, and critical thinking.

Vendor selection & assessment development

Educators are included in the selection of test vendors and the development of statewide assessments.

- Request for Proposals (RFP) is a state procurement process used to identify and select vendors to complete assessment projects.

Who might participate in the RFP process?

Superintendents / Building Administrators	Special Education Directors
Corporation Test Coordinators (CTCs)	Classroom Teachers of Specific Content
Technology Directors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Mathematics● English/Language Arts● Science● Social Studies

Vendor selection & assessment development CONTINUED

Indiana statewide assessments are built from the ground up, and educators are involved in every step of the process.

- ILEARN
- I AM
- IREAD-3



STANDARDS RESOURCES

IDOE provides resources that help teachers understand which standards will be assessed on the statewide assessment and how those standards will be assessed through range performance-level descriptors.

Test Blueprints:

- Blueprints are a map for building tests.
- They assist in determining item selection based on reporting categories, standards, and total amount of items.
- They can inform instructional planning.

Item Specifications:

- Item specifications can be used as a guide for individual item creation and contain information about the presentation to students.
- They are based on specific academic standards.
- They offer details about item type, vocabulary, depth-of-knowledge, content limits, and samples.

Utilizing results data

The results of statewide assessments should not be used in isolation to determine grade placement, reading ability, and/or the type of special education services students receive.

- Multiple measures must be used to obtain a balanced approach to assessment results.
- Use test blueprints, item specifications, and performance-level descriptors (PLDs) to ensure an understanding of what each assessment is intended to measure.
- The overuse of data should be avoided.

ASSESSMENT AS ONE DATA POINT

The results of statewide assessments are one piece of evidence used by parents and schools to understand students' abilities and progress.

- Assessment scores are estimates of student knowledge and skill and describe an estimated ability at a single point in time.
- Assessment scores describe ability based on a defined set of standards, and many factors can affect assessment scores.

Indiana Assessments

ILEARN



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What is ilearn & who participates?

What is ILEARN?

ILEARN is Indiana's summative school accountability assessment for students in grades 3-8:

- English/Language Arts (Grades 3-8);
- Mathematics (Grades 3-8);
- Science (Grades 4, 6, and Biology End-of-Course Assessment (ECA)); and
- Social Studies (Grade 5 and optional U.S. Government ECA).

Who participates?

Students in grades 3-8 who do not qualify for the alternate assessment participate in their grade-level testing. ILEARN Biology is required upon completion of the high school biology course, and the optional U.S. Government ECA may be administered to students who have completed U.S. Government.

Ilearn test design

- **Online is primary testing mode.**
 - Computer-adaptive test (CAT)
 - Performance task (PT)
- **Fixed-form paper tests are available as an accommodation only.**
- **ILEARN assessments are untimed.**



ILEARN Assessment	Online Test Segments
English/Language Arts (ELA) (3-8)	CAT & PT
Mathematics (3-8)	CAT & PT
Science (4, 6, and Biology ECA)	CAT & PT
Social Studies & U.S. Government	Fixed Form

Ilearn Resources

ILEARN Resources:

- [ILEARN Assessment Portal](#): Find resources, links, and sign up for announcement notifications.
- [IDOE's ILEARN webpage](#): Review policies, sample items, test blueprints, and item specifications.



IREAD-3



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What is IREAD-3 & who participates?

What is IREAD-3?

IREAD-3 assesses foundational reading skills linked to the Indiana Academic Standards to ensure students are able to read as they advance to higher grade levels.

- IREAD-3 is required under IC 20-32-8.5 and State Board rule 511 IAC 6.2-3.1-3.

Who participates?

- All grade 3 students must participate. Students promoted to grades 4 and/or 5 who did not pass IREAD-3 in grade 3 and were not granted a Good Cause Exemption must also participate.
- Beginning in spring of 2022, schools may opt-in to administer IREAD-3 to students in grade 2 to serve as an early indicator of student reading proficiency.

IREAD-3 test design

IREAD-3 assessments are timed.

- Review the appropriate IREAD-3 Test Administrator's Manual for more details.

IREAD-3 is a multiple-choice only assessment consisting of three test segments.

- The first segment measures foundational reading skills, including phonics and vocabulary.
- The remaining two segments assess students' ability to silently read and comprehend nonfiction and literary texts.

Locate IREAD-3 resources:

- [IREAD-3 Assessment Portal](#): Find resources, links, and sign up for announcement notifications.
- [IDOE's IREAD-3 webpage](#): Review policies, sample items, test blueprints, and item specifications.

WIDA



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What is WIDA and who participates?

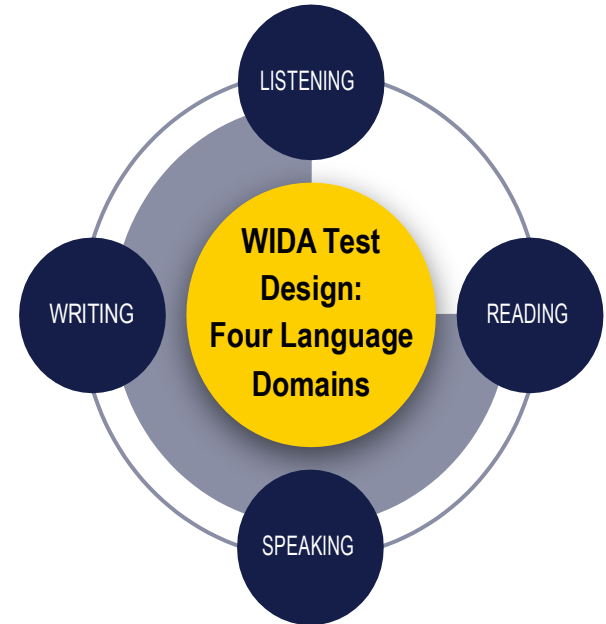
What is WIDA?

WIDA assessments are English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessments:

- WIDA provides the ELP assessments administered in Indiana.
- Utilized to formally identify English learners (ELs) and monitor progress.
- Federally required under ESSA.
- Determine students' placement in a protected class under civil rights law.
- Federal requirement of 100% participation of ELs in the annual assessment.
- Participation impacts federal funding.

Who participates in WIDA assessments?

- All identified English learners will participate until exit criteria is met.



WIDA Resources

WIDA Resources:

- [WIDA Consortium Indiana Member webpage.](#)
- [IDOE's WIDA webpage:](#) Review policies, sample items, and administration guidance.
- [Indiana English Learner Identification and Placement Guidance.](#)

SAT

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What is the sat and who participates?

What is the Indiana SAT?

Indiana uses the SAT (provided by College Board) to fulfill requirements listed in Indiana Code 20-32-5.1-7(d) for high school accountability.

- Students may also use scores to fulfill some high school graduation requirements.

Who participates in the Indiana SAT?

- High school students in the junior year cohort would participate in the SAT unless they qualify for the alternate assessment (I AM).

[Why is Indiana switching to the SAT?](#)

[Indiana SAT School Day Policy FAQ](#)

SAT test design & Resources

The Indiana SAT is a timed assessment.

- Review the appropriate [SAT Test Coordinator Manuals](#) for more details.
- Recent SAT announcements about digital test design updates will not take effect until spring 2024.

Locate SAT resources:

- [College Board Digital Testing webpage](#): Find resources, manuals, and additional testing resources.
- [IDOE's High School Assessment webpage](#): Review policies and additional testing guidance.

SAT & PSAT Test Design

Section 1	Reading
Section 2	Writing & Language
Section 3	Mathematics - No Calculator
Section 4	Mathematics - Calculator
No Essay Section Included	

PSAT/NMSQT

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What is the PSAT/NMSQT and who participates?

What is the PSAT/NMSQT?

The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) is a standardized assessment administered by College Board.

- The purpose of the PSAT/NMSQT is to:
 - Measure students' college- and career-readiness;
 - Indicate student strengths and challenges;
 - Provide opportunities for students to receive college scholarships; and
 - Provide information to support interventions for students prior to SAT participation.

Who participates in the PSAT/NMSQT?

- PSAT/NMSQT is optional, and may be administered to students in grade 10 and/or grade 11.

PSAT/NMSQT test design & Resources

PSAT/NMSQT is a timed assessment.

- Review the appropriate Test Coordinator Manuals for more details.
- Recent PSAT/NMSQT announcements about digital test design updates will not take effect until fall 2023.

Locate PSAT/NMSQT resources:

- IDOE's High School Assessment webpage: Review policies and additional testing guidance.

SAT & PSAT Test Design

Section 1	Reading
Section 2	Writing & Language
Section 3	Mathematics - No Calculator
Section 4	Mathematics - Calculator
No Essay Section Included	

I AM

What is I AM and who participates?

What is I AM?

I AM, Indiana's Alternate Measure, is the summative accountability assessment for students with significant cognitive abilities.

I AM assesses:

- ELA (Grades 3-8 and 10)
- Mathematics (Grades 3-8 and 10)
- Science (Grades 4, 6, and Biology)
- Social Studies (Grade 5)

Who takes I AM?

- Review the [I AM Participation Criteria Guidance](#) for thorough information for determining assessment participation.

Resources:

[I AM Indiana Assessment Portal](#)

[IDOE's I AM webpage](#)



I AM Participation

Alternate Assessment Participation Criteria

Review of student record indicates a disability that significantly impacts intellectual functioning and adaptive behavior. Adaptive behavior is defined as essential for someone to live independently and to function safely in daily life.

The student requires extensive, repeated, individualized instruction and support that is not of a temporary nature.

The student uses substantially adapted materials and individualized methods of accessing information in alternative ways to acquire, maintain, generalize, demonstrate, and transfer skills across multiple settings.

Goals listed in the IEP for this student are linked to the enrolled grade level Alternate Achievement Standards (Indiana Content Connectors).

I AM Test Design & Resources

I AM Test Design

- Delivered in two parts:
 - Part 1 requires all students take the same test form consisting of items from a range of complexities determining placement for Part 2.
 - Part 2 has three tiered forms containing a mixture of items from adjacent levels
- Summative score is based on performance from both parts.

I AM Resources:

- [I AM Assessment Portal](#): Find resources, links, and sign up for announcement notifications.
- [IDOE's I AM webpage](#): Review policies, sample items, test blueprints, and item specifications.

Contact information



Contact Information:

IDOE Office of Student Assessment

- INassessments@doe.in.gov
- (317) 232-9050



Resources:

- [IDOE's Assessment webpage](#)
- [Indiana Assessments Policy Manual](#)
- [Indiana Assessment Portal](#)



Thank you!