

Assessment

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed into law on December 10, 2015. It reauthorizes the 1965 Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), which was previously reauthorized as No Child Left Behind (NCLB). The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) developed a summary of each major section within our state's ESSA plan.

Guiding Principles

The IDOE developed guiding principles to drive ESSA plan development:



Academic Assessments Overview

Transitions with recent legislation are underway in Indiana. ILEARN is defined to be end-of-year summative assessments aligned to the Indiana Academic Standards measuring proficiency for English/Language Arts, mathematics, social studies, and science across years in the following content areas and grade levels:

- Computer adaptive English/language arts and mathematics – Grades 3-8;
- Computer adaptive or fixed-form science – Grades 4 and 6 and biology end-of-course assessment; and
- Computer adaptive assessments or fixed form assessments may be provided for English 10 and Algebra I end-of-course assessments (ECAs), beginning in 2019-20.

Indiana intends to deliver a more rigorous assessment for Mathematics in high school given the delivery of ECAs in middle school. Delivery of student supports including Spanish translations will be offered beginning in 2018-19.

Key Decision Points

Assessment of Other Languages

ILEARN assessments also will be available in Spanish (at a minimum) for content areas not compromised by the translation. English learners in Indiana speak over 270 languages. Spanish speakers represent 71.2 percent of the state's language minority student population; Burmese and Chin represent 6 percent; German and Pennsylvania Dutch represent 2.6 percent; Arabic 2.5 percent; Mandarin and Sichuanese 2 percent; and Punjabi and Vietnamese each at 1.2 percent. Spanish is the overwhelmingly predominant non-English language spoken in Indiana schools, and thereby represents the most significant need for an assessment in another language.

Advanced Mathematics Coursework

The state will administer a more rigorous assessment in high school to supplement the delivery of end-of-course assessments using the exception beginning with the 2018-19 school year. End-of-course assessments (ECA) will be developed in 2017-18 for delivery under ILEARN in 2018-19. These assessments will be aligned to the content for the Algebra I Indiana Academic Standards. In late fall 2017, educators will convene to define areas of priority for the

assessment, ultimately building the foundation for the blueprints and item specifications. Educator committees of 8-10 participants, representative of student populations across the state, will engage in this process. Once developed, the blueprints representing the reporting categories and points allocated across standards will be publicly posted to formalize the relationship of the content across instruction and assessment. Shortly thereafter, the specifications, which further define content-relevant vocabulary and sample assessment items, will also be publicly posted.

Where Can I Learn More?

- To view other ESSA section summaries, or review the entire draft plan, visit: <https://www.doe.in.gov/essa>
- For additional information, contact:
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