



Frequently Asked Questions

| Question | Answer |
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| Is ILEARN different from ISTEP+, or will it be the same test with a new name? | ILEARN is fundamentally different from ISTEP+. ILEARN is being developed to align to new blueprints and new item specifications. Educator committees will also recommend new proficiency levels and cut scores that will inform how student results are reported. |
| Where can parents find more information about ILEARN? How can schools request professional development opportunities focused on ILEARN? | <p>The ILEARN website provides many resources specific to ILEARN as well as general assessment resources including (but not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test Blueprints • Item Specifications • Released Items Repository • Accessibility and Accommodations Guidance • Technology Resources • Computer Adaptive Testing Training • Assessment Literacy Resources <p>Interested schools and community members may contact the Office of Student Assessment at INassessments@doe.in.gov to request additional information and guidance, as necessary.</p> |
| What standards will ILEARN measure? | ILEARN measures all Indiana Academic Standards, including content literacy and media literacy standards on the English/Language Arts assessments, process standards on the Mathematics assessments, and the new computer science standards on the Science assessment. |
| How will ILEARN be delivered? | ILEARN is a computer-adaptive test (CAT) for Mathematics and English/Language Arts. CATs individualize the test for students based on their responses to previous questions or sets of questions. This allows for a unique assessment experience for students at their level of mastery, resulting in more precise data outcomes. Science assessments will be an online fixed form assessment for Spring 2019, transitioning to computer adaptive as the item bank increases. Social Studies is an online fixed form assessment. |
| Will students see content that is above or below grade level in their computer adaptive tests? | No. The computer adaptive algorithm for ILEARN will adjust on difficulty while measuring on-grade-level content according to the blueprint. |
| Will some students experience a longer test than other students? | No. Test blueprints have defined the number of items that all students will receive for the summative assessment at each grade level. However, since the assessment is untimed, students may not all finish at the same time. |

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| <p>How can educators be involved in ILEARN?</p> | <p>Indiana educators have been an essential part of ILEARN development since its inception, informing the new test blueprints and item specifications and ensuring the alignment of items in licensed banks. The Department will recruit educators to review items and passages and develop performance level descriptors this spring and summer. The Department will also invite educators to hand score open-ended test items in Spring 2019, and recruit educators to help inform these critical stages of test development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content and Fairness Reviews (Every Summer/Fall) • Data Review and Range-finding (Every Summer) • Standard Setting (Summer 2019) |
| <p>Will stakeholders have access to sample items in AIR's platform?</p> | <p>Yes. Indiana's Released Items Repository provides several items from third-party item banks and custom Indiana development embedded in AIR's platform. Sample tests can be accessed for each grade level and content area. Accommodations and accessibility features may be enabled as desired. The Released Items Repository may be accessed via the https://www.doe.in.gov/assessment/ilearn ILEARN website.</p> |
| <p>Will students take a practice test?</p> | <p>Yes. Students must participate in each content-specific practice test at least once before taking the operational assessment. IDOE will release practice test guidance and schools will be able to access the ILEARN Practice Tests beginning October 1. Stay tuned for more information!</p> |
| <p>Which content areas will have Performance Tasks?</p> | <p>There will be one Performance Task (PT) on the Mathematics, English/Language Arts, and Science assessments, respectively. Students will not encounter a Performance Task on the Social Studies assessment.</p> |
| <p>How will corporations and schools provide IDOE and AIR data for students testing?</p> | <p>The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) will provide to AIR a majority of student registration information extracted from <u>current</u> RT/EM and Indiana IEP data. DOE-TL (Test Layout) and DOE-TA (Testing Accommodations) Data Layout drafts are now available in the IDOE - Data Collection community in Learning Connection. The DOE-TA will be used to submit students with testing accommodations formally documented in a Section 504 Plan, ILP, or ISP.</p> |
| <p>What accommodations will be available for ILEARN?</p> | <p>A key focus of ILEARN is accessibility for all students. Several universal and designated supports are available for all students such as the use of glossaries, zoom tools, and highlighters. ILEARN assessments will be untimed, allowing for flexible testing times for all students throughout the window. Specific accommodations, such as Text to Speech, are available for students with IEPs, Section 504 Plans, and ILPs. Additional guidance can be found on our website: https://www.doe.in.gov/assessment/ilearn-educators.</p> |

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| <p>How do the online glossaries work and which students may use them?</p> | <p>The online English glossary tool is automatically provided to all students and enables students to click on pre-selected construct-irrelevant terms when taking the Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and English/Language Arts assessments. Translated glossaries will be available in Spanish, Burmese, Mandarin, Arabic, and Vietnamese. Translated glossaries are designated features that schools may activate for any student prior to the start of testing. Please see the Accommodations and Accessibility Guidance for more information.</p> |
| <p>Which students will have access to the stacked Spanish translations of the test?</p> | <p>The stacked Spanish translation is considered a designated support. It is available for any student who has proficient literacy skills in the Spanish language determined by an educator (or team of educators) who are familiar with the student's learning characteristics and needs. We recommend students have the opportunity to practice using this tool through the Released Item Repository prior to the operational assessment.</p> |
| <p>What is the policy for calculator use on ILEARN?</p> | <p>The Department revisited the use of the calculator in grades 3-5 as an accommodation to ensure reporting reflects the construct being assessed. After receiving feedback from educators regarding accessibility, IDOE will no longer allow calculators as an accommodation to provide actionable feedback about evidence from students in regards to foundational mathematical skills including computation. For more information about calculator usage for grades 6-8, see our updated calculator policy.</p> |
| <p>What are the Desmos Calculators?</p> | <p>The Desmos Calculators are embedded in the ILEARN Mathematics assessments beginning in Spring 2019. Schools, students, and families may access the Desmos Calculators for free throughout the year. Please review the Desmos Calculator Guidance for more information and to access links to the free calculators.</p> |
| <p>Will ILEARN be completely online?</p> | <p>Yes, the primary testing mode is online. A fixed paper/pencil form will be available in limited quantities for students as an accommodation and/or for schools with significantly limited online capacity only. The paper/pencil test form will not be able to yield the same level of reporting data as the CAT form.</p> |
| <p>What are the technology requirements for ILEARN testing?</p> | <p>Technology setup for ILEARN is minimal. No local caching is required. A single secure browser must be deployed to each testing device. Available now for schools, AIR's network diagnostic tool simulates testing load on a network and provides data on network performance. These tools as well as other technology tips are available in our Technology Flyer.</p> |
| <p>When will corporations and schools receive training on how to manage and interact with AIR's online system?</p> | <p>AIR will offer training webinars this fall for corporations and schools to become familiar with the Test Delivery System (TDS) and Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE). More details will be forthcoming.</p> |

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| Will schools still receive printed manuals for ILEARN and IREAD-3? | Beginning in Spring 2019, all ILEARN and IREAD-3 manuals (e.g., Test Administration Manuals, Test Coordinator Manuals) will be available online only . Test examiners may read the test administration script directly from their school-owned devices or they may download and print the manuals prior to test administration. |
| Can a scale score still be derived from a computer adaptive test? | Yes, scale scores are still provided with ILEARN reporting. On all assessments, item parameters (including pattern of responses and item difficulty) provide a point on the associated scale score to define student performance. |
| What will ILEARN report? | ILEARN reporting will include a scale score and reporting category sub-scores based on each test blueprint. Also included in ILEARN data reports are Lexiles (to track reading growth on a continuous scale) and Quantiles (to track math growth on a continuous scale). Aggregate reporting will provide standard-level data for groups of students. |
| When will we see our results? | In year 1, standard setting must occur after test administration. Student results will be delivered by August 15. After year 1, individual student results will be delivered within 12 days. A rescore window will be provided before final results are released. All reporting will be finalized by July 1. |
| How will open-ended items be scored? | New content-specific rubrics will be used to score open-ended Mathematics and English/Language Arts items while item-specific rubrics will continue to be used to score open-ended Science and Social Studies items. Final Mathematics and English/Language Arts rubrics will be posted to our website by October 1. |
| How will educators be involved in scoring open-ended items? | In Spring 2019, educators will be recruited to score student responses to open-ended items. Educators must commit to a three-week period during which they receive training and score student responses. Educators will be paid a stipend for their work, which will occur outside of the school day. Look for more information with the October 1 release. |
| Will high school students participate in ILEARN? | Students will participate in the ILEARN Biology ECA beginning in the 2018-19 school year. Students should participate in this assessment at the completion of their Biology course work, regardless of grade level. ISTEP+ Grade 10 Mathematics and English/Language Arts continue to be a graduation requirement for 2018-19. |
| When will the ILEARN Biology ECA be offered? | IDOE defined three separate testing windows to accommodate schools' semester and trimester course schedules. Students will participate in the ILEARN Biology ECA once they have completed their Biology course work. |
| Who should participate in the ILEARN U.S. Government ECA? | Students may participate in the optional ILEARN U.S. Government ECA upon completion of their U.S. Government course work. This online assessment will be available in the spring only, and schools may choose to use students' results when factoring final course grades. |