2014 PSAE General Updates

November 2013

Megan Forness
ISBE PSAE Consultant
Purpose of PSAE

• The major purpose of the PSAE is to measure the Illinois Learning Standards in the following areas: Reading, Mathematics, Science, and Writing.

• Scores for and participation of grade 11 students in reading and mathematics contribute to school, district, and state Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

• The PSAE provides these bonuses:
  – ACT Plus Writing Scores reportable to colleges
  – ACT WorkKeys Scores for Applied Mathematics and Reading for Information
Purpose of PSAE (cont’d)

- The PSAE recognizes the achievement of individual students. Students who achieve Exceeds Standards in any content area receive a Prairie State Achievement Award certificate to recognize this performance.

- Effective August 2004 (Public Act 93-857), legislation requires all students to take the PSAE as a condition of receiving a regular high school diploma, unless a student is exempt.

- ACT’s National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) (with qualifying scores on three WorkKeys tests) ACT WorkKeys Locating Information must be administered after PSAE Day 2 to be eligible (optional at a district level)
Definition of Grade 11 and Impact on Testing

• Grade 11 is defined by ISBE in Rule as, “…the point in time when a student has earned the number of credits necessary for enrollment in grade 11, as determined by his or her school district…”

• Additionally, ISBE Rule states that, “…A district shall not promote a student to grade 12 status until that student has taken either the PSAE or IAA, as applicable.”

• More information is online at www.isbe.net/assessment
PSAE Contractor

• ACT is ISBE’s primary contractor for the PSAE.

• Pearson is ACT’s subcontractor for PSAE Day 2 test materials.
# Test Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACT Reading + ACT WorkKeys <strong>Reading for Information</strong></th>
<th>PSAE Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACT Mathematics + ACT WorkKeys <strong>Applied Mathematics</strong></td>
<td>PSAE Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACT Science + ISBE-Developed Science</td>
<td>PSAE Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACT English + ACT Writing</td>
<td>PSAE Writing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ACT WorkKeys *Locating Information*

- For the second time in spring 2014, ISBE is providing the ACT WorkKeys *Locating Information* test to enable students with eligible scores to qualify for ACT’s National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC)

  *Locating Information* is not part of PSAE and is not required

- Scores earned on *Locating Information* are sent to where students test and are not part of PSAE reporting

- Districts who administer *Locating Information* must administer it immediately following the *Reading for Information* test on PSAE Day 2 (accommodations testing schedules may vary)

- More information is posted online at [www.isbe.net/assessment/psae.htm](http://www.isbe.net/assessment/psae.htm)
PSAE Day 1 Standard-Time Test Administration Schedule

Wednesday, April 23, 2014

- ACT English Test – 45 minutes (75 questions)
- ACT Mathematics Test – 60 minutes (60 questions)
  [required 15-minute break]
- ACT Reading Test – 35 minutes (40 questions)
- ACT Science Test – 35 minutes (40 questions)
  [required 5-minute break]
- ACT Writing – 30 minutes (1 essay prompt)
• ISBE-Developed Science– 40 minutes (45 questions)

• ACT WorkKeys Applied Mathematics– 45 minutes (33 questions)

[required 15-minute break]

• ACT WorkKeys Reading for Information– 45 minutes (33 questions)

• ACT WorkKeys Locating Information – 45 minutes (38 questions) Optional per district decision-not part of PSAE
PSAE Day 1 and Day 2 Standard-Time Makeup Test Administration Schedule

• Standard-time makeup testing – May 7 - 8, 2014 (Day 1 and/or Day 2)

• Different (but equivalent) forms used for makeup testing

• Same test administration schedule as initial standard-time testing in April
PSAE Accommodations
Test Administration Schedule

• Day 1 accommodations testing window – (as early as) April 23, 2014, until (as late as) May 7, 2014

• Day 2 accommodations testing window – (as early as) April 24, 2014, until (as late as) May 8, 2014

• Different (but equivalent) forms used for accommodations testing
Questions?

Megan Forness  
ISBE PSAE Consultant  

Email: mforness@isbe.net or psae@isbe.net  
Web: www.isbe.net/assessment/psae.htm