

## **WHAT RESULTS ARE REPORTED?**

Each school administrator is required to provide a report of student performance to the State Board of Education that includes the total number of students taking the test and the number passing. Individual results are reported only to students.

## **WHAT MUST SCHOOLS DO TO MEET ICEPT REQUIREMENTS?**

Schools must publicize the availability of the test to all students, provide a location for the test, and administer and score the test for students at no charge. Schools are also required to maintain records of student results.

For more information about consumer education course requirements or the Illinois Consumer Education Proficiency Test, contact your Regional Office of Education or the Division of ISAT, Illinois State Board of Education.

# **THE ILLINOIS CONSUMER EDUCATION PROFICIENCY TEST**

**An Information Bulletin  
for Schools and Districts**

**Illinois State Board of Education  
Division of Illinois Standards  
Achievement Test (ISAT)**

The *School Code of Illinois* specifies that public school students in grades 9 through 12 shall be provided instruction in the area of consumer education. The purpose of that instruction is to help students understand concepts that affect fundamental decisions about their personal financial affairs, such as installment purchasing, budgeting, and comparison shopping. Completion of instruction in consumer education is required prior to graduation.

Some students may have already attained satisfactory understanding of these topics. Each year the State Board of Education provides a standardized consumer education examination that allows students to demonstrate their proficiency in this area. Successful performance on the test excuses students from the necessity of completing the State consumer education requirement.

## **WHAT IS THE ILLINOIS CONSUMER EDUCATION PROFICIENCY TEST (ICEPT)?**

The Illinois Consumer Education Proficiency Test is a 140-item, multiple-choice examination that is administered on a uniform basis throughout the state. The test content covers 15 topics:

THE CONSUMER IN THE MARKET PLACE  
THE CONSUMER IN OUR ECONOMY  
BUDGETING  
SAVING, INVESTING, AND FINANCIAL SERVICES  
CONSUMER CREDIT  
TAXES  
INSURANCE  
CONSUMER SERVICES  
HOUSING  
FOOD  
TRANSPORTATION  
CLOTHING  
HEALTH CARE  
RECREATION  
HOME FURNISHING AND EQUIPMENT

## **WHEN IS THE TEST ADMINISTERED?**

The Test is administered twice each school year, in the Fall and during the last week of January. For each test date, the State Board of Education selects a two-day period during which the Test must be scheduled. Schools receive notice of the exact dates selected by the State Board of Education prior to administration. Each school determines a most convenient time within the testing period.

Schools must obtain permission of the State Board of Education to arrange another test date. Such permission is only granted when a significant scheduling conflict exists.

The suggested time limit is two hours. However, test administrators may allow extra time for individual students to answer all questions.

## **WHO MAY TAKE THE TEST?**

Any student in grades 9 through 12 and not currently enrolled in a Consumer Education course may elect to take the test. Students who fail may take the test again, but not more than once in any school year.

## **ARE STUDENTS REQUIRED TO TAKE THE TEST?**

No. Successful performance on the test excuses students from the necessity of completing the consumer education course requirement. However, there is no requirement that students take the test.

## **WHAT IS THE COST OF THE TEST?**

Test materials are made available by the State Board of Education at no cost to individual students, schools, or districts. This includes test booklets, answer sheets, and complete instructions for administering and scoring the test. Schools are responsible for scoring their own tests and reporting results to students.