



Illinois State Board of Education

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Spring 2021 Frequently Asked Questions For DLM-AA 3-8 and 11

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Check back for updates. New questions and answers will be added, as needed.

- Question:** What is the status of the DLM-AA grade 9 and 10 administration for spring 2021?
Answer: The PSAT is no longer required for grades 9 and 10, so it follows that the DLM-AA, which is the state's alternate assessment for those grades, is likewise no longer required. Schools that administer the DLM-AA instructionally embedded assessments for progress monitoring and instructional purposes as indicated in a student's Individualized Education Program may continue to access the DLM-AA system as an alternate local assessment.
- Question:** May schools still offer DLM-AA to grades 9 and 10 in spring 2021?
Answer: No. There will be no opportunity for schools to administer the DLM-AA assessments in spring 2021.
- Question:** Must grade 12 students still participate in the DLM-AA in spring 2021 to receive a regular high school diploma?
Answer: No. Public Act [101-643](#) makes all current grade 12 students eligible for graduation regardless of whether they took the DLM-AA in grade 11. Grade 12 students may receive a regular high school diploma without participating in the DLM-AA in spring 2021 as long as all other requirements are met.
- Question:** Will ISBE provide a fall 2021 administration of DLM-AA?
Answer: Yes. Districts that select the fall administration will have to select the Essential Elements that were assigned to the Spring Test Blueprint. The Test Blueprint of the Essential Elements can be found on the [DLM-AA Illinois webpage](#) under the Manuals and Blueprints tab.
- Question:** Will ISBE require a spring 2022 administration of DLM-AA?
Answer: Yes.
- Question:** Is training still required for test coordinators?
Answer: Yes. All teachers who administer the DLM-AA assessment must complete the training. District test coordinators who want to complete the training can do so, but are not required to.
- Question:** How will students be assessed in-person for DLM-AA?
Answer: A guidance document for how to assess students in-person for DLM-AA is posted on the [Assessment webpage](#) at isbe.net.
- Question:** What should districts do for those students who are on remote?
Answer: Districts will have to specify a Reason for No Valid Test Attempt (RNVTA) for those students who are remote during the correction window. Reasons can be found at [RNVTA](#).

9. **Question:** What do I need to do if I am missing a student in KITE who was previously in KITE, but is now missing from that system?
Answer: If a student was previously in KITE and is missing, reactivate the student using the Find Student tab under Students in Educator Portal. The student will have to be placed on a roster once this is completed. If the first contact survey was completed prior to the student missing, then the reactivation of the student will not require the teacher to complete the first contact survey again.
10. **Question:** What do I need to do if I am missing a student in KITE?
Answer: The home district will need to make sure that the student enrollment record reflects the right serving school, the IDEA indicator is marked “yes,” and the program indicator for “alternate assessment” is marked “yes.” Once this check is completed, the home district or serving location will need to reach out to the state DLM-AA coordinator to get the student added into KITE. Pam Hartwig is the state coordinator and her email is phartwig@isbe.net.
11. **Question:** Are grade 12 students required to test for DLM-AA?
Answer: The students are not required to test. However, if the student wants to test then the student may do so.

ISBE’s Student Information System (SIS)

1. **Question:** What should a district do if a student is missing from my Pre-ID report?
Answer: All records for students in grades 9 and 10 have been removed from the Pre-ID report in SIS and nothing further should be done.
2. **Question:** How do I communicate that a student is unable to test due to COVID-19 concerns?
Answer: District staff must enter the applicable [RNVTA](#) in SIS during the correction window.