

Fifteen-Year-Old Students with Disabilities (with an IEP) in Elementary School Districts

The following policy for testing pertains to 105 ILCS 5/14-6.01 of the Illinois School Code. Fifteen-year-old students with disabilities who are enrolled in an elementary school district become accountable to the high school district (according to the Illinois School Code). The high school district is responsible for the educational program of the student and also becomes financially responsible for the student. The law pertains only to elementary school districts that feed into separate high school districts. **It does not pertain to unit districts.**

In response to questions from school district staff regarding testing accountability, the following must occur for students who turn age 15, attend an elementary district, and have an IEP:

- On the day the student turns age 15, the **home school** in SIS enrollment must be changed to the high school in the high school district.
- The serving school in SIS enrollment *may* remain the school in the elementary school district.
- Upon turning age 15, the student **must be enrolled in SIS as grade 9**.
- Required assessments for students in **grade 9**:
 - Grade 9 Dynamic Learning Maps-Alternate Assessment (DLM-AA) in ELA and mathematics **or**
 - Grade 9 PSAT 8/9 in ELA and mathematics
- Required assessments for students in **grade 8**:
 - Grade 8 DLM-AA in ELA, mathematics, and science **or**
 - Grade 8 Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) in ELA and mathematics **and** Grade 8 Illinois Science Assessment (ISA)

Guidance for Students Scheduled to Participate in DLM-AA

Depending on the student's grade in SIS and the locally-determined test window for the DLM-AA, the student will participate in **either** the grade 8 DLM-AA in ELA, mathematics, and science **or** the grade 9 DLM-AA in only ELA and mathematics.

The DLM-AA test window is posted here: <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/State-Assessment-Dates-2020-21.pdf>.

- If the student begins participating in any part of the grade 8 DLM-AA **before turning age 15**, the student must complete the grade 8 DLM-AA in ELA, mathematics, and science.
- If the student turns age 15 **on or before** the first day of the locally-determined DLM-AA test window, the student must participate in the grade 9 DLM-AA in only ELA and mathematics.
- If the student turns age 15 during the DLM-AA test window and had not yet started participating in any part of the grade 8 DLM-AA, the student must participate in the grade 9 DLM-AA in only ELA and mathematics.
- If needed, staff responsible for testing the student should contact Pam Hartwig (phartwig@isbe.net) so Pam can update the grade in Educator Portal to grade 9 and remove the student from the grade 8 DLM-AA science roster.
- Contact Pam Hartwig (phartwig@isbe.net) for questions pertaining to the DLM-AA.

Guidance for Students NOT Scheduled to Participate in DLM-AA

Depending on the student's grade in SIS and the locally-determined test window for the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR), the Illinois Science Assessment (ISA), and the PSAT 8/9, the student will participate in **either** the grade 8 IAR in ELA and mathematics and the grade 8 ISA **or** the grade 9 PSAT 8/9 in ELA and mathematics.

The IAR test window is posted here: <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/State-Assessment-Dates-2020-21.pdf>.

- If the student turns age 15 **on or before** the first day of the locally-determined IAR test window, the student must participate in the grade 9 PSAT 8/9.
- If the student begins participating in any part of the grade 8 IAR before turning age 15, the student must complete the grade 8 IAR in ELA and mathematics.
- Contact Victoria Henderson (vhenders@isbe.net) if you have questions pertaining to the IAR.

The ISA test window is posted here: <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/State-Assessment-Dates-2020-21.pdf>.

- If the student turns age 15 **on or before** the first day of the locally-determined ISA test window, the student must **not** participate in the grade 8 ISA.
- If the student begins participating in any part of the grade 8 ISA **before** turning age 15, the student must complete the grade 8 ISA.
- Contact John Hicks (jhicks@isbe.net) if you have questions pertaining to the ISA.

The initial test date for PSAT 8/9 (for grade 9) is posted here: <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/State-Assessment-Dates-2020-21.pdf>.

- If the student turns age 15 **on or before** the first day of the locally-determined PSAT 8/9 test date and had not yet started participating in any part of the grade 8 IAR, the student must participate in the PSAT 8/9, and school staff must contact ilsat@collegeboard.org to ensure appropriate materials will be available for PSAT 8/9 testing.
- Note about PSAT 8/9 testing: The high school district may make arrangements for a student to test at their location if appropriate and feasible. Otherwise, if a student's serving school is not an established PSAT test site, the high school district may complete an "off-site" testing request that will allow staff to transport secure PSAT 8/9 test materials to the serving school to test the student there instead.
- Contact Megan Forness (mforness@isbe.net) if you have questions pertaining to the PSAT 8/9.