

Subject: IKA Updates November/December 2023

To: All Private School Administrators

CC: All Scholarship-Granting Organizations

Dear School Administrator,

Please review some critical information about the assessment requirements, webinars and trainings in the Illinois Invest in Kids Act (IKA) program.

*\*Please note that all testing costs are paid for by the qualified nonpublic schools, per the [IKA](#)*

## **ALL SCHOOLS**

### **Update on Assessments**

**The Illinois Science Assessment will no longer be a requirement for IKA students in grades 5, 8 and 11.**

Schools with IKA scholarship recipients in grades 3-8 **will need to manually roster their IKA students into the Pearson PAN system for ELA and math**, as in years past. **Students in grades 5, 8 and 11 do not need to be rostered for science**. Training sessions will be held in January on how to roster students.

ISBE will submit all SAT w/ Essay rosters that have been collected as of December 1. Schools that do not submit their rosters to ISBE will be removed from the established school list. Schools will then need to contact College Board to place any further SAT orders.

Nothing has changed to the placement of PSAT 8/9 and PSAT 10 orders. Please continue to order via the College Board Ordering and Registration system.

Please be certain to retain the data for your tested students to satisfy any future reporting needs. ISBE does not store IKA student data within its internal data systems.

### **Establishment Survey 2023-24 School Year for Grades 3-10**

The Establishment Survey is open and is in the [IWAS system](#). It is prepopulated with information submitted in last year's survey. You will be asked to verify and/or make the appropriate corrections to names, email addresses, etc. Once you submit it, you do have the opportunity to go back and make changes as long as the survey is up and running. **The survey will remain open until Nov. 28, 2023.**

Please view this [five-minute tutorial](#) on how to gain access to the [IWAS system](#) and take the survey. If you need help while in the IWAS system, please click the "Help" button on the main page. An [IWAS User's Guide](#) also is on the IWAS main page for reference, should you have any issues.

If your school is not listed in the survey or you need further assistance, please contact Rob Potempa at [rpotempa@isbe.net](mailto:rpotempa@isbe.net).

### **Assessment Webinars**

The Assessment team offers [Assessment Updates](#) with information about IKA assessments. Click on the Presentations and Webinar tab to register. The next webinar date is December 1.

### **HIGH SCHOOLS**

**The Illinois Science Assessment is no longer a testing requirement.**

### **College Board Grade 11 Rosters**

SAT w/Essay roster forms were sent Thursday, Nov. 2, via email from Mr. Potempa in a secure Excel spreadsheet. You should have received two emails -- one with the SAT w/Essay roster to be filled out and another with the password. These rosters need to be completed by Friday, Dec. 1; the password is only good for 30 days.

### **SAT w/ Essay, PSAT 8/9 and PSAT 10**

Please note the digital testing overview, general timelines, and comparison sheet for PSAT and SAT have been posted to the IKA website. Please make a copy of the timelines for future reference.

[2024 Digital Testing Overview](#)

[2024 General Timeline for SAT w/ Essay](#)

[2024 General Timeline for PSAT 8/9 and PSAT 10](#)

[2024 Spring Testing Comparison Sheet for PSAT and SAT](#)

All College Board-required testing for IKA scholarship recipients is to be given within a six-week testing window this year. The testing window will be March 18-April 26. All testing must be completed within the testing window. **No testing or make up tests will be available beyond April 26. All IKA scholarship recipients in Grades 9, 10, and 11 are required to test during the spring 2024 testing window.**

The College Board SAT Suite for Ordering and Registration system is open for schools to place their PSAT 8/9 and PSAT 10 orders and roster their students.

**ISBE does NOT order or roster students for PSAT 8/9 and PSAT 10 testing.**

**Upcoming Trainings -- Click on the links below to register.**

### **Technology Readiness Overview**

- Nov. 28, 10-11 a.m.: [Registration](#) open
- Nov. 29, 1-2 p.m.: [Registration](#) open
- Nov. 30, 10-11 a.m.: [Registration](#) open

### **Accommodations and Supports Request Process Overview**

- Nov. 28, 1-2:30 p.m.: [Registration](#) open
- Nov. 29 – 10am-11:30am -[Registration](#) open
- Nov. 30 – 1pm-2:30pm - [Registration](#) open

### **Save the dates for these In-Person trainings for IIKA High Schools:**

- Jan. 30 – IIKA School Training for SAT w/ Essay at Harper College in Palatine, IL
- One Session: 8AM-12PM

**Registration links will be forthcoming in the newsletter and IIKA website.**

## **GRADE SCHOOLS**

**The Illinois Science Assessment is no longer a testing requirement.**

### **IAR Pearson Access Training (Live Webinars – Save the Dates)**

- Invest in Kids – Pearson Access Training – Jan. 8, 2024 – 3:15PM
- Invest in Kids – Pearson Access Training – Jan. 9, 2024 – 10:00Am
- Pearson Access Technology Training – Jan. 9, 2024 – 3:15PM
- Pearson Access Technology Training – Jan. 11, 2024 – 10:00Am

Registration Links will be coming soon on the IIKA Website

### **Technology Requirements for TestNav**

Pearson has updated the TestNav system requirements for the 2023-2024 school year. Please review the technical bulletins and system requirement pages below to ensure your school devices are ready for the spring administration.

**IMPORTANT:** *The updated TestNav app must be downloaded and installed prior to Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 testing.*

- [Updated Technical Bulletin](#)
- [Updated TestNav System Requirements](#)

If you have further questions regarding IIKA assessments, please contact Rob Potempa at [rpotempa@isbe.net](mailto:rpotempa@isbe.net).