

Subject: IKA Updates September 2023

To: All Private School Administrators

CC: All Scholarship-Granting Organizations

Dear School Administrator,

We hope you have had a great start to your school year and we'd like to take this opportunity to provide you some critical information about the assessment requirements in the Illinois Invest in Kids Act (IKA) program. Please note important information about the establishment process and testing windows.

ALL SCHOOLS

FAQ for Principals and Test Coordinators

An [FAQ](#) has been published on the ISBE IKA webpage. You can find answers to general questions regarding IKA and assessments in that document.

Establishment Survey 2023-24 School Year

The Establishment Survey is now open and is in the [IWAS system](#). It is prepopulated with information submitted in last year's survey and from ISBE's Entity Profile System (EPS). 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. 30, 2023.

All nonpublic schools that currently have or anticipate having Illinois Invest in Kids Act scholarship recipients in Grades 3-10 must fill out the Establishment Survey to establish the school as a testing site for the Illinois Assessment of Readiness, Illinois Science Assessment, and PSAT 8/9 and PSAT 10.

The College Board Establishment Survey regarding Grade 11 students will be sent out September 18. Schools will have 2 weeks to complete this survey. High schools may have to fill out two Establishment Surveys -- the one for Grades 9 and 10 and the one from College Board for Grade 11 students.

The establishment survey also asks for an estimate of how many IKA students in Grades 9 and 10 will be taking either the PSAT 8/9 and/or PSAT 10. If your school is planning to test all Grade 9 and/or Grade 10 students, please include those numbers in the boxes, as requested.

Please view the following [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.

Should you need further assistance, or if your school is not listed in the survey, please reach out to Rob Potempa at rpotempa@isbe.net for assistance.

Weekly Assessment Webinars

The Assessment team offers [Weekly Assessment Updates](#) with information about IKA assessments. Click on the Presentations and Webinar tab to register!

IKA State Assessments

Please note the dates of the important assessments that all IKA scholarship recipients must take for the 2023-24 school year. There are no new assessments to take this year.

See [IKA 2023-24 Assessment Dates](#).

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

HIGH SCHOOLS

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

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 ordering system is open for schools to place their PSAT 8/9 and PSAT 10 orders. Please note that all IKA students must test during the state testing window.

Grade 11 SAT w/ Essay roster spreadsheets will be sent to each school individually in October.

IMPORTANT CHANGE – Schools that choose to test all grade 11 students along with the IKA scholarship recipients during the spring testing window **must** administer the SAT w/ Essay. It is not possible to administer SAT w/o Essay and SAT w/ Essay during the testing window.

***NEW* Online College Board Testing for 2023-24**

College Board will move to a fully digital testing platform for the SAT w/ Essay, PSAT 8/9, and PSAT 10 for the 2023-24 school year so it is important to take notice and plan appropriately for how your school will administer such tests in the next school year. College Board has stated that there will be very few exceptions to continue the use of paper testing. Please keep this in

mind when planning for the upcoming school year. For more information regarding the technology requirements, please visit the [College Board website](#).

College Board Data Analysis and Digital Testing in 2023-24 In-Person Workshops

College Board hosted in-person workshops in June on data analysis and the digital testing that will be conducted in spring of 2024. Recordings of these two workshops are available.

[Data Analysis Webinar YouTube Video](#) 

[Spring 2024 Digital Preview Webinar YouTube Video](#) 

Upcoming Trainings

Please check the [IICA Website](#) for upcoming information webinars from College Board regarding the new online testing overview and trainings for administrators, test coordinators and technology coordinators.

GRADE SCHOOLS

Science Testing Results

All students that took the Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) will have scores delivered to individual schools by the end of the month. Schools will also be able to access ISA scores via the IWAS system.

IAR (Illinois Assessment of Readiness) Testing Results

Results from the IAR are now available! IICA schools have access to OnDemand reports. To access these scores:

- Go to Pearson PAN and log in.
- Select "Reports" and choose "OnDemand" in the dropdown.
- You can choose a Student Detail Score, which is a one-page PDF for each student and each test. This report also includes a Lexile and Quantile score for each student.
- You can also choose a Student List Report, which will provide all student scores in an Excel file. You will need to add Lexile and Quantile Reporting by choosing them in "Manage Columns."

If you have further questions regarding IICA assessments, please contact Rob Potempa at rpotempa@isbe.net.