

ILLINOIS SCIENCE ASSESSMENT (ISA) ACCESSIBILITY FOR ALL GUIDANCE

The Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) accessibility for all guidance document is provided to assist districts to determine the most appropriate accessibility features for students who have an Individualized Education Program (IEP), 504 plan, multi-tiered system of support plan, or no plan.

In compliance with federal testing requirements, Illinois will administer a science assessment to students enrolled in a public school district in grades 5, 8, and 11. The assessment will be administered in an online format and is aligned to the Illinois Learning Standards for Science incorporating the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), which were adopted in 2014.

Illinois Science Assessment Accessibility Features For All

Administrative Considerations	
Feature	Description
Specialized Equipment or Furniture	Student is provided specialized equipment or furniture needed for a successful testing environment (e.g., low lighting, adaptive seat).
Specified Area or Seating	Student is tested in a specialized area or setting (e.g., front of the classroom, seat near the door, library, etc.).
Separate/Alternate Location	Student is tested in a specifically assigned location.
Small Group Testing	Student is tested in a separate location with a small group of students with matching accessibility features, accommodations, or testing needs as appropriate.
Time of Day	Student is tested during a specific time of day based on their individual needs.
Frequent Breaks	Student can take frequent breaks.
Accessibility Features within the System	
Feature	Description
Line Reader Tool	The student selects line reader and uses an on-screen tool to assist in reading.
Text-to-Speech	The student will be able to have the text read using a synthetic voice.
Accessibility Features outside of the System	
Feature	Description
Headphones/Noise Buffer	The student uses headphones or noise buffers to minimize distraction, access embedded text-to-speech, or filter external noise during testing. If headphones are used as only noise buffers, do not plug them into the testing device.
Human Signer for Test Directions	The student has the test directions signed to them.
Human Reader/Signer for Test	The student will be allowed to have the science test (including questions and answer options) read to them or signed to them by a person. This must be done in small group or one-to-one.
Calculator	The student uses a calculation device.
Human Scribe	The student can use a human scribe if unable to access the computer.
Redirect Student to Test	The test administrator redirects the student's attention to the test without coaching or assisting the student in any way.
Directions Clarified by Test Administrator	The test administrator clarifies general administration directions only.
Directions Read Aloud/Repeated as Needed by Test Administrator	The test administrator reads aloud the general administration directions only. A student may raise his/her hand and request the directions be repeated.
Student Reads Aloud to Themselves	The student reads the test aloud to him/herself. Students may use an external device such as a whisper phone, read to themselves in a normal voice, or use other strategies from classroom instruction. The student must be tested in a separate setting.
Extended Time	Students have until the end of the school's testing day to finish a session.
Testing time	Students must remain in the testing environment until all students are finished with a session. Students are prohibited from exiting the session while other students are still being assessed. Students can be grouped based on the estimated amount of time needed to complete the assessment to allow for more consistent start and end times for test sessions.
Test session	All students must start and finish a session before moving on to the next session. A session can range in time from forty minutes to the entire day. If there are extenuating circumstances for a session being interrupted, then please contact the Assessment Department at (888) 317-6034.