

Illinois State Board of Education
SY26 Alternate Assessment 1% Threshold Reduction Plan

	September 2025	October 2025	November 2025
Status			
Timeline and Plan for Implementing Tiered System of Supports for LEAs over the 1% threshold.		<p><u>Oct 1:</u> Notify LEAs about the Kickoff Webinar via Click Dimensions, Superintendent’s Weekly Message and through IAASE. (Consider presentation for IAASE Fall conference)</p> <p><u>Oct 1:</u> Educator Preview opens in MyIRC to view preliminary Illinois Report Card Data.</p>	<p><u>Nov 20:</u> Kickoff Webinar to notify all LEAs regarding the newly defined processes for Alternate Assessment 1% threshold.</p>
ISBEs internal action steps to increase participation of students with disabilities in regular state assessments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ISBE staff reviews/edits current notifications, supporting documents and guidance documents related to Alternate Assessment 1% Threshold. ISBE staff reviews current TA opportunities related to assessment to build LEA capacity. ISBE staff build infographics to share with LEAs regarding the new tiering process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ISBE staff reviews finalized assessment data. ISBE staff finalize all documents related to Alternate Assessment 1% Threshold. 	ISBE staff post updated 1% Alternate Assessment documents to the ISBE Alternate Assessment 1% Threshold webpage.
Professional Learning Opportunities		<p>Webinar focusing on Accessibility Features and Accommodations on the Regular State Assessments.</p> <p><i>Record webinar on new Justification and Assurances process/requirement in early October</i></p>	<p>Recorded webinar on new Justification and Assurances process/requirement.</p> <p><i>Record webinar on Assessment Decision Making Tool</i></p>

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	December 2025	January 2026	February 2026
Status			
Timeline and Plan for Implementing Tiered System of Supports for LEAs over the 1% threshold.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LEA planning time to review/update policies, procedures, and processes for making decisions regarding assessments for students with disabilities. Memo to LEAs and outplacements clarifying state assessment requirements for testing students in private facility placements. 	LEA planning time to review/update policies, procedures, and processes for making decisions regarding assessments for students with disabilities.	Tier 2 and Tier 3 LEAs work on required actions.
		Jan 16: LEAs over the 1% threshold are notified of their tiered assignment and required actions.	Feb 1: Assurances and Justifications window opens for LEA completion
		Jan 26: Memo to LEAs via Click Dimensions and Supt. Weekly Message regarding the Assurance and Justifications window opening for all LEAs.	
ISBEs internal action steps increase participation of students with disabilities in regular state assessments.	ISBE staff finalize tiering of LEAs over 1% threshold and assigns principal consultant to Tier 2 and Tier 3 LEAs.	ISBE staff completes initial outreach to assigned Tier 2 and Tier 3 LEAs.	ISBE staff provides TA and support to assigned Tier 2 and Tier 3 LEAs with required actions.
Professional Learning Opportunities	Recorded webinar on Assessment Decision Making Tool <i>Record webinar for Tier 3 LEAs</i>	Recorded webinars for Tier 3 LEAs posted 1/16/26 to ISBE webpage- request record webinar in early December	ISBE staff present at IAASE Winter Conference <u>Office Hours</u> Focus on Data Systems and Analysis LEAs will be able to identify data, where to locate it, and how to analyze it. LEAs will review data for trends and patterns in assigning students to alternate assessment. February 10, 2026 (tentative)

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			Tier 3 LEAs required to attend. Tier 1 & 2 LEAs recommended to attend
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	March 2026	April 2026	May 2026
Status			
Timeline and Plan for Implementing Tiered System of Supports for LEAs over the 1% threshold.	<u>March 1:</u> LEA Action Plan, Policies and Procedures review and LEA IEP evaluation regarding assessment decisions due for Tier 3 LEAs. <u>March 1:</u> LEA Self Reflection for Tier 2 LEAs due <u>March 11:</u> Testing window opens for DLM-AA	DLM-AA Assessment window still open	<u>May 6:</u> DLM-AA Testing Window Closes <u>May 12:</u> Assessment Corrections Window for SY26 Opens in SIS. <u>May 15:</u> Assessment Enrollment Verification Report available in SIS for review/verification. <u>May 30:</u> Assurances and Justifications window closes for LEA completion.
ISBEs internal action steps increase participation of students with disabilities in regular state assessments.	ISBE staff will review Tier 2 and Tier 3 document submissions.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Assurances and Justifications to ensure all LEAs complete submissions. Reach out to LEAs who did not complete Assurances and Justifications. (as needed)
Professional Learning Opportunities	<u>Office Hours</u> Focus on ISBE Resources to Support LEAs in making decisions on assessments. LEAs will review alternate assessment participation guidelines and decision-making tool.	<u>Office Hours</u> Focus on LEAs Policy, Procedure, and Practice development pertaining to alternate assessments LEAs will review relationships between data and decision-making on policies, procedures, and practices. Family engagement will also	

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	March 24, 2026 (tentative) Tier 3 LEAs required to attend. Tier 1 & 2 LEAs recommended to attend	be reviewed. April 14, 2026 (tentative) Tier 3 LEAs required to attend. Tier 1 & 2 LEAs recommended to attend	
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Focus	June 2026	July 2026	August 2026
Status			
Timeline and Plan for Implementing Tiered System of Supports for LEAs over the 1% threshold.		<u>July 15:</u> LEAs review assessment scores and unassigned reports. <u>July 31:</u> Assessment Enrollment Verification Report window closes.	<u>Aug 22:</u> Assessment Corrections Window for SY26 Closes in SIS.
ISBEs internal action steps increase participation of students with disabilities in regular state assessments.		ISBE staff posts Assurances and Justification data on its webpage.	Build an internal 1% Alternate Assessment Committee Workgroup utilizing members from multiple departments (i.e., Special Education, Assessment, School Improvement) to review plan and discuss improvements moving forward. Consider the addition of external stakeholders.
Professional Learning Opportunities	ISBE Special Education Directors Conference presentation		

Status	September 2026	October 2026
Timeline and Plan for Implementing Tiered System of Supports for LEAs		<u>Oct 1:</u> Educator Preview opens in MyIRC to view preliminary Illinois Report Card Data .

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over the 1% threshold.		
ISBEs internal action steps increase participation of students with disabilities in regular state assessments.	Internal 1% Committee Workgroup Meeting	<u>Oct 15:</u> Tier 3 LEAs progress report on goals due.
Professional Learning Opportunities		ISBE staff reviews finalized assessment data