

ISBE Student Assessment Update

Illinois State Board of Education
February 6, 2026



Agenda

- General Updates
- ACCESS/ALT ACCESS
- Illinois Science Assessment (ISA)
- Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR)
- Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment (DLM-AA)
- ACT with Writing, PreACT Secure, PreACT 9 Secure
- Upcoming Webinars
- Contact Information

General Updates

- To register for upcoming Assessment Update Webinars, open the blue "Presentations and Webinars" accordion on the [Communications webpage](#), and click on the "Registration" link.
- All Assessment Update Webinars are recorded and posted, along with the presentation slide deck, on the ["Presentations and Webinars Archive"](#) page.



ISBE's Entity Profile System (EPS)

- ISBE's Entity Profile System (EPS) serves as the directory for Illinois schools and districts.
- Most IWAS systems are populated with information from EPS and used for important notifications, updates, due dates, etc. Therefore, it is essential that your district/school information stay updated for key personnel like superintendents, principals, assessment coordinators, addresses, phone numbers, etc.

ISBE's Entity Profile System (EPS)

- As the 2025-26 school year begins, please make sure all data stored in ISBE's EPS are accurate and up to date. This includes grade levels served and testing coordinators.
- May 1, 2025: 2026 Entity Profile System Webinar
 - [Webinar](#)
 - [Presentation](#)
 - [Q&A](#)

Grades Served

P	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	U
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>												

- **Superintendent**
- **Principal**
- Assessing Comprehension and Communications in English State-to-State (ACCESS) Coordinator
- Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment (DLM-AA) Coordinator
- High School Test Coordinator
- Illinois Assessments of Readiness (IAR) Coordinator
- Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) Coordinator
- Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS) Coordinator
- National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Coordinator

SIS Webinar Fall Update

December 3, 2025: SY2025-26 Fall Update

Webinar Agenda

Welcome / Introductions

ACT with Writing, PreACT Secure, PreACT 9 Secure Pre-ID

Fall Course Assignments

Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment (DLM-AA) Pre-ID

SY 2025-26 Evidence-Based Funding Verification Enrollment Counts

Illinois Assessment of Readiness Pre-ID

Illinois Science Assessment Pre-ID

Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate

Exit Student Enrollment

State Course Catalog

Reports

Upcoming Key Dates

Next Steps for Districts

Where to Direct Questions

[Presentation
Webinar](#)

KIDS Training is OPEN



- You can find the registration link for the mandatory KIDS training on the official KIDS webpage under
 - "News and Updates."
- To complete the online registration; hover over and click
[Kindergarten Individual Development Survey Implementation Required Training](#)
- We encourage principals and administrators to complete the KIDS training to have administrative access & support kindergarten teachers

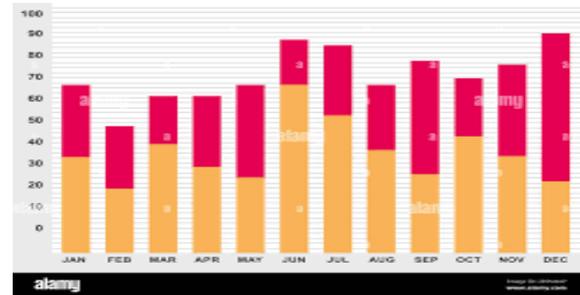


WIDA™/ACCESS

ACCESS Testing Tips

- Test coordinators can track online testing progress using powerful tools in WIDA AMS. Open the Operational Dashboard in WIDA AMS by going to Reporting Services>Operational Dashboard>

- Test volume
- Test Status
- Student Status



- Students who test online using the test ticket of another student should be allowed to finish the domain. DRC can then move that work to the correct record. Start by contacting ISBE: 886-276-7735, assessment@isbe.net

WIDA Webinar

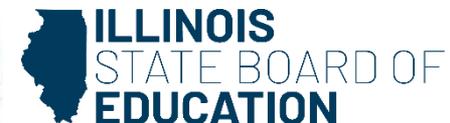
Collaborating to Implement the WIDA ELD Standards Framework

– February 17, 10 am

This webinar will explore practical ways of collaborating across roles to deliver language-rich lessons rooted in the WIDA English Language Development Standards Framework, 2020 Edition.



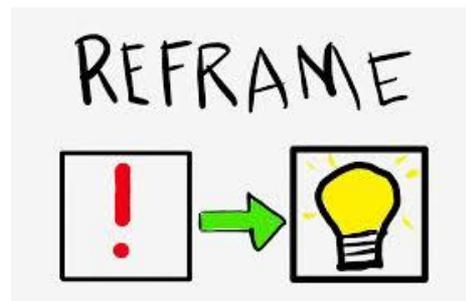
[Register for the Partners in Language webinar.](#)



New WIDA Article

Reframing How We Think About Our Long-Term English Learners

In this [new article](#), WIDA Professional Learning Curriculum Specialist Lauren Bartholome shows how educators can better support long-term English learners by understanding individual stories, integrating language and content learning, and fostering collaboration to promote rigorous and supportive academic opportunities.



WIDA Featured Resource

Explore the Experiences of ML Students with Limited or Interrupted Formal Education in our Focus Bulletin

Students with Limited or Interrupted Formal Education (SLIFE) is an overarching term used to describe a diverse subset of learners. Check out WIDA's SLIFE Focus Bulletin, updated in 2025, to understand the experiences of multilingual learners identified as SLIFE and what you can do to support their unique needs.



Return Grades 1-3 Writing Materials

WIDA asks that you ship back your ACCESS
Online grades 1-3 Writing test booklets
as early as possible.



Returning Writing Test booklets to DRC earlier helps
support the quality of WIDA ACCESS scoring and ensures
that score reports are not delayed.

Contact Information

ISBE Website [ACCESS/Alternate ACCESS](#)

WIDA AMS [Illinois WIDA AMS](#)

WIDA Public Website [Illinois WIDA Public Site](#)

WIDA Secure Portal [Illinois WIDA Secure Portal](#)

Barry Pedersen: WIDA ACCESS/Alternate ACCESS-Assessment Coordinator

Lauren Ligammari: ACCESS/Alternate Access-Multilingual

Email assessment@isbe.net

WIDA Support: help@wida.wisc.edu

DRC Support: wida@datarecognitioncorp.com

ISBE Support Phone: 1-866-317-6034

WIDA Secure Portal/Public Site Phone: 1-866-276-7735

WIDA AMS (DRC) Phone: 1-855-787-9615



(ISA)

ISA Key Dates

Description	Dates
2026 Spring Testing Window	3/2/2026 - 4/30/2026
Create Proctor Groups	2/9/2026 - 4/30/2026
Material Ordering	2/16/2026 - 4/24/2026
Return Materials	2/16/2026 - 5/7/2026
Deadline to Transcribe Science Paper Tests	4/30/2026

2026 ISA General Information

- You do not need to set up a testing window in ADAM for the ISA. You can administer the 3 sections of the exam any time during the testing window on consecutive class days or in a single school day.
- **There will be a 90-minute time-limit for each section of the exam.**

(This 90-minute time-limit is controlled by the test proctor and is per section not for the entire exam)

- Please update any needed administration or test coordinator information in EPS as soon as possible.
- [Guide for Updating EPS Information](#)

2026 ISA General Information

- **Google is discontinuing support for native, legacy Chrome Apps. In response to this change, TestNav will retire the legacy TestNav Chrome App.**
- Schools will be required to use the new TestNav Web App for ChromeOS. The old TestNav app must be **uninstalled** and the new app installed prior to Spring 2026 testing.
- [UPDATED: TestNav - Review and Prepare for 2025-26 School Year](#)
- [TestNav - NEW Chromebook Support for SY 2025-26](#)

2026 ISA Practice Items

- Test-Nav practice items and The Student Readiness Tool are now available on the Pearson support page. [Test-Nav interaction practice items](#) help students become familiar with the several types of question interactions used on the Test Nav 8 platform.

[The Student Readiness Tool](#) allows students to practice interacting with the Test-Nav platform including moving from question to question, reviewing and bookmarking questions, and submitting test answers.

QuISBE ISA Practice Exams

- QuISBE is a new practice exam platform for the ISA. It provides 5th and 8th grade students with practice-exams similar to the ISA summative assessment.
- The 30-item practice exams are approximately the same length as a single section of the ISA, so they are a good measure for how long your students may take to complete a single section of the exam.
- When using **TTS**, we suggest using the fast setting for grade 8 and the normal or fast setting for grade 5

QuISBE - Practice Exam Platform

- To gain access to the QuISBE platform, you must first fill out the [QuISBE Participation SY2025-26 form](#) to register.
- Pearson will provide further access instructions after the participation form is submitted. This normally takes 24 hours.

Note: QuISBE is not the testing platform for the summative ISA exam

The screenshot shows the Illinois State Board of Education website. The main content area features three announcements. The first is 'New Illinois Administration Platform' (dated Aug 6, 2024), which introduces the ADAM platform for administering IAR and ISA. The second is 'Spring 2025 Testing Windows' (dated Aug 6, 2024), which lists testing windows for IAR and ISA. The third is 'QuISBE Participation SY2025-26' (dated Aug 16, 2024), which is highlighted with a yellow border. This announcement describes QuISBE as a practice test platform for the ISA and includes a note: '(Note: QuISBE is not the testing platform for the summative ISA exam)'. The fourth announcement is 'Update: Shipping ISRs' (dated Aug 17, 2024), which provides information about shipping Individual Student Reports (ISRs) to districts.

Assessment	Testing Window
IAR (EA/Math) – Paper Testing Window	3/3/25 – 4/4/25
IAR (EA/Math) – Online Testing Window	3/3/25 – 4/18/25
ISA (Science) – Paper Testing Window (Transcribe in TestNav)	3/3/25 – 4/30/25
ISA (Science) – Online Testing Window	3/3/25 – 4/30/25

Contact Information

ISBE Website [Illinois Science Assessment](#)

John Hicks: ISA Coordinator

Email: assessment@isbe.net

Phone: 866-317-6034



(IAR)

Illinois Assessment of Readiness

2026 IAR KEY DATES

Events	Date(s)
IAR Spring 2026 Testing Window - Paper Testing	3/2/26 - 4/3/26
IAR Spring 2026 Testing Window – Online Testing	3/2/26 - 4/17/26
Create Proctor Groups within the Platform	2/9/26 – 4/17/26
Materials Ordering window for districts/schools (all paper tests, paper kits, paper-based test proctor scripts, additional manuals, return labels)	2/16/26 – 3/30/26

Illinois Assessment of Readiness

FIELD TEST PARTICIPATION

Each year, a statewide sample of schools is identified to field test newly developed English Language Arts (ELA) passages and items for the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR). This process helps replenish and expand the item pool for future operational assessments and ensures that new development is representative of students from across the state.

Please refer to the list of participating schools to view the school(s) and grade levels that have been selected for the 2026 administration. Students participating in the field test will take an additional section (for ELA), which will make a total of three sections. The instructions and timing for the third section will be the same as Sections 1 and 2. All sections should be administered in numerical order, except in cases of makeups for students.

- [2026 Field Test Participation – Sorted by School Name](#)
- [2026 Field Test Participation – Sorted by School Code](#)

The field test is not optional.
Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



Illinois Assessment of Readiness

2026 IAR TRAININGS & RESOURCES

IAR trainings and resources are being updated and posted on the [Pearson Training Site](#) in preparation for the 2026 testing administration. Please be sure to check the site regularly to be aware of all the new and updated resources.

Training

Access short training modules that provide a step-by-step walkthrough on using the Illinois Administration Platform and tasks for online testing. Additionally, you will be able to earn Professional Development (PD) Plus credits for your participation.

To access the IAR/ISA training videos, sign in or create an account using your work email and password. Enter your state IEIN number, confirm your profile, then proceed to watch the videos and earn PD credit. If you do not have an LMS account, you can create one by clicking the Illinois LMS button.

Illinois LMS

[If you don't have an LMS account you can create one here.](#)



For any questions, please call Pearson customer support at 833-213-3879.

Illinois Assessment of Readiness

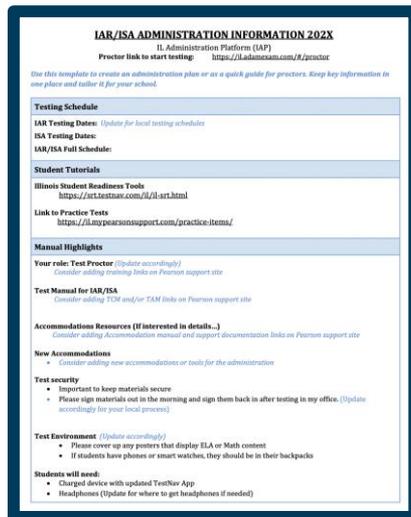
TRAIN YOUR STAFF TOOLKIT

ISBE now offers a training toolkit to assist test coordinators with managing and training their staff for the IAR & ISA. It features a plan of action and offers tips on what topics to include in your training agenda.

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR STAFF TOOLKIT



Look for training videos on the Pearson Training site AFTER you have created an Adobe account.



Additional Resources for Training Staff

- [IAR/ISA Administration Planning Template](#) - PDF
- [IAR/ISA Administration Planning Template](#) - Editable Version
- Intro to Test Management for Proctors and Support Staff – Video
- Seal Code Management Training – Video
- [IAR and ISA Security Agreement](#) - PDF
- Test Proctor Scripts & Resources



Illinois Assessment of Readiness

TEST PRACTICE

[Practice Tests](#)
[IAR Digital Item Library](#)
[Student Readiness Tool \(SRT\)](#)

- [Prose Constructed Response \(PCR\) Writing Guide](#)
- [Test Blueprint - ELA](#)
- [Test Writing Rubric - ELA](#)
- [New Meridian Test Design-ELA](#)
- [IAR Math Test Scoring Expectations](#)
- [Test Blueprint - Mathematics](#)
- [Test Structure - Mathematics](#)
- [New Meridian Test Design-Math](#)
- [Mathematics Calculator Policy](#)

These resources and more can be found in their entirety on the IAR website under the Test Design accordion:

[ISBE IAR Website](#)

Illinois Assessment of Readiness

IAR TRAININGS AND RESOURCES FOR 2026

NOTEWORTHY



Look for the training videos on the Pearson Training site AFTER you have created an Adobe account.

Available Posted Trainings & Resources:

Get the highlights of new processes and accommodation updates for 2026!

- [What's New or Improved Quick Guide for Spring 2026](#)
- What's New or Improved for Spring 2026 Training Video

New test form bundles and file layout template explained:

- [Spring 2026 Accommodation Field Guide](#)
- Spring 2026 Accommodations Updates/Improvements - All Staff Video
- Spring 2026 SIS Vendor Training
- [Spring 2025-2026 Accommodations Upload Template Crosswalk](#)
- [Spring 2026 Accommodation Upload Template](#)

Illinois Assessment of Readiness



- ✓ **ACCOMMODATIONS UPLOAD**—You are currently able to assign accommodated test forms for students into the platform. Changes can continue to be made up until the student begins testing.
- ✓ **THE AF&A MANUAL**—All of the sections of the manual are posted. The [AF&A Section 2](#) includes a list of the universal tools and supports that are included on a standard test form. **Note--Text-to-Speech for math is now a universal tool.**
- ✓ **LOCALLY PROVIDED ACCOMMODATIONS**—ISBE no longer captures locally provided accommodations within the platform. You will still need to document and administer those accommodations at the local level, just as you do for daily instruction.
- ✓ **DUAL LANGUAGE LEARNERS**—Please be sure confer with students in advance to make the selection for their preferred language. The test cannot be changed once students begin testing. Students can use the [practice tests](#) to help make their decision.
- ✓ **OVERNIGHT UPLOAD**—Enrollment changes will take 24 hours to update in the testing platform.

NEW

✓ Illinois Assessment of Readiness



✓ **NEW TRAININGS POSTED**—Please review the [training site](#) for the newly posted trainings.

- Test Management for Proctors & Support Staff
- Proctor Dashboard Training
- Seal Code Management
- Ordering Materials

✓ **PROCTOR SCRIPTS**—All computer-based and paper-based Test Proctor Scripts for ELA and math are now posted on the Pearson support site, including the Translated Test Proctor Scripts. (There are 10 languages available.)

✓ **ADMINISTRATION CARDS**—The test administration cards will be visible in the platform on February 9th. You will then be enabled to [create proctor groups](#).

✓ **UNIQUE ACCOMMODATIONS**—If a student requires an accommodation that is not listed in the AF&A manual, the school submit a request in advance by submitting this form.

✓ **TESTING EXEMPTIONS**—All students attending an Illinois public school must participate in the state assessment. The only acceptable test exemptions are listed on the [RNVTA](#) guidance document. Parents do not have the option to refuse the state assessment.

Contact Information

ISBE Website [Illinois Assessment of Readiness](#)

Victoria Henderson: Illinois Assessment of Readiness Coordinator

Email: assessment@isbe.net

ISBE Support Phone: 1-866-317-6034

Pearson Support Phone: 1-833-213-3879

Pearson Support Site: il.mypearsonsupport.com



DYNAMIC[®]
LEARNING MAPS

Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment (DLM-AA)

Spring Window



- The Spring 2026 window for administering the DLM-AA is March 11-May 6, 2026
- Testing hours are 7AM-4PM
- All students are required to test
 - Parents / guardians may not opt their student out of testing.

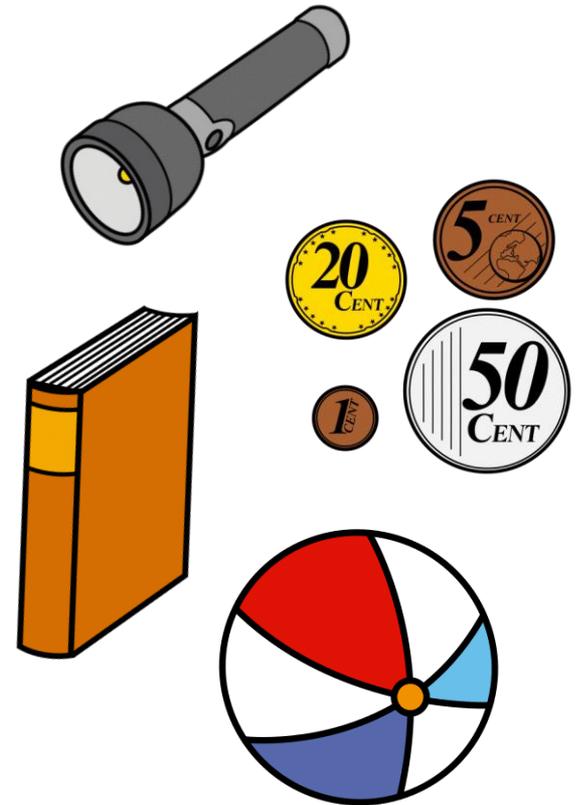
Administering the DLM-AA – Where?

- Students must test in person, at school.
- Homebound students - apply an [RNVTA 02](#) to student's correction record
- Medically exempt students – apply an [RNVTA 01](#) to student's correction record

To encourage the best possible assessment outcome, testing environments should be familiar to students

Science Field Test Testlets

- Because DLM will be rolling out an updated Science assessment next year, all students taking science in 2026 will complete field test testlets
- A [materials collection list](#), specific to Spring 2026 Field Test Testlets, is available to teachers.
- Teachers are encouraged to use materials already available to them, particularly in their classrooms
- Teachers should use materials already familiar to their students
- Teachers should keep student safety in mind when selecting materials



Did you know?

- DLM has several helpful videos available
 - Most are under 2 minutes
- Visit the DLM webpage, [District Staff Video Resources for YE States](#).
- Particularly helpful videos include:
 - Adding and editing rosters
 - Adding and editing users
 - Exiting students
 - Monitoring the assessment using extracts



Missing a Student in Kite?

Is the student served in your district?

YES

1. Review student's SIS record
2. Ensure alternate assessment indicator is "YES"
3. Update the indicator as appropriate
4. Wait until the following Friday when the weekly enrollment upload is completed

NO

1. Consult with the serving school because home schools are unable to see these students in Kite
2. Confirm accuracy of student's data, ensuring student's accountability school and grade level in Kite matches the student's SIS record



DLM FAQs

- Can a new teacher be added to Kite after the test window opens?
 - Yes. Contact Assessments with the teacher's name, email address and building(s)/program(s) where the teacher will administer the assessment.
- Can a student be added to Kite after the test window opens?
 - Yes. Verify the alternate assessment indicator (SIS) is updated to "yes". Contact Assessments with the student's SID to have the student added to Kite.
- What if an IEP meeting determines the student should no longer take the DLM after the window opens?
 - Update the student's alternate assessment indicator (SIS) to "no" and exit the student from Kite Educator Portal using reason code 18.

DLM FAQs, cont.

- Are any additional training modules required of coordinators or administrators?
 - No modules are required for test coordinators. Training modules are optional for test coordinators. For test administrators, Illinois does not have additional training requirements beyond what is in Kite Educator Portal.
- Is the Parent Portal available in Illinois?
 - Yes. Please contact Assessments for further details.
- Is language translation allowed?
 - Language translation is allowed for math and science. The teacher will need to designate this support in the PNP Profile.
- Are Test Administrators required to retain students' written products?
 - Once the teacher uploads the student's written product, the writing sample should be destroyed.

Practice Activities and Released Testlets

- The [Guide to Practice Activities and Released Testlets](#) is a resource available to any teacher wanting to better prepare themselves and their students for the DLM.
- Teachers and students will use demo student accounts to log in and access testlets and practice activities
- Teachers and students can repeat the testlets and activities as many times as needed
- Testlets are available for ELA, math and science.

Contact Information

ISBE Website [Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment](#)

DLM Website [Illinois DLM](#)

Pam Hartwig: Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment Coordinator

Email: assessment@isbe.net

DLM Support: dml-support@ku.edu

ISBE Support Phone: 1-866-317-6034

DLM Service Desk Phone: 1-855-277-9751



ACT with Writing (grade 11 and 12 as required)

PreACT Secure (grade 10)

PreACT 9 Secure (grade 9)

Spring 2026 Resources

Please visit the following resources to learn more about the Spring 2026 administration of the ACT with Writing, PreACT Secure, and PreACT 9 Secure:

- [ISBE High School Assessment website](#)
- [ACT Email Communications Index](#)
- [ACT-hosted web page for Illinois](#)*

*This resource contains resources for all steps of administration:

- *Step 1: Pre-Administration*
- *Step 2: Test Administration*
- *Step 3: Post-Administration*

Webinars and Office Hours

Register on the ISBE high school website or the ACT-hosted web page for Illinois.

- [Illinois ACT State Testing Office Hours - Register Now!](#)
 - **Feb. 10 & Feb. 26 Topic: "Training Your Staff"**
- [Accommodations and Supports Office Hours - Register Now!](#)
- [ACT with Writing Accommodations Webinar - *OnDemand Available Now!*](#)
- [ACT with Writing Pre-Test Webinar - *OnDemand Available Now!*](#)
- [ACT with Writing Test Day Webinar - *OnDemand Available Now!*](#)
- [PreACT 9 Secure and PreACT Secure Pre-Test Webinar - *OnDemand Available Now!*](#)
- [PreACT 9 Secure and PreACT Secure Test Day Webinar - *OnDemand Available Now!*](#)
- [Technical Readiness Webinar - February 13, 2026 \(11AM\)](#)

Technology Information

- All students are expected to test online except in rare circumstances when paper format is needed as an accommodation.
- Technology resources are available on the [ACT-hosted web page for Illinois](#) under "Step 1: Pre-Administration." Share these resources with your technology coordinator.
- Prepare for Testing
 - [Technical Guide for Online Testing \(pdf\)](#)
 - [Technical Readiness Checklist \(pdf\)](#)
 - [TestNav Support \(website\)](#)
 - [Before Test Day Checklist \(pdf\)](#)
- [Technical Readiness Webinar](#) – February 13, 2026 (11AM)

More resources about preparing for test day will be available in [ACT Now](#) and in the TCM training content, including a test day checklist, system demos, and tutorials.

Spring 2026 Required Content Areas

**ACT with Writing (grade 11 and 12 as required):
English, Mathematics, Reading, Science, and Writing**

**Note: Follow the task cards that include science and writing, as science and writing are required to be administered.*

**PreACT Secure (grade 10) and PreACT 9 Secure (grade 9):
English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science**

**Note: Follow the task cards that include science, as science is required to be administered.*

Enhanced ACT

- Standard time is shown in the [chart below](#) (3 hours, 25 minutes of testing time).
- The college-reportable ACT Composite score includes only English, Mathematics, and Reading. This is referred to as the "Core ACT Administration."
- ISBE requires all five sections: English, Mathematics Reading, Science, and Writing.

Table 1. Summary of the Number of Items and Testing Time on the Legacy and Enhanced ACT by Section

The following table shows a comparison of the total number of items and testing time by section for the legacy and enhanced ACT test.

	ACT - Legacy		ACT - Enhanced	
	Items	Total Time (Min)	Items	Total Time (Min)
English	75	45	50*	35
Math	60	60	45*	50
Reading	40	35	36*	40
Science	40	35	40*	40
Writing	1	40	1	40
Core ACT Administration**	215	175	131*	125
ISBE-Provided Administration***			172***	205***

*Number includes embedded field-test items that do not contribute to score points.

**The core administration is the shortest administration of the test and results in a college-reportable Composite Score. The core administration for the legacy ACT is English, Math, Reading, and Science. The core administration for the enhanced ACT is English, Math, and Reading.

Timing/Item Count for All Assessments

www.isbe.net/Documents/2026-Timing-Charts-ACT-PreACTSecure.pdf

ACT with Writing	Test 1—English	Test 2—Mathematics	Test 3—Reading	Test 4—Science	Writing Test
Authorized Timing	50 Items	45 Items	36 Items	40 Items	1 Item
Standard time, single day	35 minutes	50 minutes	40 minutes	40 minutes	40 minutes
Double time over multiple days	70 minutes	100 minutes	80 minutes	80 minutes	80 minutes
Triple time over multiple days	105 minutes	150 minutes	120 minutes	120 minutes	120 minutes
Standard time over multiple days	35 minutes	50 minutes	40 minutes	40 minutes	40 minutes
Breaks as needed, single day	35 minutes	50 minutes	40 minutes	40 minutes	40 minutes
One and one-half time, single day	52 minutes and 30 seconds	75 minutes	60 minutes	60 minutes	60 minutes
One and one-half time over multiple days	52 minutes and 30 seconds	75 minutes	60 minutes	60 minutes	60 minutes
Double time writing only, single day	35 minutes	50 minutes	40 minutes	40 minutes	80 minutes

Refer to the [Schedule Flexibility Policy](#) for additional administration considerations.



Timing/Item Count for All Assessments

www.isbe.net/Documents/2026-Timing-Charts-ACT-PreACTSecure.pdf

PreACT Secure Content Area Test Timing Chart	Test 1—English 48 Items	Test 2—Mathematics 36 Items	Test 3—Reading 33 Items	Test 4—Science 36 Items
Standard time, multiple days; or standard time, breaks as needed, single day	35 minutes	45 minutes	40 minutes	40 minutes
Note: Total break time cannot exceed 90 minutes.				
One and one-half time, single day or multiple days	52 minutes and 30 seconds	67 minutes and 30 seconds	60 minutes	60 minutes
Double time, multiple days	70 minutes	90 minutes	80 minutes	80 minutes
Triple time, multiple days	105 minutes	135 minutes	120 minutes	120 minutes

PreACT 9 Secure Content Area Test Timing Chart	Test 1—English 44 Items	Test 2—Mathematics 34 Items	Test 3—Reading 33 Items	Test 4—Science 32 Items
Standard time, multiple days; or standard time, breaks as needed, single day	35 minutes	45 minutes	40 minutes	35 minutes
Note: Total break time cannot exceed 90 minutes.				
One and one-half time, single day or multiple days	52 minutes and 30 seconds	67 minutes and 30 seconds	60 minutes	52 minutes and 30 seconds
Double time, multiple days	70 minutes	90 minutes	80 minutes	70 minutes
Triple time, multiple days	105 minutes	135 minutes	120 minutes	105 minutes

Refer to the [Schedule Flexibility Policy](#) for additional administration considerations.

Who Must Test?

- Unless they are rostered to take DLM-AA instead, students in grade 11 and [grade 12 as required](#) will participate in the ACT with Writing.
- Unless they are rostered to take DLM-AA instead, students in grades 9 and 10 will participate in the PreACT 9 Secure and the PreACT Secure, respectively.
- Students repeating grade 11 who have tested previously must test for accountability but have met the separate but related diploma requirement.
- Students who are completely or partially homeschooled **do not participate unless** they are receiving instruction from the public school in a tested content area.
 - ❖ *Note: These students will be included on the Pre-ID file and loaded into ACT Now. Apply [RNVTA 16](#) during the correction window for those not required to test. For students who test, they will take the **entire test**, and staff must contact ISBE after scores are posted to suppress data for subjects in which they are not receiving instruction.*
- All **English learners**, including those for whom it is their first year in a U.S. school, must participate in all parts of the assessment, assigned based on their grade level in SIS.
- All **foreign exchange students** whom your school has classified as being in grade 9, 10, or 11, must participate.

Pre-ID Guidance

- [Spring 2026 ACT/PreACT Secure Pre-ID Guidance Document](#)
- **Page 1 topics:**
 - How the Pre-ID roster is created
 - How to address non-tested/non-exempt students who are scheduled to graduate before the spring administration
 - How to edit a student's Testing RCDTS code
- **Page 2 topics:**
 - Confirming participation in ACT Now
 - Student transmission schedule from Pre-ID into ACT Now
First transmission: 01/14/2026 | Next transmission: 02/06/2026 (after 4pm)
 - Details about student transmissions into ACT Now
 - Pre-ID report access
 - Contact Information for further assistance
- **Page 3 topics:**
 - Non-College Reportable scores

Spring 2026 Test Event Dates

ACT with Writing (grade 11 and 12 as required*)

Digital Testing Window Options

- Test Event 1: March 24–27 and March 30–April 3, 2026
- Test Event 2: April 7–10 and April 13–17, 2026
- Test Event 3: April 21–24 and April 27–May 1, 2026

Note: Each two-week Test Event begins on a Tuesday. Monday testing is available during the second week of each two-week option. Students testing over multiple days must start and complete testing in the same Test Event.

**Current grade 12 students without a valid grade 11 or 12 score or qualifying exemption from any previous ISBE-provided administration will be rostered automatically to take ACT with Writing.*

www.isbe.net/Documents/State-Assessment-Dates-2025-26.pdf

Spring 2026 Test Event Dates

PreACT 9 Secure (for grade 9)
PreACT Secure (for grade 10)

Digital Test Event Options

- Test Event 1: March 16–27, 2026
- Test Event 2: March 30–April 10, 2026
 - Test Event 3: April 13–24, 2026

Note: Students testing over multiple days must start and complete testing in the same Test Event.

www.isbe.net/Documents/State-Assessment-Dates-2025-26.pdf

Spring 2026 Timeline

Activity	Timeline
Review Pre-ID Roster in SIS	Now/Ongoing
ACT's Test Accessibility and Accommodations (TAA) system opens to submit requests for accommodations and English Learner (EL) Supports for ACT with Writing	September 8, 2025
ACT Now opens to confirm participation for ACT with Writing	November 3, 2025
ACT Now opens to confirm participation for PreACT Secure and PreACT 9 Secure	January 5, 2026
First Transmission of Student Data to ACT Now	January 14, 2026
Deadline to confirm participation in ACT Now for the ACT with Writing, PreACT Secure, and PreACT 9 Secure spring 2026 administration	February 13, 2026

- [ACT with Writing Schedule of Events](#)
- [PreACT Secure/PreACT 9 Secure Schedule of Events](#)

Confirm Participation in ACT Now-Confirm ASAP!

The screenshot shows the ACT Now-Confirm interface. The top navigation bar includes the ACT Now logo and the current user's role, 'ACT TCM'. The breadcrumb trail indicates the user is in 'Administration > Illinois State Board of Education > SAMPLE SCHOOL'. The main content area displays 'SAMPLE SCHOOL (123456)' with a 'Deadline to Add/Confirm' of '02.13.2026' and a 'Send reminder' button. Below this, there are tabs for 'Organization', 'Users', 'Reports', 'Overview', and 'Files'. A search bar is present with the text 'Search by Org name or code'. A table below shows one result for 'SAMPLE SCHOOL' with a 'Status' of 'Not confirmed' and a 'Confirm' button highlighted with a green box.

Org name	Local org code	Type	Status
SAMPLE SCHOOL	123456	School	Not confirmed Confirm

You have been added to ACT Illinois Spring 2026 administration

Click Respond button below to confirm or decline participation.

You have until 02.13.2026 to respond

Respond

Participation response

Select one to indicate whether your school will participate in the ACT Illinois Spring 2026 administration.

Confirm participation

Decline participation

Back

Save

- Confirm participation for all three assessments as soon as possible but ***no later than February 13, 2026.***
- ***You must confirm participation to see students!***
- Participation status of each school will be updated weekly [here](#).

Invite Users to an Administration in ACT Now: Adding Users with the User Interface

- Staff can add users to ACT Now using a file upload or through the user interface. Lateral role assignment is not permitted in ACT Now (e.g., a DTC cannot assign a user to the DTC role).
- Toggle to correct administration at the top (ACT, PreACT Secure, or PreACT 9 Secure).
- Open the **Administration** tab.
- Manually invite users by selecting "**Users**" and "**Invite individual**"

The screenshot displays the ACT Now interface for the Illinois State Board of Education. The top navigation bar shows the ACT Now logo, ACT TCM, and the current administration: PreACT Secure - PreACT Secure IL Spring 2026 - Illinois State Board of Education. A notification bell icon shows 99+ alerts. The left sidebar contains navigation options: Home, Contract, Administration (highlighted with a green circle), Students, and Test Events. The main content area is titled "Administration > Illinois State Board of Education" and shows the "Illinois State Board of Education (149999)" with a "Deadline to Add/Confirm" of 02.13.2026 and a "Send reminder" button. Below this, there are tabs for "Organization", "Users" (highlighted with a green circle), "Reports", "Overview", and "Files". A search bar labeled "Search by" with "Name or email" is present, along with a magnifying glass icon and a green circle around the "+ Invite individual" button. A "User roles & permissions" link is also visible.

Invite Users to an Administration in ACT Now: Adding Users with a File Upload

- Toggle to correct administration at the top (ACT, PreACT Secure, or PreACT 9 Secure).
- Open the **Administration** tab.
- Upload a file by selecting "**Files**" and "**Users invite**"

The screenshot displays the ACT Now interface for the Illinois State Board of Education. The top navigation bar shows the organization name and a dropdown menu. The left sidebar contains navigation options: Home, Contract, Administration (highlighted with a green circle), Students, Test Events, Orders, and Collapse. The main content area is titled "Administration - Illinois State Board of Education" and includes a "Deadline to Add/Confirm" of 02.13.2026 with a "Send reminder" button. Below this, there are tabs for "Organization", "Users", "Reports", "Overview", and "Files" (highlighted with a green circle). Under the "Files" tab, there are sub-tabs for "Org invitation" and "Users invite" (highlighted with a green circle). The "Users invite" sub-tab shows a list of uploaded files, including "orgPartUsers_2026-01-08T21-08-41-266Z.csv" with a status of "Upload complete" and a "Download source file" link. To the right, there is a section titled "Upload Users Invitation File" with instructions and a "Guidelines" link. Below this section, there are two buttons: "Upload file" (highlighted with a green circle) and "Download template".

Student Transmission from SIS into ACT Now

- Updates are sent based on the schedule on [page 2](#) of the Pre-ID Guidance document.
- SIS update transmissions to ACT Now will ***move students from one school to another*** if the grade is the same and the Testing RCDTS code changes.
- SIS update transmissions to ACT Now ***cannot delete students*** who were loaded in a prior transmission.
- In ACT Now, manually "Unenroll" or identify as "Will not test" students who:
 1. Move out of Illinois
 2. Change their "test to be taken" to DLM-AA
 3. Change grade levels

Viewing/Editing Students in ACT Now ("Students" tab)

ACT Now ACT TCM

PreACT Secure - PreACT Secure IL Spring 2026 - Illinois State Board of Education

Students | Illinois State Board of Education

Students Reports Overview Files

Search by Last name First name State Student ID

0 selected Event assignment

25 per page page 1/7

Filters Hide

Event assignment
Select test event

Test Option
 PreACT Secure

Test Status
 Tested
 Not Tested

Timing category
 Triple Time Over Multiple Days
 Standard Time, Single Day

Delivery Format
 Online
 Paper

Accommodations
 Yes

Grade
Select grade

<input type="checkbox"/>	Student name	State student ID	ACT student code	Grade	Assigned event	Format	Timing category	Test option	Test Status	Date of birth
<input type="checkbox"/>			530339134	10	Not assigned	Onli...	Standard Tim...	PreACT Secure	Not Tested	03/12/2010
<input type="checkbox"/>				10	Not assigned	Onli...	Standard Tim...	PreACT Secure	Not Tested	03/05/2010
<input type="checkbox"/>				10	Not assigned	Onli...	Standard Tim...	PreACT Secure	Not Tested	04/19/2010
<input type="checkbox"/>				10	Not assigned	Onli...	Standard Tim...	PreACT Secure	Not Tested	06/13/2010
<input type="checkbox"/>				10	Not assigned	Onli...	Standard Tim...	PreACT Secure	Not Tested	02/02/2010
<input type="checkbox"/>				10	Not assigned	Onli...	Standard Tim...	PreACT Secure	Not Tested	10/17/2009
<input type="checkbox"/>				10	Not assigned	Onli...	Standard Tim...	PreACT Secure	Not Tested	03/29/2010
<input type="checkbox"/>				10	Not assigned	Onli...	Standard Tim...	PreACT Secure	Not Tested	06/28/2009
<input type="checkbox"/>				10	Not assigned	Onli...	Standard Tim...	PreACT Secure	Not Tested	08/03/2010
<input type="checkbox"/>				10	Not assigned	Onli...	Standard Tim...	PreACT Secure	Not Tested	04/16/2008
<input type="checkbox"/>				10	Not assigned	Onli...	Standard Tim...	PreACT Secure	Not Tested	03/14/2010
<input type="checkbox"/>				10	Not assigned	Onli...	Standard Tim...	PreACT Secure	Not Tested	06/12/2008

Edit student information
Unenroll student

Assigning a Test Event to Students in ACT Now

- Click in the box to the left of a student's name to assign a Test Event.
- You may select the box at the top to select all students on the current view.
- Click the words in white: "Event assignment" to select the Test Event.

The screenshot displays the ACT Now interface for assigning a test event to students. The top navigation bar includes the ACT Now logo and the current session: "PreACT Secure - PreACT Secure IL Spring 2026 - Illinois State Board of Education". The left sidebar shows navigation options: Home, Contract, Administration, Students (highlighted), Test Events, and Orders. The main content area shows a list of students with columns for Student name, State student ID, ACT student code, Grade, Assigned event, Format, Timing category, Test option, Test Status, and Date of birth. A modal window titled "Register Students" is open, showing options to "Un-assign" or select a test event from a list: "Mar 16 - Mar 27", "Mar 30 - Apr 10", "Apr 13 - Apr 24", and "Will not test". The "Event assignment" dropdown menu is highlighted in green, and the "Assigned event" column for the first student is highlighted in yellow.

Student name	State student ID	ACT student code	Grade	Assigned event	Format	Timing category	Test option	Test Status	Date of birth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			10	Not assigned	Onli...	Standard Tim...	PreACT Secure	Not Tested	06/17/2010
<input type="checkbox"/>			10	Not assigned	Onli...	Standard Tim...	PreACT Secure	Not Tested	10/02/2009
<input type="checkbox"/>			10	Not assigned	Onli...	Standard Tim...	PreACT Secure	Not Tested	05/26/2010

Accommodations and English Learner (EL) Supports for ACT Assessments

- **For students taking the ACT with Writing:**

Accommodations and EL Supports requests must be entered in ACT's Test Accessibility and Accommodations ([TAA](#)) system by the school that will test the student. TAA opened on **September 8, 2025**, to receive requests for the spring 2026 administration.

- [Accessibility Supports Guide \(ASG\)](#) Updated 12/09/2025
- Of the three available EL Supports (Extended time, Translated Directions, and [ACT-Authorized Bilingual Word-to-Word Dictionaries](#)), only extended time must be requested in TAA. See [EL Supports Documentation Requirements](#).
- Flexible request deadlines are based on a student's Test Event assignment:
Test Event #1 Deadline is 02/11/26
Test Event #2 Deadline is 02/25/26
Test Event #3 Deadline is 03/11/26

- **For students taking the PreACT Secure or PreACT 9 Secure:**

Accommodations and EL Supports must be entered directly in ACT Now. Students were transmitted from SIS on January 14, 2026, so you may begin this work.

- [Accessibility Supports Guide \(ASG\)](#) Updated 12/03/2025

Accommodations and English Learner (EL) Supports for ACT Assessments Resources

- [ACT-Hosted web page for Illinois](#)
 - "Step 1: Pre-Administration"
 - [ACT with Writing](#) "Request Accommodations and English Learner (EL) Supports"
 - [PreACT Secure](#) "Manage Accommodations and English Learner (EL) Support"
 - [PreACT 9 Secure](#) "Manage Accommodations and English Learner (EL) Supports"
- [ISBE High School Assessment website](#)
 - "Accommodations and Accessibility Supports"
- [2025-26 ACT Accommodations and Supports Office Hours-Register Now!](#)
- **ACT with Writing Accommodations and English Learner (EL) Supports Webinar**
[Available On Demand](#)

Updated Student Practice Resources

[ISBE High School Assessment Website](#)

Practice Resources



ACT with Writing Resources

- [The ACT with Writing Online Practice Test](#)

IMPORTANT: Click on "Practice Tests" once you have navigated to the TestNav sign on page. No log in credentials are needed.

- [Preparing for the ACT Test](#)

This resource contains a full-length practice ACT with Writing test, test details, test-taking strategies, what to expect on test day, and a link to a [Spanish version of this resource](#). In Illinois, the science and writing sections are required.

- [Preparing for the ACT Test: Testing with Alternate Formats](#)

This resource includes information about preparing for the ACT test with ACT-authorized alternate format accommodations, information about the multiple-choice and writing sections, test-taking strategies, and what to expect on test day. In Illinois, the science and writing sections are required.

- [Alternate Format Practice Tests](#)

Schools may order free alternate format practice tests by completing and mailing this form.

- Visit **Step 1: Pre-Administration** on the ACT-hosted web page for [additional ACT with Writing resources for students and testing staff](#).

PreACT Secure and PreACT 9 Secure Resources

- [PreACT Secure and PreACT 9 Secure Online Practice Test](#)

IMPORTANT: Click on "Practice Tests" once you have navigated to the TestNav sign on page. No log in credentials are needed.

- Visit **Step 1: Pre-Administration** on the ACT-hosted web page for [additional PreACT Secure Student Resources](#).

- Visit **Step 1: Pre-Administration** on the ACT-hosted web page for [additional PreACT 9 Secure Student Resources](#).

Contact Information

[ISBE High School Assessment Website](#)

[ACT-Hosted Web Page for Illinois](#)

Megan Forness: High School Assessment Coordinator

Email: assessment@isbe.net

ISBE Support Phone: 1-866-317-6034

ACT Customer Support Phone: 1-855-730-0400

Contact Information

[ISBE.net/kids](https://www.isbe.net/kids)

KIDS Questions? Please send them to

Email: assessment@isbe.net

Akilah Griffin: KIDS Consultant

ISBE Support Phone: 1-866-317-6034

Upcoming Assessment Update Webinars

Webinar Dates/Times

Webinar Date	Webinar Time
Friday, February 6, 2026	10:00-11:00 AM CDT
Friday, February 13, 2026	10:00-11:00 AM CDT
Friday, February 20, 2026	10:00-11:00 AM CDT
Friday, February 27, 2026	10:00-11:00 AM CDT

Registration links for upcoming webinars and archived recordings and PDF presentations of past webinars are available on the [Assessment Communications webpage](#) under "Presentations and Webinars."

Contact Information

Assessment Contact Information

<u>ISBE Assessment Department</u>	Phone: 866-317-6034 Email: <u>assessment@isbe.net</u>
<u>Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR)</u>	Phone: 833-213-3879 <u>Pearson Support Webpage</u>
<u>Illinois Science Assessment (ISA)</u>	Phone: 833-213-3879 <u>Pearson Support Webpage</u>
<u>Kindergarten Individual Developmental Survey (KIDS)</u>	Phone: 866-317-6034 Email: <u>assessment@isbe.net</u>
<u>ISBE High School Assessment</u> (ACT with Writing, PreACT Secure, and PreACT 9 Secure)	ACT Phone: 855-730-0400 ACT Email: <u>statetesting@act.org</u> <u>ACT-hosted web page for Illinois</u>
<u>Dynamic Learning Maps-Alternate Assessment (DLM-AA)</u>	Phone: 885-277-9751 Email: <u>DLM-support@ku.edu</u>
<u>Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) (ACCESS)</u>	Phone: 855-787-9615 Email: <u>wida@datarecognitioncorp.com</u>
<u>SIS Helpdesk</u>	Phone: 217-558-3600 (option 3)



Thank You

Next Webinar:
February 13, 2026
10-11 am