ISBE Student Assessment Update

Illinois State Board of Education

March 27, 2026

Agenda

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

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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.

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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.

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SIS Webinar End of SY26/Planning for SY27

Wednesday, April 29, 2026: 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

Webinar Agenda

- Agenda
- Welcome / Introductions
- Report Card Timeline
- ACCESS Correction and Scores
- Assessment Correction and Scores Process
- Student Attendance
- Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate
- Early Childhood Programs and Providers
- Fall and Spring Course Assignments
- Importance of Data Quality
- Seal of Biliteracy Awards
- End of SY2025-26 Tasks
- Upcoming Key Dates
- Next Steps for Districts

This SIS webinar will include details about the assessment correction and scores process.
Registration Link

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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; 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

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(ISA)

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ISA Information

- **The ISA testing window is now open**.
- The window will remain open until April 30th.
- You do **not** need to schedule your school's testing window in ADAM for the ISA.
- The Text-to-Speech feature is available to all students on the ISA. This functionality does not require an accommodation.
- When using **TTS**, we suggest using the fast setting for grade 8 and the normal or fast setting for grade 5.

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ISA Information

- The ISA exam has 3 sections

- Each section takes approximately 45-50 minutes to complete.

There is a 90-minute time limit for any one section of the exam, that is monitored by the test administrator.

- Verify all accommodations for students have been entered into ADAM before testing to ensure no irregularities for accommodations will occur.

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ISA Information (Calculators)

- An embedded calculator is available to all students in the Test-Nav platform.
- Students are allowed to use their personal hand-held calculators during testing.
- Personal calculators used **cannot** store or retrieve information through wireless connection.
- We recommend any 4-function calculator for grade 5 and the TI-30 for grade 8.

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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.

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QuISBE ISA Practice Exams

- QuISBE provides 5th and 8th grade students with practice exams similar to the ISA summative assessment.
- **To gain access to the QuISBE platform, you must first fill out the QuISBE Participation SY2025-26 form to register your school or district.**
- **Pearson will provide further access instructions via email after the participation form is submitted.**

  This normally takes 72 hours.

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Irregularity Forms

- In the event of a testing irregularity, school staff has 5 business days to submit a test irregularity form to the Assessment Department at the Illinois State Board of Education. The Irregularity Report can be submitted electronically through the ISBE **Attachment Manager** under *System Quick Links* on the Illinois State Board of Education website.

Instructions:

- Click on the **Send ISBE a file** link
- Once there, complete the fields
- Select **ISA Irregularities** from the *ISBE eMail Name* drop down menu
- Press Submit.

- **Form to Report Testing Irregularity or Security Breach**

- **Note:** If you have the same issue for a group of students, you can submit one irregularity form and add the roster of students along with their state IDs and DOB.

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ISA Test Supports

- **Contact Pearson Support**

Monday – Friday 6:30 am - 6:00 pm (CT) #1-833-213-3879

- **ISA Resources Page**

(User guide, proctor scripts, accommodations guide, irregularity forms, ect.)
https://il.mypearsonsupport.com/isa-summative-resources/

- **ISA Technology Support**

(Test-Nav and Operating Systems)
https://il.mypearsonsupport.com/tech-setup/

- **ISA Training Resources Page**

https://il.mypearsonsupport.com/training/

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Contact Information
ISBE Website Illinois Science Assessment

John Hicks: ISA Coordinator

Email: assessment@isbe.net

Phone: 866-317-6034

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(IAR)

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2026 IAR KEY DATES

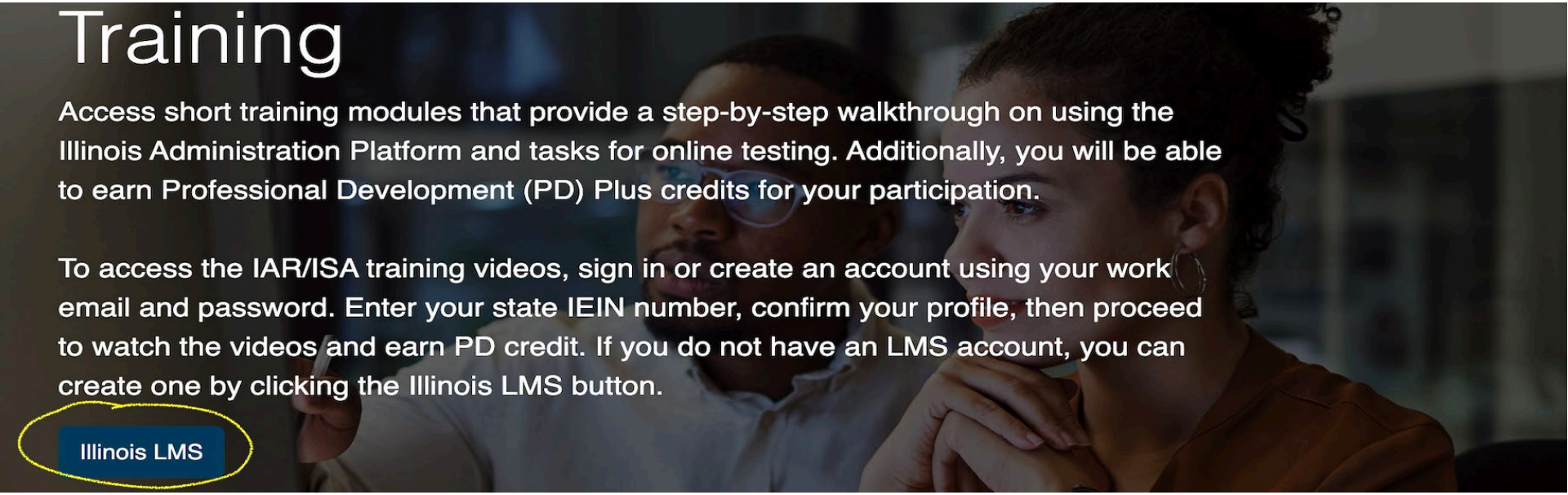
Events	Date(s)
IAR Spring 2026 Testing Window - Paper Testing IAR Spring 2026 Testing Window – Online Testing	3/2/26 - 4/3/26 3/2/26 - 4/17/26
Create Proctor Groups within the Platform	2/9/26 – 4/17/26
Materials Ordering window for districts/schools (all paper tests, paper kits, paper-based test proctor scripts, additional manuals, return labels)	2/16/26 – 3/30/26
Deadline to return paper-based testing scorable and nonscorable materials to Pearson (picked up by vendor) (1 Week After paper testing window) – i.e., Test booklets, answer documents, accommodated test materials	4/10/26

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2026 IAR TRAININGS & RESOURCES

IAR trainings and resources are posted on the Pearson Training Site for the 2026 testing administration. Test Coordinators and Test Proctors must first create an Adobe account BEFORE being able to view the training videos.



If you don't have an LMS account, you can create one here: LMS

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

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IAR TEST PROCTOR RESOURCES

Available Posted Resources:

- Spring 2026 Test Administration Manual
- Spring 2026 Intro to Test Management for Proctors and Support Staff
- Proctor Dashboard Guide
- Proctor Dashboard - Viewing Session Details and Moving Student Sections - Video
- Seal Code Management

Test Proctor Scripts & Resources (Access on the IAR Summative Resources Page)

- Computer & Paper Based Scripts for ELA & Math
- Computer Based Visual Aides for ELA & Math
- Large Print ELA & Math Scripts
- Braille ELA & Math Scripts
- Translated Test Proctor Scripts and Audio Files (11 Languages)

Room Signs

- Go On and Stop Room Sign
- Testing Do Not Disturb Room Sign

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REMINDERS FOR TEST PROCTORS

- ✓ Prepare the testing environment.
- ✓ Review test proctoring manuals & resources.
- ✓ Complete all required trainings provided by the Test Coordinator.
- ✓ Collect test proctoring materials needed to administer the test on the day of testing.
- ✓ Log into your Proctoring Session with your Test Proctor testing ticket: https://il.adamexam.com/#/proctor



- ✓ Double check and confirm that students have been assigned the appropriate testing assignment by consulting your Proctor Dashboard BEFORE students begin testing.
- ✓ Do **NOT** provide students with seal codes for other testing sections before the next test section is scheduled to begin.

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IAR TEST MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

Planning and Management Responsibilities

- Spring 2026 - IAR/ISA Administration Planning Template Word Document
- Spring 2026 Test Coordinator Manual
- Spring 2026 Intro to Computer-Based Test Management for District and School Test Coordinators - Video

Assigning Accommodated Test Forms

- Spring 2026 Accommodation Field Guide
- Spring 2026 Accessibility Features & Accommodations Manual
  - Appendix A: Protocol for the Use of the Scribe Accommodation and for Transcribing Students Responses
  - Appendix B: Protocol for the Use of the Human Reader and Human Signer Accommodation

Test Management in the Platform

- Creating Proctor Groups
- Print TestNav Print Cards
- Proctor Dashboard Guide
- Make-up Test
- Accountability Codes and Voiding Tests

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REMINDERS FOR TEST ADMINISTRATORS



- ✓ Place orders in the platform for students who require paper testing materials.
- ✓ Prepare Test Proctor test tickets, Test Proctor instructions (scripts), student test tickets, and other testing materials for testing day.

- ! Review student Accommodated Test form assignments BEFORE beginning the test administration for the day to make sure they are correct.
- ! Remind Test Proctors to only provide seal codes for the scheduled sections for the day. Seal codes should not be given to students on an individual basis.
- ✓ Monitor all proctor groups during the test administration.
- ✓ Report irregularities by submitting an Irregularity Form.
- ✓ Conduct or coordinate make-up test sessions.

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TEST IRREGULARITIES

STEP 1 >

In the event of a testing irregularity, please reach out to Pearson or ISBE if guidance is needed on how to solve or correct the issue.

STEP 2 >

Once you have worked to resolve the issue, submit a test irregularity form to the Assessment Department at the Illinois State Board of Education. Please provide details of the incident and what steps school staff took to correct the incident.

Testing Irregularity Report Form

STEP 3 >

Please complete the irregularity report and then submit it electronically through the ISBE Attachment Manager under Quicklinks on the Illinois State Board of Education website.

>>Click on the **Send ISBE a file** link,
>>Once there, complete the fields,
>>Select **IAR Irregularities** from the *ISBE eMail Name* drop down menu,
>>Press Submit.

Note: If you have the same issue for a group of students, you can just submit one irregularity form that includes the proctor group name. Attach a roster of student names, state IDs, and DOB.

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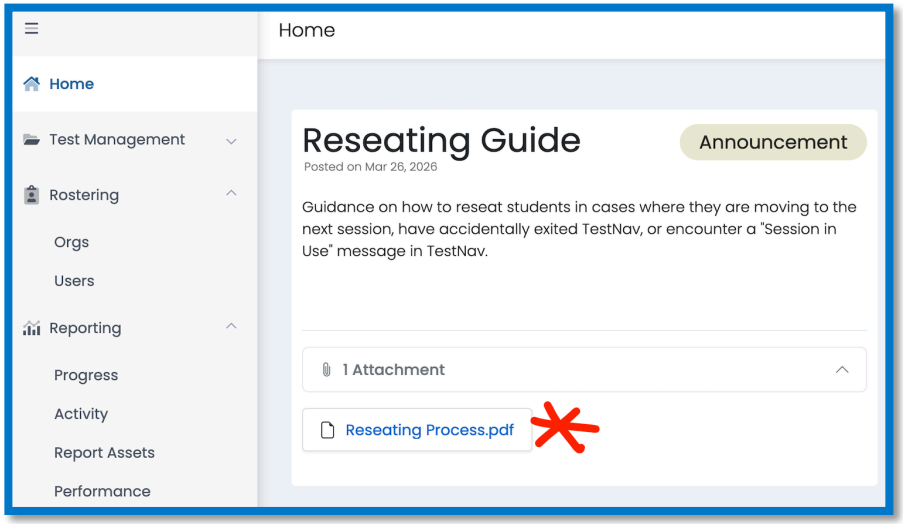
HOT TOPICS!

RESEATING GUIDE—Please review the guidance on reseating students in cases where they are moving to the next session, have accidentally exited TestNav, or encounter a "Session in Use" message within TestNav.

Key points:

- Use the Refresh button, then RESEAT students.
- Wait for the system to respond.
- Hover over the status to see if the system has received your command. It will update momentarily.

Check out the Announcement Bulletin in the Illinois Administration Platform.



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- **15-YEAR-OLD STUDENTS WITH IEPs IN ELEMENTARY DISTRICTS**—Please follow the guidance document. An important detail to consider:
  - If the student begins testing for IAR BEFORE turning 15→ finish the appropriate Grade 8 assessment in ALL content areas. The elementary school district must retain the student's grade 8 enrollment in SIS until the student has completed all grade 8 assessments. After the student has completed all grade 8 assessments, the elementary school district must exit the student from SIS and the high school must then enroll the student.
- **TRANSFER STUDENTS**—Provide new students with the test code for the proctor group that you want them to join so that they can finish up with testing. They will automatically populate into the proctor group and will be listed on the Proctor Dashboard screen.
- **MAKE-UP TESTING**—Always allow a student to continue testing with their cohort and make up the portion that they missed during a make-up session.
  - When a student misses a section due to absence, DO NOT allow the student to press the final SUBMIT button. The proctor will need to be able to use the MOVE TO SECTION tool to move students back to the section that was missed.
  - If a student misses the field test due to absence, please arrange for them to complete this portion of the test during a make-up session.

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- ✓ **TOOL ADD-ONS**—Can be added AFTER the student has started testing. The student must exit testing, you must apply the Tool Add-on, then RESEAT the student. The feature should be available for the rest of the test.
- ✓ **SEAL CODES**—Do not provide the next seal code unless you intend to start the next section. Contact ISBE for guidance, if seal codes are provided prematurely.
- ✓ **CHECK ACCOMMODATIONS**—Double check accommodated forms have been assigned prior to beginning the test administration.
  - Test forms cannot be changed once a student has opened the test.
  - If the mistake is caught early, contact Pearson or ISBE to reset the tests.
  - If the mistake is not caught early, allow the student to finish testing and submit an irregularity report for the incident.
- ✓ **OVERNIGHT UPLOAD**—Enrollment changes will take at least 24 hours to update in the testing platform. The same applies for new users that you create or users that you edit.
  - Check the DLM indicator in SIS to make sure that students are not scheduled to take the DLM instead of the IAR.
- ✓ **ONLINE ACCOMMODATED FORM BUNDLE**—Clarification—The "bundle" is content specific and must be selected for each content area as required by the student's IEP.

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TECHNOLOGY UPDATE: IPadOS & TestNav



IPadOS does not reliably support Co:Writer or Read&Write within TestNav.

This guidance is provided in the Set Up TestNav on iPadOS.

- While these tools may work on some iPads, they may fail on others.
- Because of this inconsistency, iPads should not be used as testing devices for students who require the Speech-to-Text (Co:Writer or Read&Write) accommodation.
- Please conduct an Infrastructure Trial using the iPad prior to testing day or be prepared to use an alternative device.

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TECHNOLOGY UPDATE: Chromebook

PEARSON SUPPORT:
1 (833) 213-3879

Please reach out to Pearson for assistance with specific technology errors, testing device issues, or TestNav activities.

- TestNav System Requirements
- Technical Bulletins
- Recent TestNav Updates
  - Chromebook Error (3/18/2026)

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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

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Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment (DLM-AA)

Spring 2026 Testing Reminder

- The Spring 2026 window is open through May 6, 2026.
- Testing hours are 7AM-4PM
- Testing days are Monday – Friday
- Students must test in person, at school
- All students are required to test
  - Parents / guardians may *not* opt their student out of testing.
- *No extensions* are given

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Monitoring Test Progress

- Teachers and test coordinators can monitor testing progress for their students using the *DLM Test Administration Monitoring extract*
  - Found in Educator Portal
  - Teachers will only see their rostered students
  - Test coordinators can view by student, building, or district
  - Instructions for retrieving the extract are in the Educator Portal User Guide.

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Interpreting the Test Administration Monitoring Extract

- The extract reports data in 3 main sections
  - Instructional # of Testlets
  - End of Year # of Testlets
  - Field Test # of Testlets
- Focus on end of year and field test columns
  - End of Year Number of Testlets Not Started column
    - Either appears with a 1 or 0
    - When a 0 appears, all testlets for the subject are complete
  - End of Year Number of Testlets in Progress column
  - **End of Year Number of Testlets Completed column**
  - **End of Year Number of Testlets Required column**
  - Field Test Testlets Completed
    - This year, students completing science will receive 4 field test testlets

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Statewide Progress

- 49% of students have not started the DLM
- 7.5% of students have completed all blueprint requirements
- 24% of students have completed at least 1 testlet towards all blueprint requirements
- 19% of students are rostered but testlets not assigned
  - First contact surveys not submitted
    - 3,656 surveys are in "ready to submit" status
    - 64 are in progress
    - 1,476 surveys have not been started

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Need to Adjust Enrollments?

- Students can still be added to Kite
- Students can be moved to new rosters *after the test window opens*
- Students can be moved to a new roster *after they begin testing*
- Test coordinators can exit students

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Testing Reminders for Success

1. The First Contact Survey must be completed at least 24 hours before testing
2. Changes to the Personal Needs and Preferences Profile can take up to 24 hours to refresh
   - PNP can be updated even after testing with a student begins
3. The DLM is intended to be administered in a 1:1 setting
4. Access the Testlet Information Page (TIP) before administering the testlet
5. Gather needed materials identified on the TIP
6. After a testlet is administered, the next testlets in the subject area may take up to 15 minutes to release.
   - A testlet in another subject area may be administered while waiting
7. Close out of Student Portal when finished with a testing session.

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Testlets Unavailable?

- Has the teacher completed the security agreement in Kite Educator Portal?
- Has the teacher completed required annual training?
  - **30-minute delay** in accessing students in Educator Portal
  - Has the teacher printed/saved the training certificate of completion?
- Is the student(s) rostered to the teacher? For all required subjects?
  - **24-hour delay** in availability of testlets after student is rostered
    - Most common when student must be moved to a new test administrator
- Did the teacher complete the First Contact Survey for each student?
  - **24-hour delay** in availability of testlets after student is rostered
- Is teacher trying to access testlets via Student Portal app?

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Field Test Testlets

- After a student completes all required operational testlets in a subject, the student *may* receive a field test testlet in math or ELA.
- All students taking science will receive 4 field test testlets this year.
  - Field testing is a key step in test development
  - Students' participation helps DLM develop a high-quality science assessment
- The linkage level of the field test testlet may be one linkage level below, one above, or the same as the student's operational testlets.
- The naming convention for field test testlets always begins with **FT SP** .
- Field test testlet results are *not factored* into the Individual Student Score Reports.

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Spring Teacher Survey

- A teacher survey is available in Kite Student Portal
  - The purpose of the survey is to collect evidence on the quality of the assessment system and gather feedback on teachers' and students' experiences with DLM assessments
- After the first time the student signs in to Student Portal, the survey becomes available.
- Located under the **Other** tab
- Best practice is for the student to first complete testing then for the teacher to complete the survey questions.
- Test coordinators can review the survey questions by requesting them from Pam Hartwig.

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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: dlm-support@ku.edu

ISBE Support Phone: 1-866-317-6034

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

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ACT with Writing (grade 11 and 12 as required)

PreACT Secure (grade 10)

PreACT 9 Secure (grade 9)

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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

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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

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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
  - ✓ Please refer to the ACT Status Page to check the current status of all testing systems.
  - ✓ ACT-Hosted Web Page for Illinois
  - ✓ Spring 2026 ACT/PreACT Secure Pre-ID Guidance and NCR Details
  - ✓ Participation Status for Invited Schools (Status as of 03/24/2026)
- 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*

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Timing/Item Count for Required Assessments

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

Standard time testing requires a 15-minute break after Test 2.

ACT with Writing Authorized Timing	Test 1—English 50 Items	Test 2—Mathematics 45 Items	Test 3—Reading 36 Items	Test 4—Science 40 Items	Writing Test 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. ***Questions? Contact ACT @ 855-730-0400.***

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Timing/Item Count for Required Assessments

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

Standard time testing requires a 15-minute break after Test 2.

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 Note: Total break time cannot exceed 90 minutes.	35 minutes	45 minutes	40 minutes	40 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 Note: Total break time cannot exceed 90 minutes.	35 minutes	45 minutes	40 minutes	35 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.

Questions? Contact ACT @ 855-730-0400.

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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!
  - ***"Training Your Staff-Before Test Day and Test Day" (Available OnDemand)***
  - ***Two remaining: April 9 and April 23***
- Accommodations and Supports Office Hours - ***Available OnDemand***
- ACT with Writing Accommodations Webinar - ***Available OnDemand***
- ACT with Writing Pre-Test Webinar - ***Available OnDemand***
- ACT with Writing Test Day Webinar - ***Available OnDemand***
- PreACT 9 Secure and PreACT Secure Pre-Test Webinar - ***Available OnDemand***
- PreACT 9 Secure and PreACT Secure Test Day Webinar - ***Available OnDemand***
- Technical Readiness Webinar - ***Available OnDemand***

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Spring 2026 Schedule of Events

The **Schedule of Events** documents include key events and tasks for test administration. They are intended to help you organize your test administration responsibilities. If you are administering tests in multiple Test Events, please keep in mind that some tasks may overlap. You may need to start preparing for the next Test Event before completing the current one.

You are encouraged to revisit these documents frequently to ensure you're on track for a successful test administration.

- ACT with Writing Schedule of Events
- PreACT Secure/PreACT 9 Secure Schedule of Events

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Accommodations and English Learner (EL) Supports for ACT Assessments

- 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"

- For students taking ACT + Science + Writing, ***all deadlines to request accommodations and EL supports have passed***, unless a student has a "Qualified Exception" in which case school staff may follow ACT's QED process and test in Test Event 3 (see next slide for details).

- For students taking PreACT Secure and PreACT 9 Secure, school staff enter needed accommodations and EL supports directly into ACT Now in time for testing.

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Late Options for Accommodations and English Learner (EL) Supports (ACT + Science + Writing only)

- If you must test a student who requires accommodations or EL Supports for the ACT + Science + Writing and have not yet submitted a request, follow the guidance in this "Late Options" document.

- There are three options:

  1) Apply for QED (if student situation applies-see next slide)
  2) Test Standard Time
  3) Use paper test materials and receive Non-College Reportable (NCR) scores

- Details are posted in the "Late Options" guidance document.

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Accommodations and English Learner (EL) Supports Qualified Exceptions to the Deadline (QED)

- The QED window provides states a final opportunity to submit requests for accommodations and/or EL supports for students who experience a qualifying event after all published accommodations request deadlines have passed.

- If the student does not meet one of the four listed criteria (see the QED form for criteria), or if supporting documentation cannot be provided, do not apply.
  Note: Due to time constraints, reconsideration for Qualified Exceptions to the Deadline is not possible.

- **Dates:** March 12, 2026 - April 17, 2026

- **Resources:**
  - Requesting Reconsideration (TAA User Guide) (pdf)
  - Qualified Exceptions to the Deadline (pdf)

- **Questions:**
  - 1-800-553-6244 x1788
  - Email: actstateaccoms@act.org

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Who Must Test?

- Grade 11 and required grade 12 students take the **ACT +Science + Writing**, unless rostered for **DLM-AA**.
- Grade 9 and grade 10 students take the **PreACT 9 Secure** and **PreACT Secure**, unless rostered for **DLM-AA**.
- Students who are repeating grade 11 who have previously tested must test again for accountability, though their diploma requirement is already met.
- **Homeschooled students** do **not** test unless they receive instruction from the public school in a tested subject.
  - These students appear in the **Pre-ID file** and load into **ACT Now**.
  - Apply **RNVTA 16** during the correction window for those not required to test.
  - Students who do test take the full assessment; staff must contact ISBE after scores post to suppress data for subjects in which they do not receive instruction.
- **All English learners**, including first-year U.S. students, must participate.
- **Foreign exchange students** classified as grades 9, 10, or 11 must participate.

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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: 03/27/2026 (today, after 4pm)
    NOTE: Status on 03/24/26 is posted here.
  - Details about student transmissions into ACT Now
  - Pre-ID report access
  - Contact Information for further assistance
- **Page 3 topics:**
  - Non-College Reportable scores

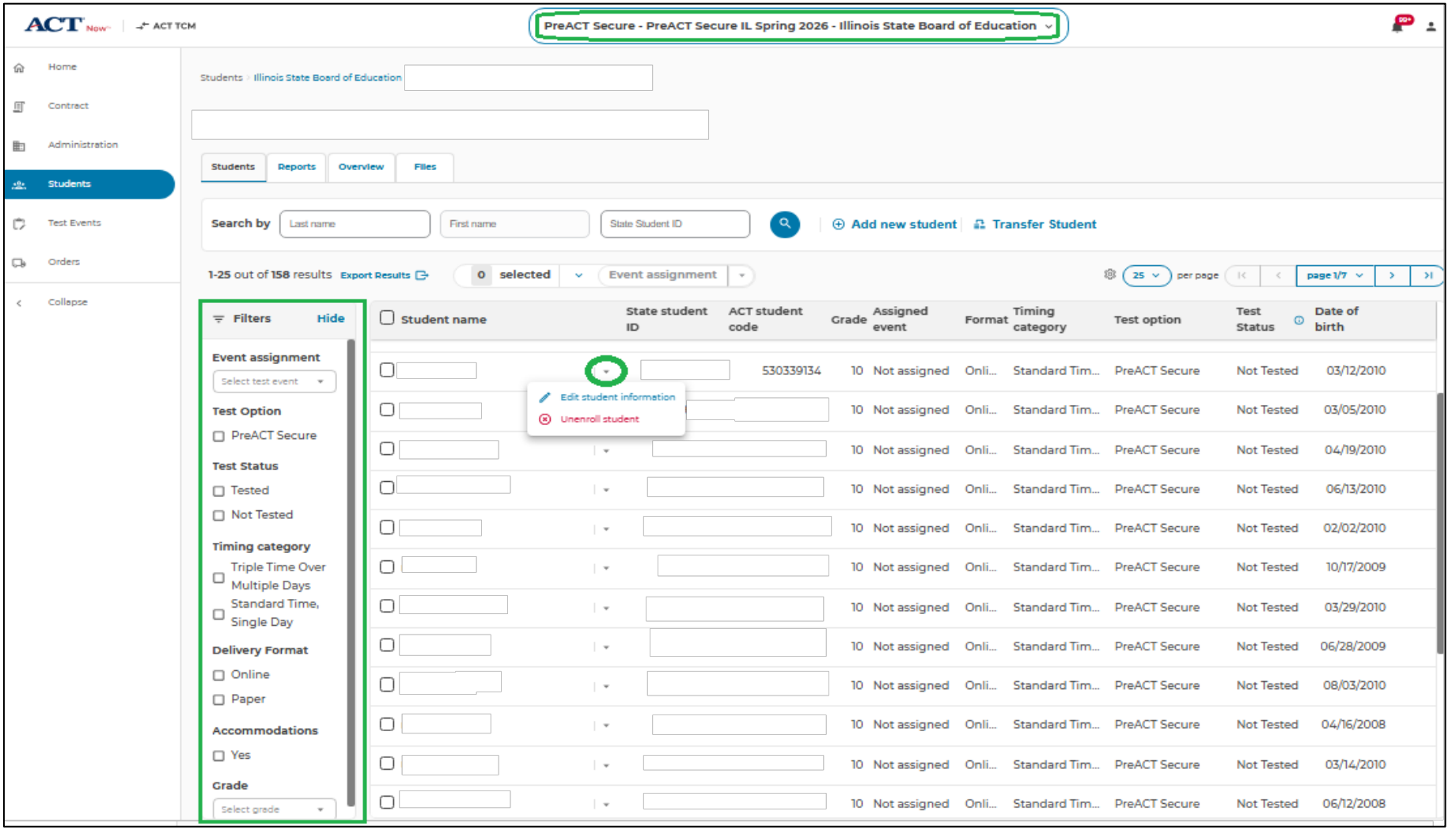
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Student Transmission from SIS into ACT Now

- Updates only are sent, based on the schedule in the Pre-ID Guidance (see page 2).
- ***In general, please do not add students to ACT Now manually unless testing is imminent. Adjust the Pre-ID and let the SIS transmission add students. However, if you accidentally delete a student from ACT Now, add them back manually.***
- 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

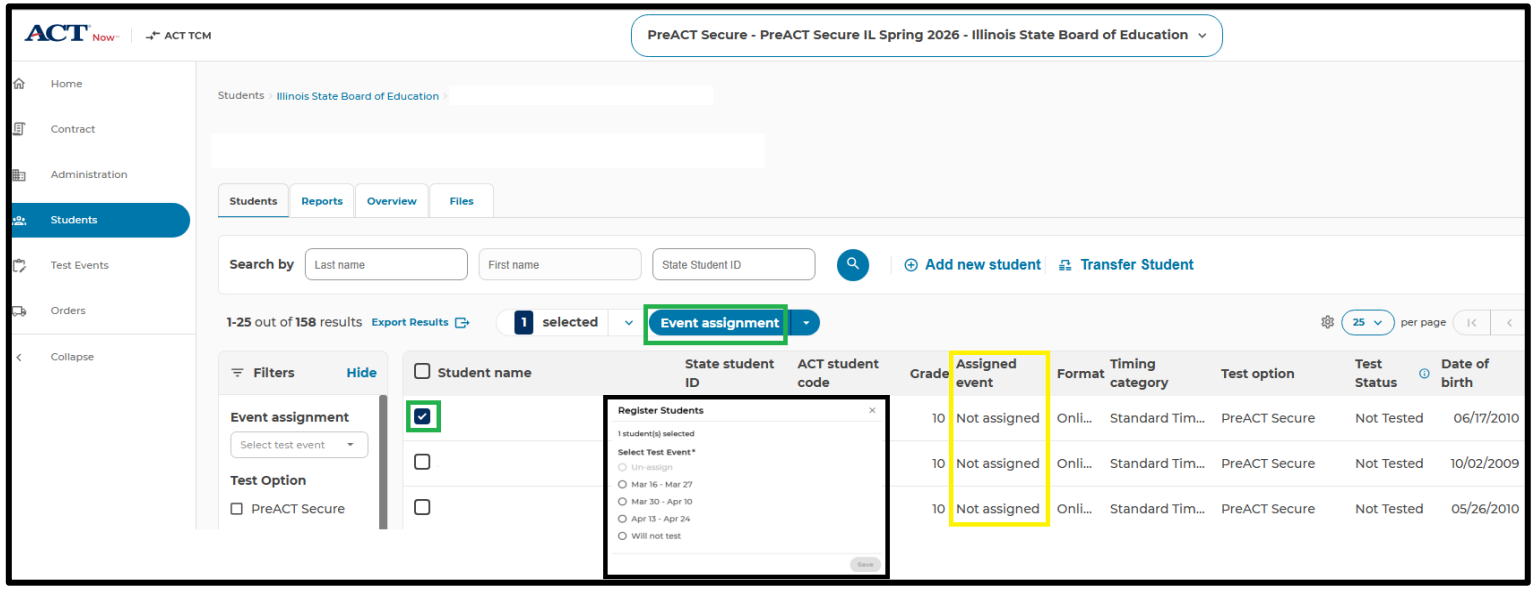
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Viewing/Editing Students in ACT Now ("Students" tab)



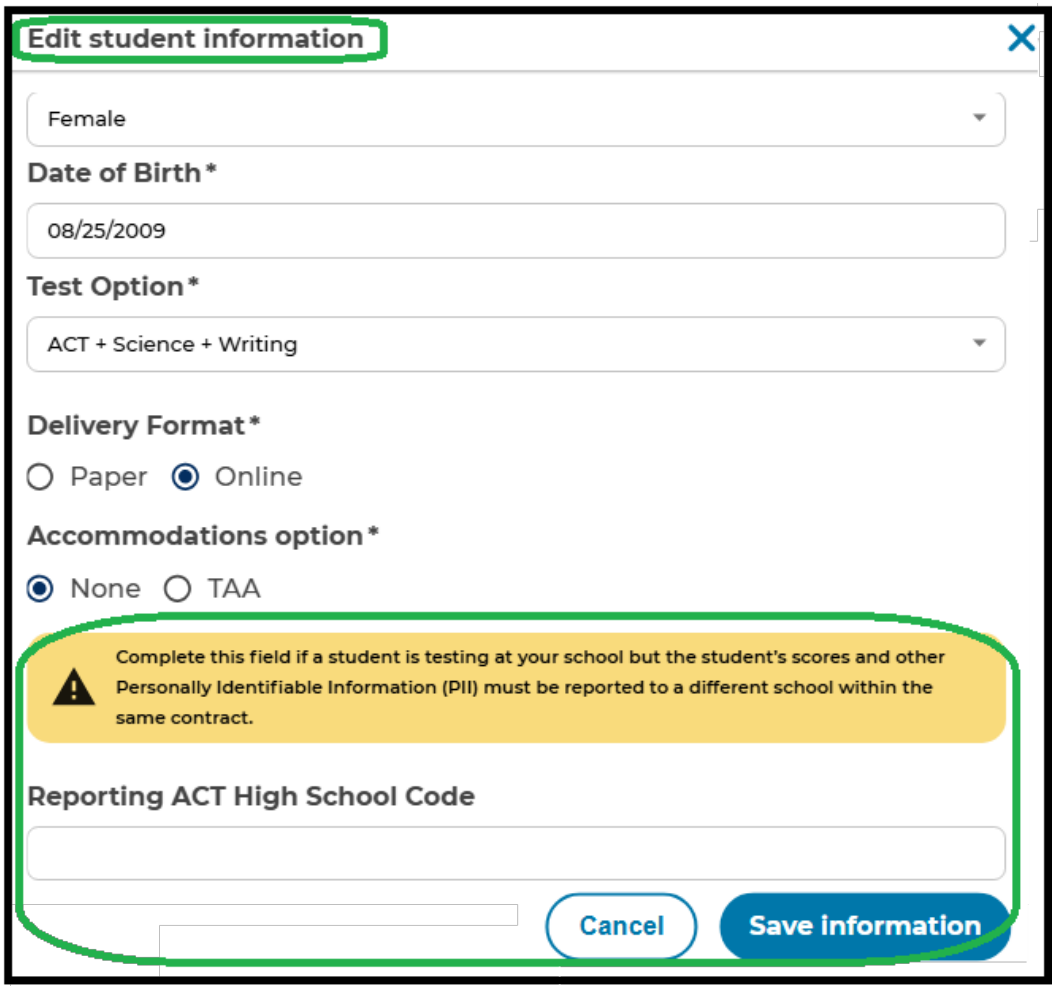
Assigning a Test Event to Students in ACT Now

- 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.
- ***IMPORTANT: Students will not flow into ACT's Test Center Manager (TCM) to set up testing rooms until they are assigned to a Test Event.***



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Editing Reporting School in ACT Now ("Students" tab)



Scores are reported in ***ISBE's SIS*** and available to staff with access at the Home, Serving, and Testing schools.

If there is a need for a student's scores to be reported to a different school in ***ACT's Reporting Portal***, enter the 6-digit ACT Code in the box at the bottom of the student's profile.

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Optional MyACT Student Accounts

- ACT-hosted web page for Illinois, under Step 1: Pre-Administration

- **Resources for Students and Testing Staff**
  Creating a MyACT account in Illinois is optional. Students can use their MyACT account to view **ACT + Science + Writing** scores from state testing. Students have the option to submit scores to up to four colleges at no cost through their optional MyACT account, or they may utilize an alternate form if they choose not to create an optional MyACT account.

- **Testing Staff:**
  - Alternate Score Send and MyACT for Illinois Supplement (pdf)
  - MyACT User Guide for Test Coordinators (pdf)

- **Students:**
  - MyACT Resources for Success (pdf)
  - MyACT User Guide for Students (pdf)
  - Information for Examinees (act.org)
  - Taking the ACT (pdf) (ACT will ship copies of this for your students.)
  - Taking the ACT–Spanish (pdf)

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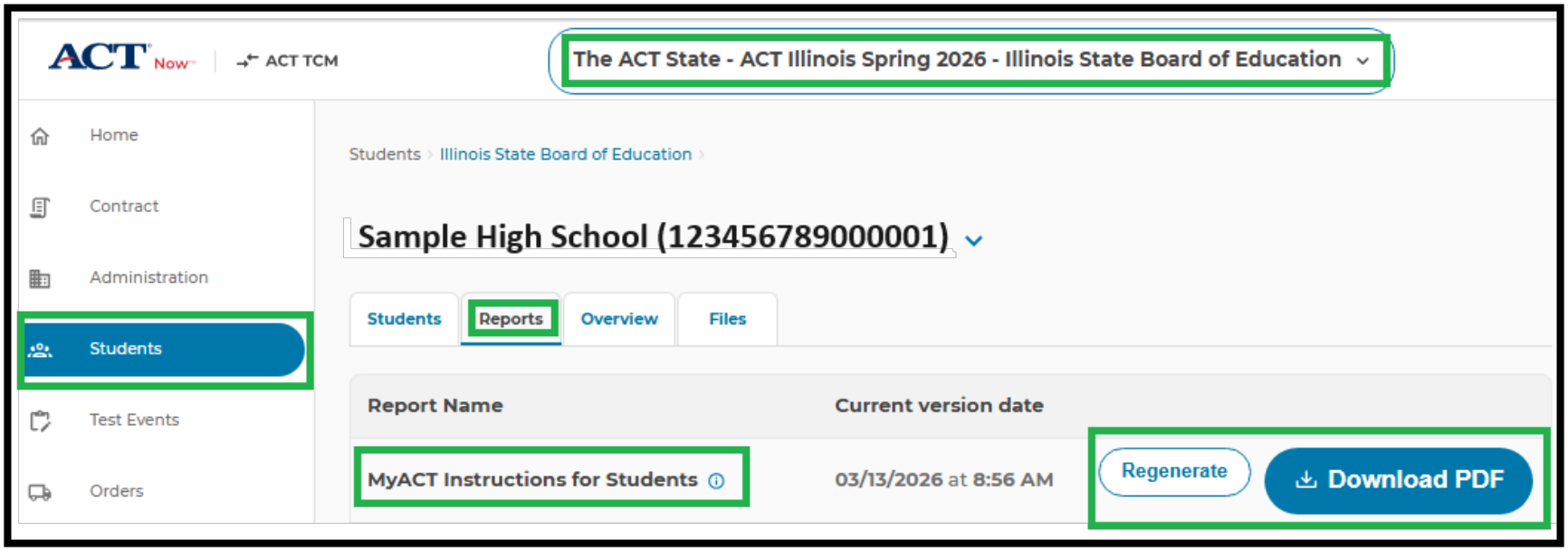
Optional MyACT Student Accounts

- A student must use the **Student Code** if they choose to create an optional MyACT account to **VIEW** their spring 2026 **ACT + Science + Writing** scores from the ISBE-provided administration.
- If a student already has a MyACT account, they must use the **Student Code** to associate the spring 2026 ISBE-provided administration to their existing account. Details can be found in the MyACT User Guide for Test Coordinators.
- A student may send up to 4 free scores using this optional MyACT account within 2 days (48 hours) of completing testing.
- If a student uses their optional MyACT account to facilitate one or more score sends, they **CANNOT** use their Student Code to send any free scores using the "score submission form" (alternate method).
- If a student sends **NO SCORES** using their optional MyACT account, they may use their **Student Code** to send up to four free scores using the "score submission form" (alternate method) but must wait until after their scores post to do this. They have up to 90 days after testing (not 90 days after scores post) to do so.

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Optional MyACT Student Accounts

- On March 11, ACT sent an email about preparing for test administration.
- This email included details about non-test instructions and *Taking the ACT*.
- Documents are shipped to schools based on students in ACT Now as of 02/20/2026.
- Non-test instructions are also available to download from ACT Now-see below.



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Score Reporting Timeline

- Scores for all three assessments will be added to the ACT Reporting Portal, Success, on a rolling basis. All scores are scheduled to be included no later than the following dates:

  - PreACT 9 Secure: June 5, 2026
  - PreACT Secure: June 5, 2026
  - ACT + Science + Writing: June 12, 2026
    - For only ACT + Science + Writing, approximately 5-8 weeks after testing, 2 copies of score reports are mailed in batches, as ready.

- Scores for all three assessments are scheduled to be posted in ISBE's Student Information System by July 13, 2026.

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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

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WIDA™/ACCESS

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New Article: Advocating for Multilinguals with Disabilities

Students who are multilingual learners with disabilities have legal and civil rights. The article Advocating for Multilingual Learners with Disabilities outlines three key approaches to advocating for students who need both language and disability services at school.

Bonus Resource: The flyer Advocating for my Child's Language and Disability Needs helps caregivers understand their child's rights to language and disability supports. The flyer is also available in Spanish.



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WIDA Annual Conference Registration

Registration for the 2026 WIDA Annual Conference opens on Monday, May 4. WIDA-2026 will take place September 15-18, 2026, in St. Louis, Missouri, under the theme "Building Gateways to Colaboración." New, **need-to-know** information is now available on the conference website, including a program overview, registration rates, and more. A curated virtual track will also be available.



WIDA Webinar Recording

A WIDA Webinar recording is available.

"Partners in Language: Collaborating to Implement the WIDA ELD Standards Framework"



Access this webinar and accompanying resources for free on the WIDA Webinars Page.

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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

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Upcoming Assessment Update Webinars



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Webinar Dates/Times

Webinar Date	Webinar Time
Friday, April 3, 2026	10:00-11:00 AM CDT
Friday, April 10, 2026	10:00-11:00 AM CDT
Friday, April 17, 2026	10:00-11:00 AM CDT
Friday, April 24, 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."

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Contact Information

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Assessment Contact Information

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

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Thank You

Next Webinar:
April 3, 2026
10-11 am

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