In the spring of 2006, a team of Illinois educators created the new Illinois Alternate Assessment (IAA) Frameworks. The purpose of the frameworks is to prioritize the skills and knowledge from the Illinois Learning Standards for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities, in order to develop a new Illinois Alternate Assessment. The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) contracted Pearson Educational Measurement (PEM), and their subcontractor partners, Beck Evaluation and Testing Associates, Inc. (BETA), and the Inclusive Large Scale Standards and Assessment (ILSSA) group, to develop the new IAA in grades three through eight and 11 for Reading and Mathematics; in grades four, seven, and 11 for Science; and in grades three, five, six, eight, and 11 for Writing. BETA's responsibilities include providing event-based assessment activities linked to the IAA Frameworks, developing the assessment rubric, and incorporating principles of Universal Design for Learning. ILSSA's responsibilities include facilitating the development of the IAA Frameworks and providing statewide staff development on how to access grade-level curriculum. Pearson Learning Group (PLG) is a division of PEM and their responsibilities include providing a customized online scoring tool along with training to use this feature.

During the framework development meetings, educators were divided into development teams based on both content area and grade level focus. Addressing reading, writing, mathematics, mathematics, and science, each content area had one development team for elementary school, one for middle school, and one for high school. Each team consisted of at least one general education teacher, one special education teacher, and one content expert. The process used by the development teams to create the Illinois Alternate Assessment Frameworks was as follows:

The development teams reviewed each of the assessment objectives (statements coded with numbers such as 6.5.01) in grades three through eight. For each assessment objective, the teams:

- Identified the critical function, or the main idea of the objective;
- Wrote an instructional activity that could be used to teach the skills needed to meet the assessment objective in the general education classroom;
- Wrote a modified instructional activity that could be used to teach students with the most significant cognitive disabilities the same skills; and
- Identified three assessment activities that could be used to assess students with the most significant cognitive disabilities on the skills described in the modified activity.

After the development teams examined the assessment objectives and wrote both instructional and assessment activities for each grade level, the teams prioritized the assessment objectives and selected the assessment objectives which are most suitable for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. The leadership team at ISBE reviewed these priorities for further refinement. These pilot priorities will form the basis for the new IAA performance test items. Following the completion of the fall 2006 writing pilot, a review may be necessary in order to determine if the new IAA priorities are appropriate and provide a comparable assessment to the general statewide assessment.

Using grade-level curriculum as the focus, the development teams described the instructional and assessment supports, accommodations, and assistive technology required to ensure access to quality instruction. The descriptions produced by the development teams were summarized into a set of statements designed to provide consistency across the content frameworks. These statements are as follows:

- Appropriate instruction must occur prior to the assessment activity.
- All activities must provide appropriate support, accommodations, and/or assistive technology during both the instructional activities and the assessment process. This may include the following:
 - o The use of prompting strategies, ranging from minimum prompts to full physical assistance in order to create a learning continuum for correct responses.
 - o The use of assistive technology, ranging from low tech to high tech.
 - o The reduction of breadth, depth, and/or complexity.
- Specific instructional strategies and the instructional environment for the individual student vary and should be determined by the student's IEP team.
- During assessment activities, the students should use the mode of communication that they used to learn and practice the skills during instructional activities.

- Instruction should be presented to the student in a way that is authentic, accessible, and meaningful (e.g., tactile objects, picture symbols, or use of a text reader), to ensure the student has multiple opportunities to learn and demonstrate knowledge.
- Instruction should take place within the context of grade-level content, using age-appropriate activities and materials, regardless of the placement of the student.
- Instruction must incorporate age-appropriate activities and materials which represent the same grade level content as their peers without disabilities. However, the activities and materials may be adapted to meet the individual needs of the student (e.g., reduce the language requirements or difficulty of the task) as long as the context of the materials used by same age peers remains intact.

All instructional practices should occur using available resources and materials familiar to the learners.

Communication skills are essential to the assessment of students with significant cognitive disabilities. Symbolic communication skills form the foundation for reading, mathematics, and writing. Students with significant cognitive disabilities are very diverse in their communication ability. Some students communicate symbolically, while others communicate in highly individualized ways. There are some important considerations in the development of symbolic communication skills which include the following:

- All students communicate regardless of their level of symbolic language use.
- Students with the most significant cognitive disabilities can acquire generalized use of objects (or object selection) to communicate preferences (Hetzroni, Rubin, Konkol, 2002).
- Language learners must use symbols repeatedly, interactively, and generatively during meaningful and ongoing activities in language-rich environments (Goossens, Crain, & Elder, 1992; Cafiero, 1998; Goossens, et al., 1992; Romiski & Sevcik, 1996; Miller & Eller-Miller, 2002; Mirenda, 2003).
- Competent use of language for multiple purposes, audiences, and contexts facilitate the metalinguistic skills required for reading comprehension (Rankin, Harwood, & Mirenda, 1994). The assessment activities in this document reflect three types of students who represent the continuum of communication skills within this student population.
 - The first activity is designed for students who inconsistently respond to communication and inconsistently use words, objects, or gestures to communicate expressively.
 - The second activity is for learners who are beginning to use understandable communication through gestures, pictures, objects/textures, points, etc., to clearly express a variety of intentions.
 - The third activity is for students who are using verbal or written words, sign language, Braille, or any language-based augmentative system to request, initiate, and respond to questions, describe things or events, and express refusal.

Throughout the frameworks document, the suggested general education instructional and modified instructional activities are written in plural form, as instruction is typically provided to a whole class. However, the instruction for these activities may be provided in the context of whole class instruction, small group instruction, or individually based on student needs. Conversely, the assessment activities are written in the singular form, as the IAA is a standard assessment measuring individual performance.

The process of reviewing the frameworks and aligning the new IAA to the Illinois Learning Standards and regular assessment is an ongoing process. The activities in this document were created by Illinois teachers and are only suggested activities that may be used to teach the assessment objectives listed. The activities, materials, and techniques listed in the frameworks are just one possible way to teach these assessment objectives and should not to be considered the state-mandated strategy for teaching any given assessment objective. Teachers should feel comfortable in using other strategies, materials, or activities that may already be in place or familiar to the teacher. The IAA Frameworks and the IAA itself will continue to be reviewed and adjusted as changes occur with the Illinois Standards and/or the general assessment.

State Goal 6: Number Sense

Representations and Ordering (Standard A)

- 6.5.01 Read, write, recognize, and model equivalent representations of whole numbers and their place values up to 100,000,000.
- 6.5.07 Order and compare whole numbers up to 1,000,000.
- 6.5.10 Identify and locate whole numbers, halves, fourths, and thirds on a number line.

Computation, Operations, Estimation, and Properties (Standards B and C)

- 6.5.12 Solve problems and number sentences involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division using whole numbers.
- 6.5.13 Solve problems and number sentences involving addition and subtraction of decimals through hundredths (with or without monetary labels).

State Goal 7: Measurement

Units, Tools, Estimation, and Applications (Standards A, B, and C)

- 7.5.02 Select and use appropriate standard units and tools to measure length (to the nearest ¼ inch or mm), mass/weight, capacity, and angles.
- 7.5.04 Compare and estimate length (including perimeter), area, volume, weight/mass, and angles (0° to 180°) using referents.

State Goal 8: Algebra

Representations, Patterns, and Expressions (Standard A)

8.5.01 Determine a missing term in a sequence, extend a sequence, and identify errors in a sequence when given a description or sequence.

Writing, Interpreting, and Solving Equations (Standards C and D)

8.5.08 Solve for the unknown in an equation with one operation (e.g., 2 + n = 20, $n \div 2 = 6$).

State Goal 9: Geometry

Properties of Single Figures and Coordinate Geometry (Standard A)

9.5.01 Classify, describe, and sketch two–dimensional shapes (triangles, quadrilaterals, pentagons, hexagons, and octagons) according to the number of sides, length of sides, number of vertices, and interior angles (right, acute, obtuse).

Relationships Between and Among Multiple Figures (Standard B)

9.5.14 Determine if figures are similar, and identify relationships between corresponding parts of similar figures.

State Goal 10: Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability

Data Analysis and Statistics (Standards A and B)

10.5.01 Read, interpret, and make predictions from data represented in a pictograph, bar graph, line (dot) plot, Venn diagram (with two circles), chart/table, line graph, or circle graph.

Probability (Standard C)

10.5.05 Apply the fundamental counting principle in a simple problem (e.g., How many different combinations of one–scoop ice cream cones can be made with 3 flavors and 2 types of cones?).

State Goal 6

Representations and Ordering (Standard A) Read, Write, and Represent Numbers

6.5.01 Read, write, recognize, and model equivalent representations of whole numbers and their place values up to 100,000,000.

object read, write, recognize, and model equivalent representations of whole numbers and enter place values up to 100,000,000.							
Critical Function	Suggested General	Suggested Modified	Possible Assessment Activity 1	Possible Assessment Activity 2	Possible Assessment Activity 3		
	Education Activity	Instructional Activity					
Read, write,	The teacher will model	The teacher will model	Given a place value template, a	Given a place value template, a	Given a place value template, a		
recognize, and	whole numbers. Using	whole numbers. Given	two-digit whole number, and	three-digit whole number, and	four-digit whole number and		
model whole	pictures of base ten blocks,	numbers and	expanded numbers that contain	expanded number cards that	expanded number cards that		
numbers.	the teacher will model	manipulatives, the	the correct requested place value	contain the correct requested	contain the correct requested		
	whole numbers. The	students will identify	and two distracters, the student	place value and two distracters,	place value and two distracters,		
	students will identify the	two-digit numbers.	will identify the requested place	the student will identify the	the student will identify the		
	represented numbers.		value card.	requested place value card.	requested place value card.		

State Goal 6

Representations and Ordering (Standard A) Order and Compare Numbers

6.5.07 Order and compare whole numbers up to 1,000,000.

6.5.07 Order and co	mpare whole numbers up to	1,000,000.			
Critical Function	Suggested General	Suggested Modified	Possible Assessment Activity 1	Possible Assessment Activity 2	Possible Assessment Activity 3
	Education Activity	Instructional Activity			
Order and compare	The teacher will use a	Same as suggested	Given two three-digit numbers in	Given two three-digit numbers in	Given two three-digit numbers in
whole numbers.	number line and	General Education	a number statement without the	a number statement without the	a number statement without the
	demonstrate how numbers	Activity with necessary	symbol (150 310) and	symbol (150 131) and a	symbol (150 131), the
	are greater than, less than	supports.	picture representing the	number line, the student will	student will indicate with words
	or equal to another number.		numbers, the student will	indicate with words (greater	(greater than, less than, equal to)
	Using number cards, the		indicate with words (greater	than, less than, equal to) or	or symbols $(>, <, or =)$ what
	students will draw six		than, less than, equal to) or	symbols ($>$, $<$, or $=$) what makes	makes the statement true.
	random cards, and create		symbols ($>$, $<$, or $=$) what makes	the statement true.	
	six-digit numbers. The		the statement true.		
	students will then compare				
	their number with that of a				
	partner (more, less or				
	equal). The person with the				
	higher number wins the				
	cards.				

State Goal 6

Representations and Ordering (Standard A) Number Line

6.5.10 Identify and locate whole numbers, halves, fourths, and thirds on a number line.

6.5.10 Identify and I	ocate whole numbers, halves	s, fourths, and thirds on a	number line.		
Critical Function	Suggested General	Suggested Modified	Possible Assessment Activity 1	Possible Assessment Activity 2	Possible Assessment Activity 3
	Education Activity	Instructional Activity			
Identify and locate	The teacher will model	Same as suggested	Given a one-fourth number, the	Given a one-third number, the	Given a whole, half, one-fourth,
whole numbers,	whole numbers, halves,	General Education	student will place it on the	student will place it on the	and one-third number, the student
halves, fourths and	fourths, and thirds on a	Activity with necessary	number line.	number line.	will place it on the number line.
thirds on a number	number line. Given a	supports.			
line.	number line with 1/3"				
	increments, the students				
	will be able to identify the				
	whole, half, one-fourth,				
	and one-third numbers on				
	the line.				

State Goal 6

Computation, Operations, Estimation, and Properties (Standards B and C) Number Operations

6.5.12 Solve problems and number sentences involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division using whole numbers.

0.5.12 Solve problem	us and number sentences in	ivorving addition, subtract	ion, mutupheation, and division u	sing whole numbers.	
Critical Function	Suggested General	Suggested Modified	Possible Assessment Activity 1	Possible Assessment Activity 2	Possible Assessment Activity 3
	Education Activity	Instructional Activity			
Solve problems and	The teacher will model	The teacher will	Given a situational problem with	Given a situational	Given division problems, the
number sentences	how to solve division	demonstrate how to	regrouping, the student will	multiplication problem with	student will solve the problems.
involving addition,	problems. The class will	multiply and divide with	indicate whether the problem	regrouping, the student will	
subtraction,	solve a few problems	regrouping. The teacher	requires addition, subtraction,	solve the problem.	
multiplication, and	together and the students	will demonstrate how to	multiplication, or division.		
division.	will solve more problems	use the correct function			
	independently.	on the calculator for			
		multiplication and			
		division with regrouping.			
		The students will solve			
		addition, subtraction,			
		multiplication, and			
		division problems with			
		regrouping and, if			
		needed, use a calculator.			

State Goal 6

Computation, Operations, Estimation, and Properties (Standards B and C) Number Operations

6.5.13 Solve problems and number sentences involving addition and subtraction of decimals through hundredths (with or without monetary labels).

				,	,
Critical Function	Suggested General	Suggested Modified	Possible Assessment Activity 1	Possible Assessment Activity 2	Possible Assessment Activity 3
	Education Activity	Instructional Activity			
Solve problems	The teacher will model a	Same as suggested	Given the price of an item and	Given an amount of money and	Given a greater amount of
involving decimals,	monetary transaction.	General Education	an amount of money, the student	prices for two items, the student	money, the student will provide
including money.	The students will solve	Activity with necessary	will determine if he or she has	will determine which item costs	the teacher with a lesser amount
	for the purchase of an	supports.	enough money to purchase the	the same amount as the amount	of money requested.
	item and determine how		item.	of money they were given.	
	much change, if any, will				
	result.				

State Goal 7

Units, Tools, Estimation, and Application (Standards A, B, and C) Measurement Tools

7.5.02 Select and use appropriate standard units and tools to measure length (to the nearest ¼ inch or mm), mass/weight, capacity, and angles.

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Critical Function	Suggested General	Suggested Modified	Possible Assessment Activity 1	Possible Assessment Activity 2	Possible Assessment Activity 3
	Education Activity	Instructional Activity			
Select and use the	The teacher will	Same as suggested	Given two objects, the student	Given a specific measurement	Given a specific measurement
correct measuring	demonstrate how to use a	General Education	will choose which object is	tool, the student will use this tool	tool, the student will use this tool
tool for length,	variety of measuring	Activity with necessary	longer.	to measure (e.g., with a scale, the	
weight, capacity,	tools, and illustrate the	supports.		student will record their weight).	student will measure the length
and angles.	correct unit of measure				and width of a sheet of paper).
	for each. The students				
	will use the different				
	measurement tools to				
	measure several objects				
	around the classroom.				

State Goal 7

Units, Tools, Estimation, and Application (Standards A, B, and C) Estimation

7.5.04 Compare and estimate length (including perimeter), area, volume, weight/mass, and angles (0° to 180°) using referents.

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Critical Function	Suggested General	Suggested Modified	Possible Assessment Activity 1	Possible Assessment Activity 2	Possible Assessment Activity 3
	Education Activity	Instructional Activity			
Estimate/compare	The teacher will	Same as suggested	Given two containers that are the	Given two containers that are the	Given two empty containers that
length, area, and	demonstrate how to	General Education	same size and shape, each filled	same size and shape, each filled	are the same size and shape, the
mass/weight by	estimate volume when it	Activity with necessary	with a different amount of	with a different amount of	student will distribute a volume
referring to an	is known for a similar	supports.	manipulatives, the student will	manipulatives, the student will	of manipulatives so that one
object with known	object. Using non-		identify which container has a	order the containers from the	container has more volume than
measurement.	standard units (i.e.,		greater volume of manipulatives.	least volume of manipulatives to	the other.
	popcorn, jelly beans), the			the greatest volume of	
	students will compare the			manipulatives.	
	volume of one object to				
	the volume of another				
	object.				

State Goal 8

Representations, Patterns, and Expressions (Standard A)
Patterns

8.5.01 Determine a missing term in a sequence, extend a sequence, and identify errors in a sequence when given a description or sequence.

5.5.01 Determine a missing term in a sequence, extend a sequence, and identity errors in a sequence when given a description or sequence.								
Critical Function	Suggested General	Suggested Modified	Possible Assessment Activity 1	Possible Assessment Activity 2	Possible Assessment Activity 3			
	Education Activity	Instructional Activity						
Understand basic	The teacher will	Same as suggested	Given a pattern and two choices,	Given an illustrated number	Given an illustrated number			
sequences.	demonstrate growing,	General Education	the student will determine the next	pattern, the student will	pattern, the student will continue			
	repeating, and shrinking	Activity with necessary	term in the pattern.	determine the next number in	the pattern for three more places			
	patterns. The students	supports.		the pattern (e.g., 22, 24, 26, 28,	(e.g., 22, 24, 26, 28,,,).			
	will solve problems			_).				
	related to growing and							
	shrinking patterns.							

State Goal 8

Writing, Interpreting, and Solving Equations (Standard C/D) **Solve Equations and Inequalities**

8.5.08 Solve for the unknown in an equation with one operation (e.g., $2 + n = 20$, $n \div 2 = 6$).								
Critical Function	Suggested General	Suggested Modified	Possible Assessment Activity 1	Possible Assessment Activity 2	Possible Assessment Activity 3			
	Education Activity	Instructional Activity						
Solve one-step	The teacher will	Same as suggested	Given a number sentence,	Given a number sentence,	Given an equation			
equations with one	demonstrate, model, and	General Education	(e.g., $1 \square 1 = 2$) and a choice of	(e.g., $1 \square 1 = 2$), the student	(e.g., $5 - \square = 2$) with a missing			
operation and a	discuss how to solve for	Activity with necessary	two operation signs (e.g., +, -), the	will provide the operation sign	value, the student will identify			
missing part.	the unknown with or	supports.	student will select the operation	to make the number sentence	what number makes the number			
	without manipulatives.		sign to make the number sentence	true.	sentence true.			
Example:	The students will solve		true.					
One unifix cube and	equations for the							
a bag with unknown	unknown.							
equals three								
1+?=3, ?=2).								

State Goal 9

Properties of Single Figures and Coordinate Geometry (Standard A) Properties of Single Figures

9.5.01 Classify, describe, and sketch two-dimensional shapes (triangles, quadrilaterals, pentagons, hexagons, and octagons) according to the number of sides, length of sides,

number of vertices, and interior angles (right, acute, obtuse).

Critical Function	Suggested General	Suggested Modified	Possible Assessment Activity 1	Possible Assessment Activity 2	Possible Assessment Activity 3
Critical Function			Possible Assessment Activity 1	Possible Assessment Activity 2	Fossible Assessment Activity 5
	Education Activity	Instructional Activity			
Classify two-	The teacher, using	Same as suggested	Given two pre-sorted groups of	Given a set of two-dimensional	Given multiple two-dimensional
dimensional shapes.	visuals, will discuss and	General Education	two-dimensional shapes, the	shapes, the student will sort	shapes, the student will sort the
	model identifying	Activity with necessary	student will identify the group that	them according to shape.	shapes based on characteristics of
	characteristics of two-	supports.	has all the same shapes.		the shapes.
	dimensional shapes. The		_		
	students will identify				
	two-dimensional shapes				
	based on their				
	characteristics.				

State Goal 9

Relationships Between and Among Multiple Figures (Standard B) Congruency and Similarity

9.5.14 Determine if figures are similar, and identify relationships between corresponding parts of similar figures.

Critical Function	Suggested General	Suggested Modified	Possible Assessment Activity 1	Possible Assessment Activity 2	Possible Assessment Activity 3
	Education Activity	Instructional Activity			
Identify similar	The teacher will	Same as suggested General	Given two sets of figures, one	Given two figures, the student	Given a prompt, the student will
figures and the	model, show, and	Education Activity with	set with two congruent figures	will indicate whether or not the	create a set of similar figures.
relationship	discuss similar figures	necessary supports.	and one set with two non-	figures are similar.	
between	and the relationship		congruent figures, the student		
corresponding parts.	between their parts.		will indicate which set of figures		
	The students will		is congruent.		
	identify similar figures.				

State Goal 10

Data Analysis and Statistics (Standards A and B) Read and Interpret Displays

10.5.01 Read, interpret, and make predictions from data represented in a pictograph, bar graph, line (dot) plot, Venn diagram (with two circles), chart/table, line graph, or

circle graph.

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Critical Function	Suggested General Education Activity	Suggested Modified Instructional Activity	Possible Assessment Activity 1	Possible Assessment Activity 2	Possible Assessment Activity 3
	3				
Read and interpret	The teacher will model	Same as suggested	Given a graph with a key, the	Given a graph with a key, the	Given a graph with a key, the
various graphs.	how to read and interpret	General Education	student will answer "yes" or "no"	student will answer multiple-	student will answer questions
	different types of graphs.	Activity with necessary	questions about data on the graph.	choice questions about data on	about data on the graph.
	Given various graphs	supports.		the graph.	
	with keys, the teacher				
	will explain how to read				
	different types of graphs.				
	While showing and				
	explaining the graphs the				
	teacher will ask questions				
	related to data in the				
	graph. The students will				
	answer questions related				
	to information contained				
	on the graph.				

State Goal 10

Data Analysis and Statistics (Standard C) Outcomes and Counting Principles

10.5.05 Apply the fundamental counting principle in a simple problem (e.g., How many different combinations of one–scoop ice cream cones can be made with 3 flavors and 2 types of cones?).

2 types of cones:).					
Critical Function	Suggested General	Suggested Modified	Possible Assessment Activity 1	Possible Assessment Activity 2	Possible Assessment Activity 3
	Education Activity	Instructional Activity			
Find combinations	The teacher will use a	Same as suggested	Given teacher-questions to a word	Given teacher-questions to a	Given a word problem, the
to answer a simple	story board or	General Education	problem, the student will answer	word problem, the student will	student will answer questions
problem.	manipulatives to	Activity with necessary	"yes" or "no" questions about	answer questions about	about combinations.
	illustrate various	supports.	possible combinations.	possible combinations.	
Example: A boy has	combinations of given				
a red shirt, a blue	materials. The students				
shirt, and a pair of	will find the number of				
shorts. How many	possible combinations.				
different outfits can					
he make?					