



PARCC Coordination 101



Illinois State Board of Education

Sept. 17, 2015



PARCC

THE BASICS



Which Students are Required to Test?

- Grades 3-8 students take English language arts (ELA) and Math
- High school students take end of course tests based on enrollment NOT grade
 - (i.e., Algebra I & English I)
 - Integrated Mathematics option is available
 - Budget dependent



PARCC Format

- Spring administration in a single 30-day window
 - Each content area is divided into “units”
 - Unit times can be found here:
<http://www.isbe.state.il.us/assessment/pdfs/parcc/2016/2016-spring-PARCC-unit-times.pdf>
- Optional fall block high school test administration exists if needed
 - Fall block still follows last year’s format of 2 testing windows (PBA and EOY)



Spring PARCC Dates

- Schools/districts will set their own 30 day window
 - 30 consecutive school days
 - Holidays, breaks, non-instructional days do not count
 - Test designed to administer between 75% & 90% of instruction
- Earliest date to start testing is March 7.
- April 29 (paper) and May 13 (online) are cutoff dates to get into the early results window.



Important Terms to Know

- Paper-Based Test (PBT)
- Computer-Based Test (CBT)
- PearsonAccess Next (PAN)
- TestNav (TN8)
- Unit
- Session
- English Language Arts (ELA)
- Math



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ONLINE VS. PAPER – MODE OF TEST DELIVERY



Testing Mode Decisions

- Decision is based on technology capacity of schools
- All students in a grade level take the same mode
- Schools should continue progress toward testing all grades online
- Spring of 2015, 75% of students took the test online
- Decisions will be reported using IWAS



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PEARSONACCESS NEXT



PearsonAccess Next (PAN)

- Administrative hub for all testing (online and paper)
 - Mission Control for the PARCC assessments
- ALL students must be loaded into PAN
- PAN has two parallel instances
 - Training Site
 - Used for training, student practice, system testing and infrastructure trials
 - Live Site
 - Only used for actual administration of the test



Training Site



Select an action ▾



Select an action ▾



Select an action ▾

Live Site



Select an action ▾



Select an action ▾



Select an action ▾



PearsonAccess Next User Accounts

- ISBE has granted access to district leaders. They are responsible for adding other users within the district.
- All District/LEA-level users from last year should still have an active account.
- 2014-15 school-level user accounts are no longer active. District/LEA-level users can reactivate them.



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LOADING STUDENTS



Student Information System (SIS)

- All student data will be loaded to PAN by the SIS team
 - Student Demographic Data
 - Personal Needs Profile
- Regular intervals based on PARCC deadlines
- Increase in frequency as the test approaches
- Keep SIS data up to date and they will sync it with Pearson



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PARCC TECHNOLOGY



TestNav8 (TN8)

- Secure software that students use to take the assessments
 - Browser based on desktops and laptops
 - Apps for Android, Chromebooks and iPads
- TestNav locks down the student device to ensure valid assessment

The screenshot shows a web browser interface for a math assessment. The browser's address bar shows "Review" and "Bookmark" buttons. The page title is "GRADE 8 MATHEMATICS / NON-CALCULATOR PART / 1 OF 21". The user's name "W. Bruce" is visible in the top right corner. The main content area contains a math problem: "Joanne buys a rectangular rug with an area of $\frac{35}{4}$ square meters. The length of the rug is $\frac{7}{2}$ meters. What is the width, in meters, of the rug? Enter your answer in the space provided. Enter **only** your fraction." Below the problem is a large text input field and a calculator interface with various mathematical symbols and operations.



Online Testing 101

- Students are placed into “Sessions”
- A session is like a classroom (a group of students who will test E/LA or Math together)
 - Test administrators control the sessions
 - Sessions are “Started” when testing begins and “Stopped” when all units in a session are complete
 - Students need “Test Tickets” to log into a session
- All student responses are backed up on their device as they test
- Responses are sent in batches/periodically to the Illinois PARCC servers



Proctor Caching

- Technology that greatly reduces the bandwidth needed for the test
- Usually set up by Technology Coordinator
- Installed on a non-student computer “inside” of the network
- Prior to the test encrypted test content is downloaded to the “cache”



Infrastructure Trial

- Using the PAN Training Site to set up and administer practice tests to check that all parts of the system are ready
 - Dress rehearsal just for technology
 - Dress rehearsal for training (highly recommended)
 - Can be used for student practice
 - Available NOW!



Required Materials

- All online ELA tests require headphones.
- Calculator policy (built in to online tests):
<http://www.isbe.state.il.us/assessment/pdfs/parcc/parcc-calc-policy1014.pdf>
- Math tools policy (built in to online tests)
http://parconline.org/files/119/Mathematics%20Guidance%20Policies/247/PARCC%20Math%20Tools%20Policy%2011-7-14-3_0.pdf



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TEST ADMINISTRATION



Manuals

- Test Coordinator Manuals (TCM) and Test Administrator Manuals (TAM) will be posted on Pearson's Avocet site once they are released:
<http://avocet.pearson.com/PARCC/Home>
- Districts will also receive 1 TCM paper copy per school and 1 TAM paper copy per every 25 students.
- Accessibility Features and Accommodations Manual is already posted.



Establishing a Testing Schedule

- Unit times can be found here:
<http://www.isbe.state.il.us/assessment/pdfs/parcc/2016/2016-spring-PARCC-unit-times.pdf>
- It is recommended that students do not take more than 2 units in 1 day.
- Plan for make-up test sessions for absent students.
- Manual will go into much more detail.



Testing Security

- Paper test booklet and answer documents, online tests, student test tickets, and used scratch paper are all considered secure.
- Districts must develop a security plan to safely handle all materials.
- A security breach could result in score suppressions or other consequences.



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SHIPPING MATERIALS



Receiving Materials & Additional Orders

- Materials should arrive 2 weeks prior to testing.
- After materials have arrived, there will be an additional orders window where districts will be able to place more orders through PAN.
- Users with the appropriate role will be able to place an order that will then go to ISBE for approval.



Returning Materials

- If there are materials to return (paper-based tests), the manual will outline instructions on packing materials and contacting UPS for pickup.
- Manuals are non-secure and do not have to be returned.
- Scratch paper and student test tickets are secure, but should be shredded.



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SUPPORTS



Important Links

- ISBE PARCC Page: <http://www.isbe.state.il.us/assessment/parcc.htm>
- Avocet: <http://avocet.pearson.com/PARCC/Home>
- PearsonAccess Next: <http://pearsonaccessnext.com/>
- PARCConline.org: <http://parcconline.org/>
- PARCC.Pearson.com: <http://parcc.pearson.com/>



Home

The **Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)** is a group of states working together to develop a set of assessments that measure whether students are on track to be successful in college and their careers.

These high quality K–12 assessments in Mathematics and English Language Arts/Literacy give teachers, schools, students, and parents better information whether students are on track in their learning and for success after high school, and tools to help teachers customize learning to meet student needs.



PearsonAccess^{next}

PearsonAccess serves as the entry point to all Pearson services used by school districts participating in the PARCC consortium.

[View PearsonAccess^{next} »](#)

Technology Setup

Prepare your system for the computer-based PARCC assessment. Access System Check, Proctor Caching information, technical user guides and TestNav.

[View Technology Setup »](#)

Manuals & Training

Manuals and training modules are used by Test Coordinators and Administrators to plan and administer the PARCC test.

[View Manuals & Training »](#)

Test Preparation

Users can access sample items, TestNav 8 tutorials, and practice tests to prepare for the PARCC tests.

[View Test Preparation ▾](#)

Bulletins

News for Test Coordinators, Test Administrators, districts and schools.

[View Bulletins »](#)

Support

Assistance is available via email, phone, and frequently asked questions.

[View Support »](#)



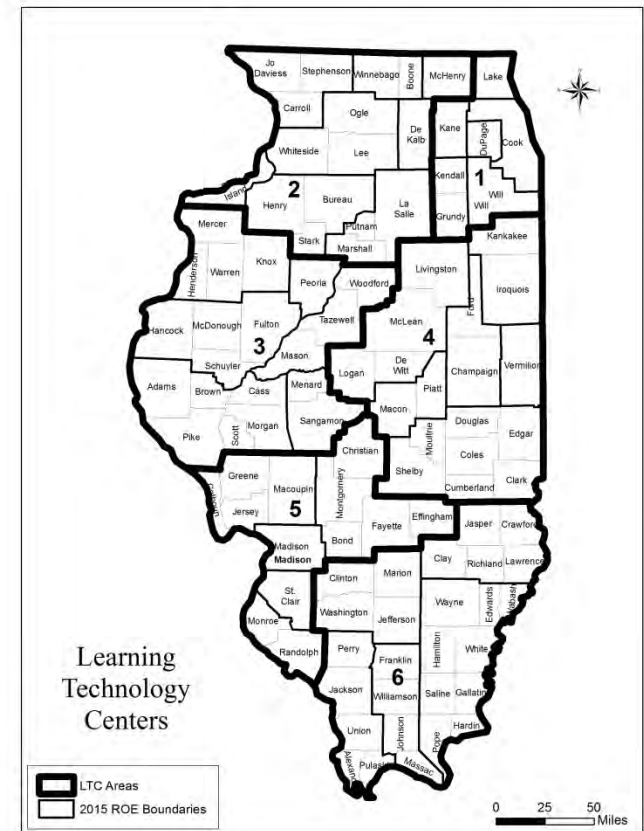
Contact

- Assessment Office
 - 866-317-6034
 - assessment@isbe.net
- PARCC Support Center
 - 888-493-9888
 - parcc@support.pearson.com
- SIS Help Desk
 - 217-558-3600 (Option 2)
- Join our listservs!
 - Assessment Listserv
 - Send a blank email with “SUBSCRIBE” in the subject line to assessment@isbe.net
 - Technology Point-of-Contact Listserv
 - Send a blank email with “SUBSCRIBE” in the subject line to jbaiter@isbe.net



Learning Technology Centers (LTC)

- Located across the state to support technology within schools
- http://www.isbe.state.il.us/ed-technology/html/ltc_listing.htm





Webinars

- Illinois Assessment Updates
 - Currently every other Friday at 10am
 - Will increase in frequency during testing window
- Special Topic webinars
 - Test Administrator Training
 - Infrastructure Trial
 - Etc.

