Information on the 2014 Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT)

All of the reading and mathematics assessments for the 2014 ISAT contain items that have been aligned to Common Core State Standards. This document provides more detailed information about the content and design of the mathematics, reading, and science assessments.

Mathematics Assessments

The overall test design of the operational mathematics assessments will remain the same. As in the past, the ISAT mathematics assessments will be comprised of 68 operational items (items that are used to produce a student's score), and 7 field test items.

- ♦ The operational assessments will consist of 65 multiple-choice items, two short-constructed-response items (SCR), and one extended-response item (ER).
- ♦ The mathematics assessments will be comprised of three sessions. The allotted time for each session is the same as in 2013.
- ◆ The rubric criteria used to score the SCR and ER items will be the same as in past years.
- ◆ The calculator policy for the 2014 assessment will be the same policy as used in 2013.

Reading Assessments

The overall test design of the operational reading assessments will remain the same. As in the past, the ISAT reading assessments will be comprised of 51 operational items (items that are used to produce a student's score). There are a total of 61 items on each reading assessment.

- ♦ The operational assessments will consist of 50 multiple-choice items and one extended-response item (ER).
- ♦ The reading assessments will be comprised of three sessions. The allotted time for each session is the same as in 2013.

- ♦ The assessments will include 10 multiple-choice items to aid in the equating of the assessments. These items are not labeled, and will look the same as the other multiple-choice items on the assessments. Student performance on these items will not contribute to a student's ISAT score.
- ♦ The reading assessments will contain both paired-passages and standalone passages.
- There will be a mixture of non-fiction passages and literary passages.
- ♦ The rubric criteria used to score the ER item will be the same as in past years.

Science Assessments (grades 4 & 7)

The overall test design of the operational science assessments will remain the same.

- ◆ The ISAT science assessments will contain 75 operational items (items that are used to produce a student's score), and 7 field test items.
- ♦ The science assessments remain aligned to the Illinois Frameworks.
- ♦ The science assessments will be comprised of two sessions. The allotted time for each session is the same as in 2013.
- ◆ The items from the abbreviated version of the Stanford 10 have been removed, and replaced with items developed by Illinois educators.

For all three content areas (mathematics, reading, and science), the Stanford 10 items have been removed. For reading and mathematics, they have been replaced with items that align to the Common Core State Standards. For the science assessment, they have been replaced with items developed by Illinois educators.

We will be releasing more specific information about test design (content and coverage) of mathematics, reading, and science assessments. If you have additional questions, please contact the Student Assessment division at 1-866-317-6034.