

Same Standards, Same Content, Improved Administration 2019 // PHASE ONE

The Illinois Assessment of Readiness is a federally required measure of student mastery of the Illinois Learning Standards in English language arts and mathematics in grades 3 through 8 — and their readiness for what's next.

What

Students, families, and schools will experience essentially no difference in the assessment this year. The Illinois Assessment of Readiness measures the same standards and includes the same high-quality test questions used the last four years. Using the same content and measuring the same standards ensures comparability from year to year – an essential commitment to including growth in our support and accountability system. The assessment may be slightly shorter this year to field test new questions needed for the transition to a computer adaptive test.

Who

All students in grades 3 through 8 in Illinois public schools or receiving the tax credit scholarship to attend Illinois private schools.

When

The online assessment window tentatively opens March 11. For the fewer than 10 percent of schools in the state using paper exams, the assessment window opens March 25, due to the logistics of printing and shipping paper. Schools using paper exams will receive the test materials March 18. The assessment window statewide closes April 26.

Why

The improvements to come to the Illinois Assessment of Readiness administration in the next few years reflect active partnership with educators and practitioners to make the assessment even more useful for improving student outcomes. It will provide the option of bringing all accountability assessments onto a single administration and management platform, and will maintain comparability throughout all changes. (See full timeline of changes below.)

How

ISBE has two contracts for the Illinois Assessment of Readiness – one for content and one for administration. Illinois' existing contract with New Meridian provides the assessment's high-quality PARCC content. A one-year contract with Pearson will provide the 2019 administration. The vendor for future administration is pending procurement resolution.

ILLINOIS ASSESSMENT OF READINESS TIMELINE





