Indiana Department of Education
SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS

IREAD-3: Frequently Asked Questions

Question	Answer
1. **Which students are required to participate in IREAD-3?**	Third grade students enrolled in accredited public and nonpublic schools who participate in ISTEP+ and/or IMAST must participate in IREAD-3. {{TABLE1}}
2. **Must students who have been in the U.S. for less than one year and who will take LAS Links also participate in IREAD-3?**	Yes.
3. **What is the expectation for schools whose Spring Break is scheduled for the same week as the IREAD-3 assessment?**	Schools scheduled to be on Spring Break during the IREAD-3 assessment window must complete and submit the *Assessment Date Change Request* form to the IDOE at least three months prior to the established assessment window.
4. **Will IREAD-3 be administered *in addition* to ISTEP+ at grade three?**	Yes. Separate from ISTEP+, IREAD-3 is the assessment Indiana uses to measure reading skills as part of the implementation of PL 109.
5. **Will IREAD-3 still be administered once ISTEP+ is replaced with the Common Core Assessment in 2014-2015?**	As long as PL 109 is in place, a reading assessment will be required.
6. **Is IREAD-3 a section of ISTEP+, or does it replace the reading portion?**	Neither, as IREAD-3 is a **separate** assessment. It does not replace any portion of the existing ISTEP+. Grade 3 students must participate in both ISTEP+ *and* IREAD-3.

Students	Participate in Assessment
Students with a Section 504 Plan	Yes
Students with an IEP	Yes
Students with an ILP	Yes
Students who have been retained twice	Yes
Students who are eligible for ISTAR	No

7.	How long does it take to administer IREAD-3?	IREAD-3 is comprised of three test sessions, all of which may be administered in one day, or throughout the appointed 3-day assessment window, as determined by the local school or district. The approximate time and number of items per test session are indicated below:

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Session	Number of Items*	Instruction Time*	Working Time*	Total Time*
1	13	5 min.	15 min.	20 min.
2	14	3 min.	25 min.	28 min.
3	13	2 min.	22 min.	24 min.
Totals	40	10 min.	62 min.	72 min.

*Times and number of items are approximate.

8.	Does IREAD-3 consist of only multiple-choice items?	Yes. Located on the IDOE web site, the *IREAD-3 Item Sampler* features the different types of multiple-choice questions that could appear on IREAD-3.

9. What IREAD-3 resources are available for parents and teachers?

NEW! *PL 109 & Good Cause Exemptions* (Reference Document)
http://www.doe.in.gov/assessment/iread_resources.html

UPDATED! *IREAD-3 Item Sampler*:
http://www.doe.in.gov/assessment/docs/IREAD-3_Item_Sampler.pdf

UPDATED! *IREAD-3 Test Blueprint*:
http://www.doe.in.gov/assessment/docs/IREAD-3_Blueprint.pdf

IREAD-3 Parent Letter and *IREAD-3 Parent Guidance*:
http://www.doe.in.gov/assessment/iread_resources.html

10.	Will IREAD-3 results be reported in sufficient time to plan for summer intervention if needed?	IREAD-3 results are expected to arrive in schools the first week of April.
11.	Are there any guidelines / expectations for schools and corporations relating to IREAD-3 remediation?	Under State Board rule, schools must provide additional intervention(s) for students who do not pass IREAD-3. The structure and timeline of such interventions are to be determined at the local level and based on student needs.
12.	What happens in a situation where ISTEP+ ELA results differ from IREAD-3 results?	While IREAD-3 and ISTEP+ ELA both measure reading comprehension skills, they differ in that ISTEP+ ELA also assesses language arts standards; IREAD-3 assesses foundational reading skills *only*. Because the assessments are not identical, some differences in results should be expected.
13.	Will *only* IREAD-3 results count when making decisions regarding access to grade four reading instruction?	Yes.

14. What are the consequences for students who do not pass IREAD-3? Is the decision to do so going to be governed by local control?	In accordance with PL 109, students who do not pass the Grade 3 reading assessment (IREAD-3), will continue to receive instruction in Grade 3 Reading, will be officially reported as a third grader, and will fully participate in the Grade 3 ISTEP+ assessment. It is the responsibility of the local school to design a program that meets the learning needs of students. There are a few exceptions to this rule (refer to the *Good Cause Exemptions*; see next question).
15. How will the results of IREAD-3 be used for accountability?	The rule currently being considered by the State Board of Education for A-F category designation does not, at this point, include IREAD-3.
16. What are the Good Cause Exemptions and which students are eligible?	The **Good Cause Exemptions** include:

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1. Students who have previously been retained two times prior to fourth grade.
2. Students with disabilities whose Case Conference Committee has determined that promotion is appropriate.
3. English Learner students whose Individual Learning Plan (ILP) Committee has determined that promotion is appropriate.

Students	Participate in the Assessment	Eligibility for Good Cause Exemption
Students with a Section 504 Plan	Yes	No
Students with an IEP (SWDs)	Yes	Determined by Case Conference Committee
Students with an ILP (ELs)	Yes	Determined by ILP Committee
Students who have been retained twice	Yes	Yes
Students who are eligible for ISTAR	No	N/A

17. How can I access legislative and State Board action regarding IREAD-3?	In 2010, PL 109 was HEA 1367 and information can be found here: http://www.in.gov/legislative/bills/2010/PDF/HE/HE1367.1.pdf

The citations for the statutory language created in HEA 1367 (2010) are in IC 20-32-8.5, which can be found here: http://www.in.gov/legislative/ic/2010/title20/ar32/ch8.5.html

The State Board Rule in the IAC can be found under Rule 3.1 here: http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/T05110/A00062.PDF

The final rule as published in the Indiana Register can be found here: http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/20110420-IR-511100635FRA.xml.pdf |

18. Is IREAD-3 administered online or using paper-and-pencil formats?	<u>Spring 2012</u>: • IREAD-3 will be administered using a paper-and-pencil format. • IREAD-3 pilot test forms will be administered in paper-and-pencil and **online** formats. <u>Summer 2012</u>: • IREAD-3 testing will be administered **online**. • A paper-and-pencil test will be available ***only*** as an accommodation per a student's IEP.
19. When / how will IREAD-3 pilot schools be identified and notified? Will schools have an opportunity to volunteer?	Pilot schools will be selected based on specific demographic criteria in order to fulfill the requirement for a representative sample. Information about pilot schools will be shared with Corporation Test Coordinators.
20. Has the state decided what defines "reading level"? Lexiles for example?	The IREAD-3 assessment measures foundational skills in reading through grade three. As with all of our state assessments, a committee of Indiana educators recommended a passing or "cut" score to the State Board of Education; the State Board approved the recommended cut score at their August 2011 meeting. Meeting expectations for "reading level" were determined by the cut score.
21. Will IREAD-3 follow other state assessments with allowable accommodations that must be addressed in the IEP, Section 504 Plan, and/or an ILP (EL plan)?	As with all of our state assessments, the IREAD-3 test administration includes accommodations. See Appendix C of the 2011-2012 ISTEP+ Program Manual (www.doe.in.gov/assessment/iread_resources.html) for specific information.
22. When is the summer retest window?	The window is June 25 – July 27, 2012. **Online** test administration may begin on **June 13**. More details will be shared as they become available.
23. Will retest opportunities be offered throughout the school year?	IREAD-3 retest opportunities will occur in the summer.
24. Which students participate in the summer retest?	The IREAD-3 Summer Retest is for Grade 3 students who: • did not pass IREAD-3 in March and have since been provided remediation in reading • were absent during the March window and need to take IREAD-3 for the first time

Email your IREAD question(s): IREAD@doe.in.gov

IREAD for K-2: Frequently Asked Questions

Question	Answer
1. **Will schools be required to administer the IREAD K-2 assessments?**	IREAD-K, IREAD-1, and IREAD-2 were created to help schools monitor student progress and provide appropriate instruction prior to grade three. Schools may choose to use these "no-stakes" assessments, which provide teachers with the feedback necessary to track student progress and to make instructional decisions that will help ensure student success on IREAD-3.
2. **When will the IREAD K-2 assessments become available to schools?**	The assessments will be available for operational use in Spring 2012.
3. **How do schools sign up to take the IREAD K-2 assessments?**	There is no need to sign-up for these assessments, as they will be made available on a secure web site for access by Corporation Test Coordinators.
4. **Will any costs to schools be associated with the IREAD K-2 assessments?**	Costs will likely include those associated with printing and scoring the assessments at the local level.
5. **Will the IREAD K-2 assessments be given to students online or will they be administered to students by the teacher individually or whole group with pencil-and-paper?**	IREAD-K, IREAD-1, and IREAD-2 will be administered in paper-and-pencil format. Most assessments will be administered to individual students by their teacher.
6. **How frequently are the IREAD K-2 assessments administered?**	As IREAD K-2 assessments are summative in nature, they are designed to be administered **once** during the last 4-5 weeks of the school year in each participating school corporation.
7. **How can I learn more about IREAD K-2?**	IREAD-K, IREAD-1, and IREAD-2 item samplers will soon be posted on the IDOE's website and in the Indiana Literacy Liaison Community of the Learning Connection. Look for more information soon!

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