

Indiana Department of Education

Indiana Core Academic Skills Assessment (CASA) Standards for Educators

Reading - Mathematics - Writing

Teacher candidates must pass the Core Academic Skills Assessments (CASA) or meet an approved alternative* **before** admission to a teacher education program. This requirement ensures demonstration of candidate proficiency in basic reading, mathematics, and writing prior to program admission. (511 IAC 13-1-1)

*Visit <http://www.doe.in.gov/licensing/teacher-testing> for more details .

Standard 1: Meaning of Words and Phrases

Indiana educators demonstrate the ability to determine the meaning of words and phrases in context, including:

- 1.1 applying knowledge of word structure, context, and syntax to determine the meanings of words and phrases in a text
- 1.2 determining the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases
- 1.3 understanding figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings
- 1.4 determining the denotative and connotative meanings of words and phrases

Standard 2: Main Idea, Supporting Details, and Text Structure

Indiana educators demonstrate understanding of the central ideas, supporting details, and structure of a text, including:

- 2.1 determining the central ideas or themes of a text
- 2.2 analyzing the development of central ideas or themes of a text
- 2.3 analyzing the structure of a text, including how specific sentences and paragraphs relate to one another
- 2.4 recognizing ideas that support, illustrate, or elaborate the main idea of a text
- 2.5 recognizing an effective summary or outline of the main idea and key supporting ideas and details of a text

Standard 3: Purpose and Point of View

Indiana educators demonstrate understanding of the writer's purpose and point of view, including:

- 3.1 recognizing a writer's stated or implied purpose for writing
- 3.2 recognizing how a writer's choice of words or phrases expresses meaning and influences readers
- 3.3 determining a writer's opinion or point of view
- 3.4 assessing how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text

Standard 4: Critical Reasoning

Indiana educators use critical-reasoning skills to evaluate texts, including:

- 4.1 identifying cause-and-effect relationships in a text
- 4.2 drawing conclusions and making inferences from stated or implied information in a text
- 4.3 recognizing the assumptions on which an argument depends
- 4.4 evaluating the argument and claims made in a text, including the validity of the reasoning and the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence
- 4.5 analyzing how two or more texts address similar themes or topics
- 4.6 assessing the credibility, objectivity, or bias of a text

Standard 5: Clear and Coherent Writing

Indiana educators understand how to produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience, including:

- 5.1 recognizing writing that is effective for a given purpose, audience, and occasion
- 5.2 using strategies that achieve unity and focus in writing
- 5.3 selecting effective thesis statements, topic sentences, and supporting details
- 5.4 recognizing methods of effectively organizing paragraphs and passages
- 5.5 organizing text to give effective emphasis to important words, phrases, and ideas
- 5.6 reorganizing sentences or paragraphs to achieve a logical sequence of ideas
- 5.7 selecting effective transitions between ideas and using transitions to clarify relationships among ideas

Standard 6: Strong and Developed Writing

Indiana educators understand how to develop and strengthen writing by revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, including:

- 6.1 editing text to introduce and conclude ideas effectively
- 6.2 editing text to coordinate and subordinate ideas effectively
- 6.3 editing text to create or improve the parallel structure of words, phrases, or ideas
- 6.4 revising text to eliminate distracting or unnecessary information or details
- 6.5 revising text to achieve precise and appropriate language
- 6.6 revising text to replace imprecise or inappropriate words or phrases
- 6.7 revising text to eliminate wordiness and redundancy
- 6.8 revising text to eliminate unnecessary shifts in point of view
- 6.9 revising text to eliminate misplaced or dangling modifiers, ambiguous or awkward pronoun references, and shifts in tense or mood

Standard 7: Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics

Indiana educators demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, and mechanics, including:

- 7.1 applying knowledge of the standard use of verb forms
- 7.2 applying knowledge of the standard use of pronouns
- 7.3 applying knowledge of the standard use of adjectives and adverbs
- 7.4 applying knowledge of the standard use of prepositions
- 7.5 applying knowledge of subject-verb agreement and pronoun-antecedent agreement
- 7.6 applying knowledge of the standard use of comparatives, superlatives, and possessives
- 7.7 applying knowledge of the rules of spelling and of commonly misspelled words
- 7.8 applying knowledge of the rules of capitalization and the standard use of capital letters
- 7.9 applying knowledge of the rules of punctuation and the standard use of punctuation marks

Standard 8: Writing Assignment

Indiana educators demonstrate the ability to write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence, including:

- 8.1 analyzing the claims made in a substantive informational text
- 8.2 writing arguments to support claims and counterclaims with clear reasons and relevant evidence
- 8.3 stating and maintaining focus on key ideas through the use of a clear thesis statement and topic sentences
- 8.4 organizing ideas effectively and maintaining a logical sequence of ideas
- 8.5 establishing and maintaining a formal style and objective tone
- 8.6 providing a conclusion that follows from and supports the argument presented
- 8.7 using language and vocabulary that are clear, precise, and appropriate for a given audience and purpose
- 8.8 demonstrating command of the conventions of standard English grammar
- 8.9 demonstrating command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling

Standard 9: Number and Quantity

Indiana educators demonstrate knowledge of number systems, number representations, number operations, and basic number theory, including:

- 9.1 recognizing, converting among, and ordering various representations of rational numbers (e.g., integers, fractions, decimals, powers)
- 9.2 representing rational and irrational numbers on number lines and coordinate axes
- 9.3 computing fluently with rational numbers, including applying order of operations
- 9.4 solving multistep problems and estimating solutions to problems using a variety of number representations
- 9.5 finding common factors and multiples of multidigit numbers
- 9.6 recognizing and representing ratio concepts (e.g., proportions, unit rates, percents)
- 9.7 applying ratio concepts and proportional reasoning to solve mathematical and real-world problems

Standard 10: Algebra and Functions

Indiana educators demonstrate knowledge of mathematical expressions, basic algebraic techniques, and the use of equations and inequalities to model and solve problems, including:

- 10.1 applying properties of arithmetic to algebraic expressions
- 10.2 solving one-variable equations and inequalities
- 10.3 evaluating algebraic expressions for a given value of a variable
- 10.4 recognizing equivalent versions of algebraic expressions
- 10.5 recognizing the difference between an independent and a dependent variable
- 10.6 analyzing and solving linear equations and systems of equations
- 10.7 using variables and algebraic expressions to model and solve real-world problems

Standard 11: Measurement and Geometry

Indiana educators demonstrate knowledge of the principles and procedures of measurement, basic properties of two- and three-dimensional figures, and reasoning in geometry, including:

- 11.1 solving mathematical and real-world problems involving area, surface area, and volume of two- and three-dimensional figures
- 11.2 recognizing and representing polygons on a coordinate plane
- 11.3 solving problems involving scale drawings
- 11.4 applying the formulas for the circumference and area of a circle
- 11.5 using facts about complementary, supplementary, vertical, and adjacent angles to solve multistep problems
- 11.6 . applying the concepts of similarity and congruence
- 11.7 applying the Pythagorean theorem

Standard 12: Statistics and Probability

Indiana educators demonstrate knowledge of the collection, presentation, and interpretation of data, and of the fundamental properties of probability, including:

- 12.1 displaying and interpreting data presented in a variety of formats (e.g., dot plots, histograms, circle graphs)
- 12.2 using and interpreting measures of center (e.g., mean, median, mode) and spread (e.g., standard deviation, interquartile range, outliers) in context
- 12.3 using random sampling to draw inferences about populations
- 12.4 making inferences about populations that are based on comparisons of center, variability, and visual overlap of distributions
- 12.5 interpreting scatter plots and estimating lines of fit for data involving two variables
- 12.6 applying fundamental properties of probability to estimate the outcomes of events
- 12.7 determining probabilities using various representations (e.g., Venn diagrams, tree graphs)