

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education
FROM: Dr. Charity Flores; Maggie Paino
RE: Statewide Assessment Administration for High Schools
DATE: September 6, 2017

The Department received questions and concerns from educators and administrators following the dissemination of the State Board approval in May to administer the ISTEP+ Grade 10 Mathematics assessment to students in Grade 9 enrolled in Algebra I. Based on this surge of questions and concerns, the Department revisited guidance related to this decision. The Department proposes an alternative for approval to alleviate administrative concerns in the field while being mindful of the statistical analysis and monetary burden associated with this decision. A revised decision informs a more streamlined implementation as we consider accountability associated with the transition to ILEARN.

Table 1 below notes the following changes:

- Grade 9 students in 2017-18 will not be assessed in Mathematics for state or federal accountability.
 - Grade 9 students in 2017-18 will be administered the Grade 10 ISTEP+ Mathematics assessment in Grade 10 during 2018-19.
 - Grade 8 students enrolled in Algebra I during 2017-18 must participate in Grade 8 ISTEP+. They may also participate in the ECA in 2018-19 for accountability since the ECA was not available when these students completed the course¹.
- All students enrolled in Algebra I during 2018-19 will be assessed utilizing new end-of-course assessments.

Table 1.²

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
8 TH GRADE	ISTEP+ 8	ILEARN 8 or New ECA	ILEARN 8 or New ECA	ILEARN 8 or New ECA	ILEARN 8 or New ECA	ILEARN 8 or New ECA
9 TH GRADE	Not Assessed	New ECA	New ECA or More Rigorous	New ECA or More Rigorous	New ECA or More Rigorous	New ECA or More Rigorous
10 TH GRADE	ISTEP+ 10	ISTEP+ 10	New ECA	New ECA or More Rigorous	New ECA or More Rigorous	New ECA or More Rigorous
11 TH GRADE	ISTEP+ 10 (retest)	ISTEP+ 10 (retest)	ISTEP+ 10 (retest)	New ECA (retest)	New ECA (retest) or More Rigorous	New ECA (retest) or More Rigorous
12 TH GRADE	Old ECA (retest)	ISTEP+ 10 (retest)	ISTEP+ 10 (retest)	ISTEP+ 10 (retest)	New ECA (retest)	New ECA (retest) or More Rigorous

¹ An independent calibration of this data may be needed to ensure validity considering regression in the retention of content.

² Decisions regarding higher level math assessment will be made at a later time.



Dr. Jennifer McCormick
Superintendent of Public Instruction

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Working Together for Student Success

This table reflects a thoughtful transition for graduation requirements and accountability pending final recommendations regarding graduation pathways that are under development through Fall 2017.