ISPROUT Frequently Asked Questions

Office of Assessment: (317) 232-9050
ISPROUT/KReady Technical Help Desk: 888-602-8343

Test Administration

Q: Which students are required to have a completed ISPROUT assessment?
A: Early childhood students beginning at age three with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) must take ISPROUT.

Q: Are students with a Service Plan required to have ISPROUT administered?
A: No. Only students with an IEP are **required**; however, they can be assessed with ISPROUT if you choose to do so.

Q: Can we use ISPROUT for students without an IEP?
A: Yes. if you are interested in using ISPROUT with other students, contact Felecia Jordan for further instructions on this process.

Q: Do speech-only students need to be assessed with ISPROUT?
A: Yes. The Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) will have access to ISPROUT. They will only address the Skills Knowledge and Behaviors (SKBs) they can observe during their time with the student. The remaining SKBs will be identified as "NE" with a note indicating the student is speech only.

Q: Do I have to complete ISPROUT for students that started our program with ISTAR-KR?
A: No. A linking study will be completed between ISTAR-KR and ISPROUT. Students should be assessed with ISPROUT only beginning September 1 as part of the required population for Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) reporting.

Q: How soon do students need to be assessed?
A: New students need to be assessed within six weeks of starting in your school.

Q: How often will ISPROUT be required?
A: A student is required to be assessed twice.
      1. At the entrance into the program (within six weeks of entrance)

2. At their exit either when services are no longer needed or the student leaves for kindergarten. (within six weeks prior to the exit/end of school year prior to kindergarten enrollment)

Following best practices in data collection, we also suggest utilizing this tool for progress monitoring as well. This could be in the form of an interim assessment annually near the annual case review or student birthdate.

Q: We already started assessing our students with ISTAR-KR this year (e.g., Fall 2019). Do we still need to complete ISPROUT?

A: Yes. All *new* students starting your program with an IEP will need to have a completed ISPROUT assessment.

Q: Does evidence have to be added to each of the SKBs for all students?

A: No. Evidence is recommended to support student ratings. Some evidence may include multiple students and would not be attached to the student record. It may be noted that the evidence is in the teacher files.

Q: Will parents see the evidence that is attached to the SKB?

A: No. Evidence will not be a part of any printable report available for parents.

Q: Will we be gathering information for these assessments from the parents?

A: Parent information will not be utilized in the rating of student SKBs. The intent for the assessment data is to capture elements from the educators in order to maintain reliability of reporting. You may use the information provided by the parents to elicit observing the skills in the classroom.

Q: Will Head Start, PaCT, or other general education Pre-K programs be using this tool as well?

A: Yes. Any site with student with an IEP can utilize the tool independently or in conjunction with other services being provided for the students by their home school. The teachers can attend training or be trained by an educator having completed the training of trainers program.

Policy Guidance

Q: Will ISPROUT be used for On My Way PreK?

A: On My Way PreK is overseen by Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA). FSSA will offer guidance regarding the assessment requirements.

Q: Will ISPROUT be used to meet the requirements for Paths to Quality accreditation?

A: Paths to Quality is overseen by FSSA.Students who are not currently served by an IEP could opt into the assessment at an additional cost annually.These details will be managed by Johns Hopkins. Contact Felecia Jordan for further instructions on this process.

Q: Will ISPROUT be administered to students with no mode of communication?

A: Yes. The Office of Assessment is working to determine the SKBs that would be impacted by this.

Training

Q: Why is the teacher training ten hours?

A: Training times may vary by participant and the training plan for the school. Generally, the training can take about a day for the educator and consists of both onsite training conducted by their trained site facilitator and online modules that are self-paced.

Q: What options do teachers have for training?

A: There are three recommended options for trainers to provide training for teachers. Each option ends with the simulation and content assessment. Trainers can work with their districts to create a plan that fits their needs ensuring teachers complete the end assessment and simulation for certification.

1. Two-part face-to-face training: Participants complete Modules 1-7 in two sessions of face-to-face training.
2. 100-percent online training: Participants complete Modules 1-7 online.
3. Two-part blended training: Participants complete Modules 1-4 independently prior to face-to-face training, where participants complete Modules 5-7.

Q: Is the face-to-face time one-on-one?

A: It is not required for the face-to-face time to be one-on-one. It can be in small or larger group settings. For some groups, it may be done remotely via online meeting software to allow for easier scheduling and access.

Q: Can trainers work with teachers in a fully online training option?

A: Yes. Trainers have flexibility to ensure all teachers receive the support needed.

Q: Can teachers take the simulation and assessment independently?

A: Yes. Once teachers have completed the modules, simulation and assessment, they will need to save a copy of their certificate and send to their designated trainer.

Q: Can trainers work with teachers outside of their corporation?

A: Yes. Once a trainer has been certified, they can assist any teacher working through the certification process. There are several corporations and special education cooperatives working together to provide the needed training and support to their teachers serving the required assessed population.

Q: is there a practice site for teachers to use prior to working in ISPROUT with their own students?
A: Yes. There is a "playground" site that will be shared by the trainer for this purpose.

Q: Can we have more than one data manager?
A: Yes. Contact Felecia Jordan at fjordan1@doe.in.gov with the name, email and district(s) needed for the data manager.

System and Reporting
Q: We are part of a coop and work with multiple school districts. Can we see all of our students?
A: Yes. You can be given access to multiple districts/schools to access the appropriate student data.

Q: Can students be assessed by more than one teacher?
A: Yes. Students can be seen by educators assigned to the student to allow for a more comprehensive assessment.

Q: Can the student's classroom teacher have ISPROUT access?
A: Yes. You may provide training for classroom teachers, Speech Language Pathologists, Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists, that would have input on the student's progress in the SKBs. Please ensure to be mindful of FERPA requirements when providing access to student data to individuals.

Q: How are teachers and students added to ISPROUT?
A: Data Managers maintain the teacher and student database.

Q: What is the teacher ID?
A: It can be the School Personnel Number (SPN), email address, or number assigned by the district can be used.

Q: If a student leaves our school, what happens to that student's data?

A: The data will remain in the ELA system and can be transferred to the student's new school.

Q: I received a new student from another district/school. How do I get them added to my class?

A: Your Data Manager will request a student transfer from the originating school and add him/her to your class.

Q: Where do I log into ISPROUT/ELA?

A: Access this link: https://indiana.kready.org.

Q: How do I get the app?

A: In your app or play store, search "Early Learning Assessment". You will see Johns Hopkins Technology listed with it.

Q: Can I use the app on my phone?

A: Maybe. It will work on some phones, you will have to try yours to determine the functionality of the app. Please be sure that your local policy regarding security and student information is maintained.