

Universal Screener Information:

Who is screened, who is exempt, choosing a screener, administration of the screener, screener performance, and universal screener list

Updated June 2020

All new or updated screeners and information are listed in red. See table 1 for more information.

Based on feedback from the field, NWEA Skills checklist is approved for first through twelfth grade for the decoding section only.

Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) MAP Fluency foundational skills and oral reading fluency screeners are approved K-3. See table 1 for additions.

All students in grades kindergarten through second grade are required to be screened for dyslexia IC 20-35.5, *et seq.*, as created by SEA 217 (2018) beginning in the 2019-2020 school year. The Indiana Department of Education's (IDOE) role is to provide the list of approved screeners. Early identification of students "at some risk" or "at risk" for dyslexia is critical for the development of early and appropriate interventions to support the student before they begin to fall behind their peers.

The universal screener is an assessment for understanding students' literacy performance, both strengths and areas of concern. Universal screeners focus on specific areas and are typically brief, but determine those students who are "at some risk" or "at risk". Universal screeners are used for the initial screening of students, and shall include the following, as determined to be developmentally appropriate, for each student:

1. Phonological and phonemic awareness
2. Sound symbol recognition
3. Alphabet knowledge
4. Decoding skills
5. Rapid naming, and
6. Encoding skills

Who should be screened?

IC 20-35.5-2-6 states the universal screener will be given to the following students:

- 1) In kindergarten, grade one and two
- 2) When a student in kindergarten, grade one, and grade two:
 - a. Transfers to a new school; and
 - b. Has not been screened previously during the school year;

- 3) When a student in grade three or higher has difficulty, as noted by a classroom teacher, in:
 - a. Phonological and phonemic awareness
 - b. Sound symbol recognition
 - c. Alphabet knowledge
 - d. Decoding skills
 - e. Rapid naming skills and
 - f. Encoding skills
- 4) When a student from another state enrolls for the first time in kindergarten, grade one, and grade two in Indiana unless the student presents documentation that the student
 - a. Had the dyslexia screening or a similar screening during the school year;
or
 - b. Is exempt from the screening

Exemptions from being screened:

Chapter 2 Section 8 states that a school corporation or charter school is not required to administer a universal screener if the:

- 1) Parent of the student objects to the screening; or
- 2) Student is receiving intervention services for dyslexia.

For information on giving the universal screener to special education and English language learners, please consult the guidance documents available on IDOE dyslexia website.

Choosing a Screener

In the law, IDOE approves the dyslexia screening tools. **There are some screeners that cover all six subsets, but many screeners only cover some of the six subsets.** A combination of several screeners will address all subsets. Instead, districts will need to select several screeners to address all subsets. IDOE provides two tools to assist in this process: 1) the Arkansas Rapid Automated Naming Screener to schools at no cost and 2) the “Universal Screener Planning Checklist” with an example. These are located on the dyslexia website and in the Indiana Dyslexia Resource Guide.

Administering Screeners

Personnel administering the screener must be trained to implement the specific tools in a valid and reliable manner. This requires communicating with the publisher of the screener to receive training and may require setting aside time and money for attending screening training. School resources and student enrollment will influence individual corporation’s decisions about who should give and score the screening tools. Because the data will be used to help guide instruction, it may be useful for those who work directly with students during literacy instruction to participate in screening, scoring, and progress monitoring.

Screener Performance

The performance criteria (i.e. cut-points, benchmarks) from the Universal Screener will determine if the student is unlikely to achieve reading goals without additional targeted

intensive support, those who are considered “at risk” and “at some risk”. Universal screeners are a predictive assessments that measures risk factors for dyslexia through a “snapshot” of the student’s reading. The results may not provide the details needed to develop an instructional plan of appropriate interventions. To gain more detailed information the student is given a Level I Dyslexia Screener as explained in “Level I Screener Information” found in the dyslexia website and in the Indiana Dyslexia Resource Guide. If additional diagnostic information is needed, a Level II screener is administered as described in Level II Screener Information.

Table 1: Universal Screeners: IDOE Vetted and Approved Updated June 2020

IDOE reviewed these screeners and found them to be acceptable in terms of reliability and validity, ease of use for those conducting the screening, brief, screen the required component, and developmentally appropriate for the grade.

Universal screeners are considered a predictive assessment to measure dyslexia risk factors that provide a snapshot of the student's literacy skills. It does NOT detail the student's precise deficits or where to begin an intervention.

Information Updated on 3.19:

Due to some reorganization in the ownership and distribution of DIBELS, the word use fluency screener is no longer available. As a result, **the nonsense word fluency (NWF) screener may be used to screen both the phonics AND decoding subset in KINDERGARTEN ONLY!**

Please continue to use the nonsense word fluency (NWF) to screen the sound symbol relationship (phonics) subset and the oral reading (ORF) passage to screen the decoding subset in first grade and above.

Many of the universal screeners, including DIBELS and Acadience Reading, do not explicitly screen letter naming (alphabet knowledge) in second grade or have a phonological/phonemic awareness screener option for first and second grade.

IC 20-35.5, *et seq.*, requires that all students in grades kindergarten, first, and second grade be screened in all six subset areas (phonological/phonemic awareness, alphabet knowledge, sound symbol relationship, decoding, rapid naming, and encoding) every academic year regardless of prior years' performance.

The test publisher may not have cut scores for these subset areas in these grades, but schools have the local control to create benchmarks and set what is considered "at risk" and "at some risk". This means that schools have the local control to decide what is below benchmark and "at risk" and "at some risk" in these specific subsets for these grades when the test publisher does not issue benchmarks.

Acadience Reading Survey is published as DIBELS Next Survey. If using Acadience Reading Survey, please reference DIBELS Next Survey for what subset areas are covered with this screener.

AimswEB 1.0 is scheduled to be retired on July 31st. AimswEB 1.0 AND aimswEBPlus are both approved. Please contact the test publisher about the transition from aimswEB 1.0 to aimswEBPlus.

mCLASS with DIBELS Next and MCLASS with DIBELS 8th Edition follows the same screeners in each subset areas as DIBELS Next and DIBELS 8th Edition listed below.

Universal Screeners	
Required Component	Possible Screening Tools
<p>Phonological and Phonemic Awareness- the ability to recognize and manipulate the sound system in spoken language</p> <p><i>Note: May use a Phonological and Phonemic Awareness from any screener for a student in <u>grades 3-12</u> as needed and available.</i></p>	<p>Aimsweb: Phoneme Segmentation Fluency (K-1)</p> <p>AimswebPlus: Phoneme Segmentation (K-1)</p> <p>AimswebPlus: Initial Sounds (K) <i>Note: Required to give initial sounds AND phoneme segmentation in K</i></p> <p>Classworks Universal Screener: Phonemic Awareness (K-6)</p> <p>CORE Assessing Reading: Multiple Measures: Phoneme Segmentation Test (K-12)</p> <p>DIBELS 6th Edition: Phoneme Segmentation Fluency (K-2)</p> <p>DIBELS 6th Edition: Initial Sound Fluency (K) <i>Note: Initial Sound Fluency is optional, but recommended for K</i></p> <p>DIBELS NEXT: Phoneme Segmentation Fluency (K-2)</p> <p>DIBELS NEXT: First Sound Fluency (K) <i>Note: First Sound Fluency is optional, but recommended for K</i></p> <p>DIBELS 8th Edition: Phoneme Segmentation Fluency (K-1)</p> <p>EL Education Benchmark Assessment: All Phonological and Phonemic Awareness (K-2)</p> <p>Exact Path: Phonological Awareness (K-8)</p> <p>FastBridge Learning: Early Learning: Phonological and Phonemic Awareness (K-3)</p> <p>Fastbridge Learning: earlyReading: Onset Sounds, Word Rhyming (PreK-3)</p> <p>Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System (BAS) All phonological and phonemic awareness subtests (K-1)</p> <p>Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Assessment (K or1) Use grade and time of year to dictate which assessment used</p> <p>Heggerty 2nd Grade and Above PA Intervention Screening (2-12+)</p> <p>Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Amira Learning: Phonological and Phonemic Awareness (K-3)</p>

	<p>Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Foundational Reading Assessment: Phonological Awareness (K-3)</p> <p>i-Ready: Phonological/Phonemic Awareness (K-12) <i>(Set developmental level to assess this skill in K-2)</i></p> <p>Istation ISIP: Phonemic Awareness (K-1)</p> <p>iSTEEP: Initial Sound Fluency (K-1)</p> <p>Predictive Assessment of Reading (PAR): Phonemic Awareness (K-3)</p> <p>MindPlay: Phonemic Awareness Screener (K-12)</p> <p>Scholastic Next Steps in Guided Reading Assessment: Phonological and Phonemic Awareness (K-2)</p> <p>PALS-K: Rhyme, Beginning Sound Awareness (K)</p> <p>PALS Plus: Blending, Sound To Letter (1-8) Full Diagnostic Requirement</p> <p>NWEA Skills Checklist: Phonological Awareness & Phoneme Identification Assessments (<u>Assessment will include all parts listed: rhyming, identifying number of syllables, blending, initial consonant blend, final consonant sounds, middle vowel sounds</u>) (K-12)</p> <p>NWEA MAP Reading Fluency Foundational Skills: Phonemic Awareness (K-3)</p> <p>Renaissance STAR Early Literacy: Phonemic awareness rhyming, blending, segmenting, initial, final, and medial phonemes, adding/substituting phonemes (K-2)</p>
<p>Alphabet Knowledge-the ability to automatically recognize and name the 26 lowercase and 26 uppercase letters with ease and accuracy.</p> <p><i>Note: May use letter naming from any screener for a student in <u>grades 3-12</u> as needed and available.</i></p>	<p>Aimsweb: Letter Naming Fluency (LNF) (K-1)</p> <p>AimswebPlus: Letter Naming Fluency (K-1)</p> <p>CORE Assessing Reading: Multiple Measures: Letter Names Upper and Lowercase (K-12)</p> <p>DIBELS 6th Edition: Letter Naming Fluency (LNF) (K-2)</p> <p>DIBELS NEXT: Letter Naming Fluency (LNF) (K-2)</p> <p>DIBELS 8th Edition: Letter Naming Fluency (K-1)</p>

	<p>EL Education Benchmark Assessment: Letter Name (K-2)</p> <p>Fastbridge Learning: earlyReading: Letter Names (PreK-3)</p> <p>Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System (BAS) Letter Recognition (K-2)</p> <p>Heggerty Letter Names & Sound Assessment-Letter Name Only (K-12)</p> <p>Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Amira Learning: Recognize Letters (K-3)</p> <p>Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Foundational Reading Assessment: Letter-Word Recognition (K-3)</p> <p>i-Ready: Alphabet Knowledge (K-12) <i>(Set developmental level to assess this skill in K-2)</i></p> <p>iSTEEP: Letter Naming (K)</p> <p>MindPlay: Alphabet Knowledge AND Letter Discrimination (2-12)</p> <p>Scholastic Next Steps in Guided Reading Assessment: Upper and Lowercase Letter Recognition (K-2)</p> <p><u>NWEA Skills Checklist: Letter Identification (Assessment will include all parts listed: upper case and lower case) (K-12) (Must give in K-2)</u></p> <p>PALS-K: Alphabet Knowledge (K)</p> <p>PALS Plus: Alphabet Knowledge (1-8) Full Diagnostic Requirement</p> <p>Renaissance STAR: Early Literacy: Letters, alphabetic sequence, visual discrimination, visual discrimination (K-2)</p> <p>Words Their Way PreK-K: Assessments for Emergent Readers- Alphabet Recognition- Capitals and Lowercase letters (K-12)</p>
<p>Sound Symbol Recognition-to automatically produce sound(s) or grapheme names (grade level letters or letter clusters) during recognition, production, and/or writing tasks.</p>	<p>Aimsweb: Letter Sound Fluency (K-1)</p> <p>AimswebPlus: Letter Word Sound Fluency (K-1)</p> <p>Classworks Universal Screener: Phonics (K-6)</p> <p>CORE Assessing Reading: Multiple Measures: Letter Sounds: Consonant, long Vowels, and Short Vowels (K-12)</p> <p>DIBELS 6th Edition: Nonsense Word Fluency (K-2)</p>

Note: May use phonics portion from any screener for a student in grades 3-12 as needed and available.

- DIBELS NEXT: Nonsense Word Fluency (K-2)
- DIBELS 8th Edition: Nonsense Word Fluency (K-3)
- EL Education Benchmark Assessment: Sound Identification (K-2)
- Exact Path: Phonics (K-8)
- FastBridge Learning Early Learning: Phonics (K-3)
- Fastbridge Learning: earlyReading: Letter Sounds (PreK-3)
- Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System (BAS)
All Phonics subtests (K-2)
- Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Amira Learning: Measuring Sound Production (K-3)**
- Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Foundational Reading Assessment: Phonics (Word Attack) Skills (K-3)
- i-Ready: Sound Symbol Recognition (K-12)
(Set developmental level to assess this skill in K-2)
- iSTEEP: Letter Sounds (K-1)
- Istation: ISIP: Letter Knowledge (K-1)
- MindPlay: Phonics Screener (K-12)**
- Next Steps in Guided Reading Assessment: Sound Knowledge (K-2)
- NWEA Skills Checklist: Phonics: Matching Letters to Sound (Assessment will include all parts listed: consonants, vowels, letter knowledge, letter-sound fluency, build words: one letter, silent one syllable word reading) (K-12)**
- NWEA MAP Reading Fluency Reading Foundational Skills: Phonics (K-3)
- PALS-K: Letter Sounds, Spelling (K)
- PALS Plus: Letter Sounds, Spelling (1-8) Full Diagnostic Requirement
- Predictive Assessment of Reading (PAR):
Letter-Word Calling (K-3)

	<p>Renaissance STAR: Early Literacy: Sound/Symbol correspondence, phonics (K-2)</p>
<p>Decoding Skills- to translate words, word parts, or nonwords into their corresponding pronunciation. <i>Note: May use decoding portion from any screener for a student in grades 3-12 as needed and available.</i></p>	<p>Aimsweb: Nonsense Word Fluency (K-1) Aimsweb: Oral Reading Fluency (1-3) <i>(Choose either nonsense word or oral reading fluency in grade 1)</i></p> <p>AIMSWebPlus: Word Reading Fluency (K-1)</p> <p>Classworks Universal Screener: Decoding (K-6)</p> <p>CORE Literacy Library: Multiple Measures Assessing Reading: Reading and Decoding ALL Parts (K-12)</p> <p>DIBELS 6th Edition: Nonsense Word Fluency (K) DIBELS 6th Edition: Oral Reading Fluency (DORF) (1-6) (No Retell)</p> <p>DIBELS NEXT: Nonsense Word Fluency (K) DIBELS NEXT: Oral Reading Fluency (DORF) (1-6) (No Retell)</p> <p>DIBELS 8th Edition: Nonsense Word Fluency (K) DIBELS 8th Edition: Oral Reading Fluency (1-8) (No Retell)</p> <p>Decoding-Encoding Screener for Dyslexia (DESD) (1-8)</p> <p>EL Education Benchmark Assessment: Decoding Skills (K-2)</p> <p>Fastbridge Learning: earlyReading: Decodable Word Reading (PreK-3)</p> <p>Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System (BAS) <i>Use suggested on grade level reading passage read orally (K-8)</i></p> <p>Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Amira Learning: Translate Words and Word Parts (K-3)</p> <p>i-Ready: Decoding (K-12) <i>(Set developmental level to assess this skill in K-2)</i></p> <p>iSTEEP: Word Identification (K) iSTEEP: Nonsense Word Fluency (NWF) (1) iSTEEP: Oral Reading Fluency (ORF) (1-8) <i>Choose either NWF or ORF for iSTEEP 1st grade</i></p> <p>MindPlay: Phonics AND Natural Fluency (K-12)</p> <p>Scholastic Next Steps in Guided Reading Assessment: Grade level Reading Record: No Comprehension (K-2)</p>

	<p>NWEA Skills Checklist: Consonant Blends and Digraphs Assessment (Assessment will include all listed: initial and final blend, initial and final digraphs) (1-12)</p> <p>NWEA MAP Reading Fluency: Oral Reading Fluency- Separate screener, given in conjunction with Foundational Skills Based on grade level (K-3)</p> <p>Renaissance STAR Early Literacy: Decoding Skills, phonics (K-2)</p> <p>PALS-K Concept of Word (K)</p> <p>PALS Plus: Oral Reading in Context (1-8) Full Diagnostic Requirement</p>
<p>Rapid Naming- the ability to quickly name aloud a series of familiar items</p>	<p>Arkansas Rapid Automated Naming Screener (K-2 based on time, 3-12 observed behavior)</p> <p>Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Amira Learning: Rapid Naming (K-3)</p> <p>Lexplore: Rapid Naming skills (1-3)</p> <p>mCLASS with DIBELS Next: Rapid Automated Naming (K-3)</p> <p>mCLASS with DIBELS 8th Edition: Rapid Automated Naming (K-3)</p> <p>MindPlay: Rapid Automated Naming (K-12)</p> <p>Predictive Assessment of Reading (PAR): Rapid Naming Fluency (K-3)</p> <p>Rapid Automatic Naming and Rapid Alternating Stimulus Test (RAN & RAS) (Choose different trial per grade) (K-12)</p> <p>DIAL-4: Concept Area Rapid Naming (PreK-K)</p>
<p>Encoding- to translate spoken language into print.</p> <p><i>Note: May use encoding portion from any screener for a student in <u>grades 3-12</u> as needed and available.</i></p>	<p>Classworks Universal Screener: Encoding (K-6)</p> <p>Istation Indicators of Early Progress (ISIP): Spelling (K-3)</p> <p>Istation Advanced Reading (AR) Spelling Computer-adapted (4-8)</p> <p>Decoding-Encoding Screener for Dyslexia (DESD™) (1-8)</p> <p>EL Education Benchmark Assessment: Spelling Skills (K-2)</p> <p>Exact Path: Encoding (K-8)</p> <p>Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Amira Learning: Encoding Skills (K-3)</p>

mCLASS with DIBELS Next: Encoding (K-3)
mCLASS with DIBELS 8th Edition: Encoding (K-3)

McGraw Hill Wonders Inventory of Developmental Spelling-Primary (IDS-P) (K-3)

MindPlay: Spelling (nonsense and real words) Phonics Screener (encoding portion) (K-12)

Next Steps in Guided Reading Assessment: Developmental Word Knowledge, by Grade (K-2)

NWEA MAP Fluency Foundational Skills: Encoding. Based on grade level (K-3)

PALS K: Spelling (K)

PALS Plus: Spelling Inventory (1-8) Full Diagnostic Requirement

Word Journey: Kindergarten Inventory of Developmental Spelling (KIDS) (K)

Word Journeys: Developmental Spelling Analysis (DSA) (1-6)

Words Their Way PreK-K: Kindergarten Spelling Inventory (KSI) (K)

Words Their Way: Primary Spelling Inventory (PSI) (K-3)

Words Their Way: Elementary Spelling Inventory (ESI) (1-6)

Words Their Way: Upper-Level Spelling Inventory (upper elementary, middle, high school, postsecondary)

Word Study Inventory: Developmental Word Knowledge Inventory (K-2) (See testing protocol for words to assess)