

This multi-part series published in Dr. McCormick's Weekly Update and in the Accountability Moodle Community, provides information to educate schools about managing their graduation cohorts and the calculation of graduation rates. Please forward any questions to schoolaccountability@doe.in.gov.

Installment #4: Graduation Cohorts 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 Particularities

This week's edition of *Managing Your Graduation Rate* focuses on the nuances which should be understood for each cohort. Because policies change over the course of the four years of the cohort, it is critical for schools to understand the playbook for each cohort especially relating to Assessments, Graduation Pathways, and documentation requirements which may be subject to legislative and policy changes mid-cohort.

Assessment and Graduation Pathways for Cohorts 2020-2023

Cohort	Graduation Qualifying Exam	Accountability Exam	Graduation Pathways
2020	ISTEP 10	ISTEP 10	Voluntary
2021	ISTEP 10	ISTEP 10	Voluntary
2022	ISTEP 10	ISTEP 10	Voluntary
2023	None	To Be Determined	Mandatory

Exiting to Homeschool Forms

Documentation requirements for homeschooling exits vary depending on when students leave the cohort to be homeschooled. Students exiting to homeschool after July 1, 2018, must use the State Board of Education approved ***Withdrawal to non-accredited non-public school*** form. This signed and dated form must be on file with the school and will need to be produced during a graduation rate audit. Students exiting to homeschool prior to July 1, 2018 need just the local homeschool withdrawal form in existence at the time. This locally developed form must also be properly completed including the signature of a parent along with a date of signature.

In-State Transfers

In-State Transfer documentation requirements also vary depending on when students leave the school. Students transferring to another institution in Indiana after July 1, 2018, must be picked up by the receiving school on RT/EM report or will be listed as "Unknown". For example, students in the 2020 cohort transferring within Indiana during either the Junior or Senior years (after July 1, 2018) need to have a RT/EM record submitted by the receiving school prior to June 30 of the expected graduation year to be removed from the cohort. Conversely, students in the 2020 cohort transferring within Indiana during either the Freshmen or Sophomore years (prior to July 1, 2018), need just a transcript request from the receiving school and will show on the cohort report as "Transferred".

Next Installment

Next week's installment will go into detail regarding the four year cohort clock.