

To: Corporation Test Coordinators  
From: Dr. Charity Flores, Director of Assessment  
Date: September 10, 2018  
Subject: Changes to High School Assessments

The Office of Student Assessment delineates the following guidance for CTCs noting changes with the High School Assessments.

#### Vendor

- Pearson will be the provider for both ISTEP+ Grade 10 (cohorts 2019-2022) and ISTEP+ECA (cohorts 2018 and prior). All ISTEP+ ECAs will be delivered through Pearson following the release of the Summer 2018 results. More information on this will be included in Winter pre-test workshops.
- The ISTEP+ ECAs are offered for two additional cycles for the cohorts 2018 and prior; once during the Winter and once during the Spring.

#### Test Window Structure

- The ISTEP+ Grade 10 Spring Retest and First Time Administration window will operate differently than previous years. The ISTEP+ Grade 10 serves as the graduation requirement for the current cohort (2019), and results must be delivered prior to graduation.
- The Retest and First Administration windows occur at different times and use different assessment forms to maintain security and integrity. The Spring **Retest** window (Parts 1 & 2) occurs from February 11 – March 8, 2019. The Spring **First Time Administration** window occurs February 25 – March 22, 2019 (Part 1) and April 8 – May 3, 2019 (Part 2). It will be imperative that schools place students in the correct administrations as to not delay the scoring process. The reporting deadlines cannot be interchanged if students are given the incorrect form (i.e., First Time Administration results arrive following the timeline anticipated for local corporations and schools to formalize GQE decisions).

#### Rescore Opportunities for Retest Administrations

- ISTEP+ Grade 10 Retest and ECA Retest administrations will automatically rescore all Applied Skills items to expedite the scoring and reporting process. The Applied Skills items will automatically be scored two times. There will no longer be a formal Retest rescore window for schools and parents. The Parent Portal will open for a short window for schools and parents to have the opportunity to review the Applied Skills items and exemplars.

#### ILEARN ECA Requirements

- The Department requires the ILEARN Biology ECA for any student who completes the Biology course, regardless of cohort enrollment.
- ILEARN additionally offers an optional Government ECA for schools to inform final summative data following completion of the course.