

To: Indiana State Board of Education

From: Dr. Charity Flores, Director of Assessment

Date: July 8, 2020

Subject: Test Windows

ISTEP+ Grade 10 Retest

The United States Department of Education (USED) requires Indiana to update the previously-submitted ESSA plan to include the administration of a high school accountability test during school year 2020-2021.

- Indiana originally planned a “gap year” for high school accountability assessment to occur school year 2020-2021. This “gap year” accommodated the move from a grade 10 accountability assessment (ISTEP+ Grade 10) to a grade 11 accountability assessment (SAT as nationally recognized college entrance exam). The gap year was required to avoid testing the same cohort of students for accountability two years in a row.
- ISTEP+ Grade 10 First Time Administration (serving cohort 2022 in school year 2019-2020) was canceled following the first three weeks of Part 1 administration due to COVID-19. No scores could be provided to students because no students completed Part 2 of the assessment. No accountability assessment was administered due to COVID-19 and the State of Indiana received forgiveness from USED.
- Students in cohort 2022 are under the ISTEP+ Grade 10 Graduation Qualifying Examination requirement for fulfilling graduation requirements, so the majority of these students will need to participate in ISTEP+ Retest during school year 2020-2021 in order to fulfill graduation requirements.

The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) recommends that the SBOE take the following actions:

- Utilize the already-scheduled ISTEP+ Spring 2021 Retest as the high school accountability test. The following guidance should apply:
 - Students in cohort 2022 are required to participate in the Spring 2021 Retest.
 - Students in cohorts 2019-2021 may continue to participate in the Spring 2021 Retest as needed to fulfill their high school graduation requirements.
 - Accountability calculations will be determined based on cohort 2022 scores and without inclusion of other retest population scores.
- Confirm the previously-approved ISTEP+ Grade 10 Retest windows for school year 2020-2021.

- ISTEP+ Grade 10 Winter Retest: November 9 - December 11, 2020
- ISTEP+ Grade 10 Spring Retest: February 2-26, 2021

IREAD-3

IDOE is currently unable to move forward with implementing the 2020-2021 IREAD-3 window (May 10, 2021- May 21, 2021) based on policy concerns. IDOE is proposing a new IREAD-3 window (3/8-3/19).

This proposed window aligns to previous administration timeframes and allows schools approximately a month between the end of IREAD-3 and the beginning of ILEARN.