



# Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

To: Directors of Special Education and Corporation Test Coordinators

From: Nancy Holsapple, Director of Special Education and Lynn Schemel, Director of Assessment

Date: March 17, 2021

Subject: Guidance for Human Reader Accommodations

Regarding testing accommodations, a human reader for the online platform is available for the I-AM assessment. For students who are deaf or hard of hearing and have selected an accommodated fixed form (an online assessment), a human reader accommodation may also be selected, which would be accompanied by a sign-language interpreter for the ILEARN or ISTEP assessments.

A human reader is otherwise not available for the online assessments. For all other state assessments, where a human reader is selected (either a human reader for all items including items testing reading comprehension or a human reader for items except items testing reading comprehension), the student must have a paper version of the assessment.

If the case conference committee's (CCC's) intent was to have the student take the online assessment, the appropriate accommodation is to have "text is read aloud to the student via the computer platform" (either on all items or on items except items testing reading comprehension). Online assessments are not to be read aloud by human readers even using a reader's script.

After the annual CCC meeting, changes to the individualized education program (IEP) may be made (1) by the CCC at a CCC meeting or (2) without a CCC meeting if the parent and the public agency agree: not to convene a CCC meeting and to collaboratively develop a written document to amend or modify the student's current IEP. Please keep this in mind in the event that a student's IEP includes a human reader without a paper test format.

Please review your students' IEPs, in particular those who the CCC intended to receive a human reader as the accommodation. The human reader accommodation requires the use of a paper test format and, therefore, a paper test should be ordered. Testing materials have already been ordered and will arrive at corporations on April 5, 2021. There is an additional materials order (AMO) window that begins on April 6, 2021 and runs through April 30, 2021. In the event the IEP is revised and a paper test format is needed, the school can order the paper test through TIDE.

IDOE's Office of Special Education (OSE) will be reaching out to specific directors of special education with information on specific students who currently have the human reader



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accommodation but do not have a paper test format selected. Please be on the lookout for such communication.

If you have any additional questions on this topic, please contact Colleen Pawlicki ([cpawlicki@doe.in.gov](mailto:cpawlicki@doe.in.gov)) with the OSE or Karen Davies ([kdavies@doe.in.gov](mailto:kdavies@doe.in.gov)) with the Office of Student Assessment (OSA).