

MEMORANDUM

TO: School Superintendents, Principals, Corporation and School Test Coordinators, and School Counselors

FROM: Dr. Charity Flores, Director of Assessment
Amanda Culhan, School Counseling Specialist

DATE: May 16, 2018

RE: 2017-2018 ISTEP+ Grade 10 Summer Window

This memo offers updated guidance for the upcoming ISTEP+ Grade 10 summer retest, specifically for current juniors and sophomores. The 2017-2018 summer retest opportunity for the ISTEP+ Grade 10 assessment will be offered beginning July 23, 2018 through August 17, 2018. Following the completion of remediation, students who have not yet passed the ISTEP+ Grade 10 assessment may retake the assessment during this summer administration window.

GUIDANCE FOR THE 2019 COHORT (current juniors):

IC 20-18-2-17 defines a school year as beginning after June 30th of each year and ending before July 1 of the following year. Therefore, the 2018 summer window will be considered as part of the 2018-2019 school year.

- A student in the 2019 cohort that has not yet passed both subject areas of the ISTEP+ Grade 10 assessment may retake the assessment between July 23, 2018 and August 17, 2018, and that attempt will count as occurring during the student's senior year.
- As such, current juniors who retake the ISTEP+ Grade 10 during the summer administration window and do not pass the assessment may be eligible to graduate with a waiver pursuant to IC 20-32-4-4, which provides that a student may graduate without passing the graduation qualifying exam if the student, 'takes the graduation exam in each subject area in which the student did not achieve a passing score at least one (1) time every school year after the school year in which the student first takes the graduation exam.'
- A student must meet all other diploma and waiver requirements to be issued a diploma following the summer 2018 re-test.
- A student in the 2019 cohort who meets all graduation requirements or satisfies all waiver requirements prior to October 1, 2018 should be submitted as a graduate on the 2018 graduate (DOE-GR) report. However, since such a student is part of the 2019 cohort, the student will not be included in the 2018 graduation rate. The student will be included in the school's 2019 graduation rate.
- Per IC 21-12-10, eligibility for the Mitch Daniels Early Graduation Scholarship includes receiving a Core 40 high school diploma by the end of grade 11

(including any summer school courses completed before July 1 of a year). Thus, students who graduate with a waiver would not be eligible for this scholarship. Additional information regarding this scholarship is available [here](#).

GUIDANCE FOR THE 2020 COHORT (current sophomores) though 2022 COHORT: IC 20-18-2-17 defines a school year as beginning after June 30th of each year and ending before July 1 of the following year. Therefore, the 2018 summer window will be considered as part of the 2018-2019 school year.

- A student in the 2020 cohort (through the 2022 cohort) is offered the opportunity to participate in the ISTEP+ Grade 10 assessment to meet graduation requirements.
- Remediation opportunities must be provided to the student as needed prior to the assessment window.
- Please note that this provides an opportunity for sophomores to retest almost one year earlier than has been available in the past.

Please direct questions regarding the graduation exam waiver to Amanda Culhan, aculhan@doe.in.gov. For assessment-related questions, please contact Tarrell Barry, tberry2@doe.in.gov.