



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

2024-2025 IREAD Frequently Asked Questions

The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) developed the following resource to provide general information regarding the Indiana Reading Evaluation and Determination (IREAD) assessment for the 2024-2025 school year, which includes additional details on Good Cause Exemptions (GCEs). More information can be found in the new [Process & Considerations for Issuing a GCE resource](#). Additional resources can be found on IDOE's [IREAD webpage](#) and the [Indiana Assessment Portal](#).

General Guidance

Number	Question	Answer
1	What is the purpose of IREAD?	IREAD is a reading assessment that measures foundational reading skills through grade three, including students' ability to read and understand grade-level text. IREAD was developed in accordance with the 2010 Indiana General Assembly passage of Public Law 109, which required the evaluation of reading skills for all third grade students to ensure they can read at grade level prior to fourth grade.
2	When is the IREAD testing window for the 2024-2025 school year?	<p>IREAD has two testing windows throughout the school year. The IREAD Spring 2025 testing window is designated for all grade two students, grade three students who did not previously pass in grade two, and grades four and five students required to retest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● IREAD Spring 2025 Testing Window: Monday, March 3, through Friday, March 14 <p>The IREAD Summer Retest 2025 testing window is designated only for students who did not pass or did not participate in the spring administration and still require a passing score.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● IREAD Summer Retest 2025 Testing Window: Monday, May 12, through Friday, June 27 <p>Beginning with the 2025 IREAD Summer Administration, grade three students will have two opportunities to test during the summer window.</p>
3	Which students are required to participate in IREAD in the spring?	All grade two and grade three students currently enrolled in an accredited Indiana school, including English learners (ELs) and students with disabilities, must participate in IREAD unless they previously received a passing score in grade two. Students in grades four and five who have not yet achieved a passing score must also participate in each retest opportunity.

		<p>Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, all second grade students must take IREAD.</p> <p>All students who do not pass after the spring and summer IREAD administrations will continue to retest through grade six until the student passes IREAD or enters grade 7.</p> <p>Students participating in Indiana’s Alternate Measure (I AM) do not participate in IREAD.</p>
4	Are students participating in IREAD also required to take ILEARN?	Yes. IREAD and ILEARN are separate assessments developed for different purposes. Legislation requires grade three students to participate in both assessments each spring.
5	What should schools do if their spring break is scheduled for the same week(s) as the spring IREAD window?	The Corporation Test Coordinator (CTC) should make a request through the Test Administration Considerations Request Form regarding an extension of the IREAD assessment window. Contact IDOE’s Office of Student Assessment for assistance.
6	How long will students have to complete the IREAD assessment?	IREAD is an untimed assessment. Students may be given the time they need to complete each test segment.
7	Are schools allowed to administer all three segments of IREAD to a student in a single day?	IDOE strongly recommends that schools administer IREAD over the course of at least two days. Schools choosing to administer the entire test in a single day are encouraged to provide students with adequate breaks between each segment.
8	Are schools allowed to administer test segments out of sequence?	Schools must administer the test segments in order, even if a student is absent and misses a test segment. Students cannot take IREAD segments out of order due to the auto-generated test functionality.

9	What kind of items appear on IREAD, and what resources are available for parents and students to better understand the IREAD assessment?	<p>IREAD consists of multiple-choice items that measure foundational reading skills aligned to the Indiana Academic Standards through grade three. Below are a list of resources available to parents and students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IREAD Released Items Repository, available on the Indiana Assessment Portal, includes items that may be used as sample questions to familiarize students with test content and format. • The IREAD Test Blueprint outlines specific Indiana Academic Standards assessed by IREAD. This resource has been updated to align to the streamlined 2023 Indiana Academic Standards. • IREAD Item Specifications detail how each Indiana Academic Standard can be measured by items on the assessment. These specifications have been updated to align to the 2023 streamlined academic standards. <p>These resources and more are located on IDOE's IREAD webpage.</p>
10	Are students required to participate in the IREAD practice test?	<p>Yes. Schools are required to administer the IREAD practice test to students prior to administering the IREAD operational assessment. If a student is absent when the practice test is administered and returns to school during the assessment window, the school must administer the practice test to the student before the operational assessment. Schools may administer the practice test to students more than once, as needed. Students participating in the summer retest administration are not required to participate in the practice test if they have already completed one during the spring administration.</p>
11	What materials do Test Administrators (TAs) need to successfully administer IREAD?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All TAs must use the IREAD Testing Script (online or paper as appropriate) when administering the assessment to all students. This script will be available for download on the Indiana Assessment Portal. • TAs administering the assessment via paper-and-pencil must also use the Secure Segment 1 Script to administer phonics items to students. This secure script will be sent to CTCs' secure inbox in the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) prior to the IREAD assessment window. • TAs administering the assessment on paper to students with a human reader accommodation will use the IREAD Read Aloud Script. This secure script will be sent to appropriate CTCs' secure inbox in TIDE prior to the IREAD assessment window.

Designated Features and Accommodations

Number	Question	Answer
12	What accommodations are available to students taking IREAD?	Please review Section 3, beginning on page 16, of the 2024-2025 Accessibility and Accommodations Information for Statewide Assessments for a list of embedded and non-embedded accommodations available on IREAD.
13	How can schools ensure students who are deaf or hard of hearing (HoH) have access to the appropriate test form?	<p>Students who have the HoH form accommodation indicated in a current Individualized Education Program (IEP), Service Plan, or indicated in a schools' certified student information system (SIS) will display the HoH accommodation in TIDE.</p> <p>Schools must submit the 2024-2025 Hard of Hearing Request form to add the HoH form accommodation to a student's TIDE settings if the accommodation is written into the student's IEP rather than selected as a specific assessment accommodation.</p> <p>Students who receive this test form will not receive items measuring phonics standards, and their scores will be calculated without counting these items.</p>
14	Are students who are deaf or HoH (receiving the IREAD HoH accommodation) required to complete all three test segments?	Yes. While these students do not engage with Segment 1 items measuring phonics standards, there are items in the latter part of Segment 1 that all students must complete, in addition to all items in Segments 2 and 3. If a student does not answer any items in one or more test segments, a valid scale score cannot be achieved. Review the IREAD Test Administrator's Manual on the Indiana Assessment Portal for more details.
15	Are all students able to receive the Visual Human Reader designated feature?	<p>Designated features are available to any student for whom the need has been indicated by an educator (or team of educators), parents/guardians, the student (if appropriate), or other personnel who is familiar with the individual student's characteristics and needs.</p> <p>The Visual Human Reader feature requires audio and video streaming. If large numbers of students will be provided this feature, schools may wish to consider slightly staggering the start time of group testing (e.g., one group starts at 9 a.m. and the next group starts at 9:10 a.m.) for Segment 1 to reduce strain on local internet bandwidth. Technology directors should consider available local capacity and advise School Test Coordinators (STCs) if staggered start times might be needed. Contact the Indiana Assessment Help Desk for additional support.</p>

<p>16</p>	<p>How is the Visual Human Reader feature set in TIDE?</p>	<p>The Visual Human Reader should be set in TIDE prior to testing. CTCs and STCs have permissions to set this feature for students in TIDE. For support with setting the feature for large numbers of students, contact the Indiana Assessment Help Desk.</p> <p>TAs can also adjust the Visual Human Reader directly in the TA Interface once students log in to their test. This method should only be used if a student’s designated feature was not correctly entered into TIDE prior to testing.</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>Is a student required to participate in the paper-and-pencil assessment if they only require directions from the online test script signed by a sign language interpreter?</p>	<p>If a student only requires general directions from the IREAD online test script to be signed, which does not contain secure test information, they can participate in the online IREAD assessment and would not require a sign language interpreter assessment accommodation. The information signed to the student from the online test script would include sign in information and review of test settings/features. These directions are provided to all students and do not contain secure information.</p> <p>If a student requires a sign language interpreter for items except items testing reading comprehension on secure test directions, the student is required to test paper-and-pencil and must have both accommodations indicated in their current, formal plan. The sign language interpreter and TA would use the IREAD Paper Testing Script, IREAD Paper Testing Script for Read Aloud Accommodation, and IREAD Secure Segment 1 Script to ensure that it is clear what can and cannot be signed to the student on the assessment.</p>

Grade Two

Number	Question	Answer
<p>18</p>	<p>What is the purpose of administering IREAD to grade two students?</p>	<p>IDOE is committed to supporting early literacy by providing reading proficiency information earlier, allowing schools to respond quickly and provide targeted support for students who need it most.</p> <p>Administering IREAD to grade two students allows students to receive earlier intervention and indicators on how they are advancing in their reading abilities.</p> <p>Beginning in the school year 2024-2025, legislation requires all second grade students to take IREAD.</p>

19	What are the benefits of administering IREAD to grade two students?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Early indicators of proficiency mean earlier intervention and support for students. ● Early reading support may lead to higher rates of reading success at grade three. ● There is reduced testing at grade three for students who pass in grade two. ● Early reading support may lead to fewer GCEs in grade three.
20	How are accommodations for grade two students populated in TIDE?	<p>Assessment accommodations from Indiana IEP and Indiana ILP are imported to the TIDE via nightly Data Exchange for students with an IEP, Individual Learning Plan (ILP), or Service Plan.</p> <p>Accommodations for Section 504 Plans, Choice Special Education Plans (CSEP), or ILPs (utilized outside of Indiana ILP) must be provided via the Data Exchange Validation Portal with a direct connection from a school's Indiana-certified SIS vendor.</p>
21	How will the scores for grade two students be reported?	Students who receive a passing score of 446 or higher on IREAD in grade two will be reported the following year with their cohort and included in statewide data following the grade three administration.
22	Will grade two students be administered the same test as grade three and above students?	Yes. Grade two and grade three and above students will be administered the same assessment.
23	When is the assessment window for grade two students taking IREAD-3?	Grade two students will test during the same window as grade three students.
24	Are grade two students required to retest in the summer if they do not receive a passing score in the spring?	No. Grade two students who did not pass IREAD-3 in their spring administration may take the assessment again during the summer administration. School staff should consider the spring IREAD results, other reading data, and interventions needed to make the decision. Students in grade two have only one summer retest opportunity.

Scoring and Reporting

Number	Question	Answer
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25	How is IREAD scored? Is there a rescore process? What score is required to pass IREAD?	IREAD consists of multiple-choice items only. The assessment vendor’s scoring system scores all items, and there is no rescore process. Students must attain a scale score of 446 or higher in order to pass IREAD. Please review the Indiana Interpretive Guide for Statewide Assessments on the Indiana Assessment Portal for more details.
26	How soon after students complete the IREAD assessment will spring results become available to schools?	Individual student scores will begin populating in the Centralized Reporting System (CRS) 24 hours after test completion. Results are considered final on Monday, April 28, 2025, (spring testing) and Monday, July 28, 2025 (summer testing), following the paper testing discrepancy resolution window. No printed student results will be shipped to schools.
27	Will schools receive printed copies of students’ Individual Student Reports (ISRs)?	No. Schools can download and print ISRs locally as soon as student results are posted in CRS. Schools can also provide results to parents via secure electronic systems in lieu of printing and mailing results.
28	How does IDOE calculate a corporation’s or school’s passing percentage?	<p>IDOE uses the following data components in determining a school’s or corporation’s passing percentage:</p> <p>The numerator is comprised of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The count of the previous school year’s grade two students who passed the previous school year’s spring IREAD administration and has a third grade enrollment the following year.* ● The count of first-time grade three students who passed the current year spring IREAD administration ● The count of grade three students who passed the current year IREAD summer retest administration <p>The denominator is comprised of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The count of all first-time grade three students for the current year. <p>* Previous school year grade two students who passed IREAD are reported with the school and corporation in which they are enrolled in grade three.</p>
29	What are the performance levels for grade three students?	Grade three and above students will receive initial ‘Pass’ and ‘Did Not Pass’ indicators, along with the scale score and reporting category subscores within two weeks of completing the assessment.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students who receive the ‘Pass’ indicator (a cut score of 446-650) have achieved proficient understanding when reading and responding to grade-level literary and informational texts. • Students who receive the ‘Did Not Pass’ indicator (a cut score of 200-445) have demonstrated limited understanding when reading and responding to grade-level literary and informational texts. <p>View the Performance Level Descriptors here.</p>
<p>30</p>	<p>What are the performance levels for grade two students?</p>	<p>Grade two students will receive initial ‘Pass,’ ‘On Track,’ or ‘At Risk’ indicators, along with the scale score and reporting category subscores within two weeks of completing the assessment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students who participate in IREAD during grade two and receive the ‘Pass’ indicator (a cut score of 446-650) will not have to participate in IREAD during grade three. They have achieved proficiency in foundational reading. • Students who participate during grade two who receive the ‘On Track’ indicator (a cut score of 405-445) are not flagged for specific remediation, but will still participate in the grade three administration to confirm that they have achieved proficiency in foundational reading. They have the option to participate in the summer retest. • Students who participate during grade two who receive the ‘At Risk’ indicator (a cut score of 200-404) are flagged for early support and remediation to ensure that they can achieve proficiency by the end of grade three. They have the option to participate in the summer retest. <p>View the Performance Level Descriptors here.</p>

Remediation & Retesting

Number	Question	Answer
<p>31</p>	<p>What are the next steps to support a student who does not pass IREAD in the spring?</p>	<p>Schools are required to provide reading remediation to grade two, three, four, and five students who do not achieve a passing score on the spring IREAD assessment as well as the opportunity to participate in the IREAD Summer Retest administration/s.</p> <p>Grade two students who participate in the summer retest will receive proficiency level indicators of “Pass” and “Did Not Pass.”</p>

32	What guidelines should schools follow when providing remediation for students who do not pass IREAD in the spring?	<p>Students who do not pass IREAD this spring should receive additional support on the five components of reading, including foundational reading skills and reading comprehension. More information can be found on IDOE’s Literacy Development webpage.</p> <p>Remediation may look different for each student and should be based on individual student needs; however, all remediation should be based on science of reading. Schools are encouraged to consult the Literacy Frameworks as they plan remediation for students and the IREAD Remediation Support guidance.</p>
33	What are the next steps for a student who does not pass IREAD after the summer retest administration/s?	<p>Grade two students who do not pass the spring and summer IREAD administrations must receive appropriate support and remediation prior to retesting the following spring in third grade.</p> <p>For grade three students, first determine if they are eligible for the new GCE, which serves to exempt eligible students from the new state retention policy for students who do not pass IREAD after the summer retests in third grade. Refer to this guidance for more information.</p> <p>Grade four and five students must continue to retest in all IREAD administrations, and schools must ensure that targeted remediation and support is provided to ensure they achieve proficiency.</p>
34	As defined in Indiana Code (IC) 20-32-8.5-2, what is required for “interventions” prior to retaining students?	<p>Intervention for students prior to retention must include, but is not limited to, the following types of remediation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evidence-based curricular materials and supplemental materials aligned with science of reading that address reading deficiencies as determined by the IREAD results; and 2. Principles of response to instruction. <p>The school shall notify and involve the student's parent or guardian. The notice must include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A description and explanation of the deficiency; 2. Proposed supplemental instruction services aligned with science of reading; and 3. Strategies for parents to use to assist the student.

35	As defined in IC 20-32-8.5-2, what is required for “intensive interventions” for students who have been retained?	<p>Intervention for students retained must include, but is not limited to, the following types of remediation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Science of reading strategies that meet the student's needs; 2. Instruction by an effective teacher as measured by student performance results who is trained in science of reading; 3. At least ninety (90) minutes of core reading instruction each school day; and 4. At least one (1) of the following instructional options: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Tutoring before or after school. b. Parent workshops and a parent-guided home reading program. c. A mentor or tutor trained in science of reading and may include volunteers or school staff. d. Extended-day programs aligned with science of reading. e. Supplemental instruction aligned with science of reading.
36	Which students must participate in the IREAD Summer Retest?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students from a non-accredited Indiana school or out-of-state school who enrolled in grade three at an accredited Indiana school after the spring IREAD testing window but before the end of the school year; and ● Students in grades three, four, and five who took IREAD in the spring but do not have a passing score (e.g., Did Not Pass, Undetermined, Invalidated). ● Grade two students who did not pass IREAD-3 in their spring administration may take the assessment again during the summer administration. School staff should consider the spring IREAD results, other reading data, and interventions needed to make the decision.
37	How many times may a student participate in the IREAD Summer Retest? What flexibility do schools have when scheduling students for this administration?	<p>Schools are responsible for scheduling individual students to participate in IREAD during the defined summer window and communicating this opportunity with parents. A student participating in the IREAD Summer Retest is allowed one testing opportunity within that testing window, except for grade three students who will have two opportunities during the summer window. It is important to ensure students have adequate time to receive additional instruction and interventions prior to any retesting opportunity.</p>

38	Is paper testing an available accommodation for students participating in the IREAD Summer Retest? How can schools request a paper test?	Regular print, large print, and braille test books are available as formal accommodations. Schools are responsible for reporting student accommodations to IDOE (e.g., Data Exchange, Indiana IEP) and placing paper orders in TIDE during the identified summer ordering window prior to testing. There will be no initial orders automatically generated for paper materials for the summer testing window; all orders must be placed within TIDE. The order window for the IREAD Summer Retest 2025 is Monday, April 28, through Monday, June 9. For grade three students testing with paper, there is only one paper testing opportunity. Contact IDOE for options if a second opportunity is needed.
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Good Cause Exemptions

Number	Question	Answer
39	What is a Good Cause Exemption (GCE), and who is eligible to receive one?	According to IC 20-32-8.5-2 and beginning with the 2024-2025 IREAD test administration, the purpose of a GCE has significantly changed from past years. A GCE now serves to exempt an eligible student from retention if the student does not pass IREAD in grade three. GCEs cannot exempt students from participation in IREAD. See this document for specific details Process & Considerations for Issuing a Good Cause Exemption to help guide decision-making.
40	Do students who receive GCEs retest?	Yes, students will participate in IREAD spring and summer retest administrations until they pass or are promoted to grade seven. This requirement begins with the 2024-2025 IREAD administration and for students who receive GCEs after the 2025 summer administration.
41	How and when should schools report GCE data to IDOE?	Schools must report GCEs via Data Exchange (DEX) after the IREAD Summer Retest administration for grade three students.
42	Are students who receive a GCE still required to receive reading remediation?	Students who receive a GCE should receive targeted instruction designed to meet the goals within their IEPs and Individual Learning Plans (ILPs).
43	Can a grade two student be granted a GCE?	No. Students are not eligible for a GCE until after the grade three summer administration.

<p>44</p>	<p>To identify eligible English learner (EL) students, how is “received services for fewer than (2) years” determined?</p>	<p>Students must have received <i>fewer than two full school years of EL services</i> prior to the start of their grade three year to be eligible for a GCE. To determine what constitutes a full school year of EL services, the student must have been enrolled, identified as an EL, and beginning to receive services within the first 30 calendar days of the school year, as required. The student must also have received the required services throughout that year without significant interruptions. If there are partial years of EL services (e.g., the student enrolled after the first 30 days of the school year), schools should consider the date of EL identification and services beginning, then broadly determine the percentage of a full school year of service.</p> <p>To make a determination, review the total amount of EL services provided from enrollment to the start of grade three: full school years plus any partial school years. If the total is less than two school years, then the student would qualify for a GCE.</p> <p>For example, if a student enrolls at the start of grade one in Indiana schools and receives services throughout first and second grade, they would not be eligible (due to receiving two full years of services). However, if that student enrolled in grade one after the first 30 calendar days of the school year, they are eligible to receive a GCE (since they received fewer than two years of EL services - one full, one partial).</p> <p>If EL services were not provided as required for any portion of a student’s Indiana academic career after being identified, that time period should not be included in the two-year calculation. Only the time when EL services were provided with fidelity should count in the two-year calculation. Any EL services being taken into consideration must have taken place in Indiana.</p>
<p>45</p>	<p>In assembling the ILP committee for an EL student (for determining the appropriateness of granting a GCE), who may attend?</p>	<p>IC 20-32-8.5-2 cites the following as individuals to be included in the ILP committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● the student's parent ● a building level administrator or designee ● a classroom teacher of service ● an EL teacher of record, if one exists; and ● an EL district administrator, if one exists; <p>Schools are required to provide information to parents in a language they understand, so an interpreter must also be present if needed. The EL district administrator may also have a designee if unable to attend.</p>

For additional information, please contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#).

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