



Libertyville District 70 Assessment Update

Libertyville District 70 students will be assessed in a variety of ways in the 2019-20 school year. These assessments will help 1) assess student understanding of the new Illinois Learning Standards for math, language arts, and science, 2) help monitor student growth, 3) provide information to guide instruction, 4) evaluate curriculum effectiveness, and 5) provide opportunities for students to have more experience with online testing. The table below includes Libertyville District 70 timelines of 2019-20 assessments.

2019-2020 Libertyville District 70 Assessments

Assessment	Dates	Grades
STAR Early Literacy	<u>Fall:</u> (K-5) Aug 28 – Aug 30 <u>Winter:</u> (K-5) Jan 15– Jan 17 <u>Spring:</u> (K-5) May 4-8	Kindergarten
STAR Reading	<u>Fall:</u> (K-5) Aug 28 – Aug 30 (HI) Aug 27 – Aug 29 <u>Winter:</u> (K-5) Jan 15– Jan 17 (HI) Jan 14– Jan 16 <u>Spring:</u> (K-5) May 4-8 (HI) May 5-7	1st-8 th
STAR Math	<u>Fall:</u> (K-5) Aug 28 – Aug 30 (HI) Aug 27 – Aug 29 <u>Winter:</u> (K-5) Jan 15– Jan 17 (HI) Jan 14– Jan 16 <u>Spring:</u> (K-5) May 4-8 (HI) May 5-7	1st-8 th
<u>Fountas and Pinnell</u>	<u>Fall:</u> September <u>Winter:</u> Dec. through Jan. 31st <u>Spring:</u> Apr. & May (only to students reading below grade level)	K-5
<u>CogAT</u>	February 4-6 (Tuesday - Thursday)	2 nd
Illinois Assessment of Readiness (formerly PARCC) and ISA (Illinois Science Assessment)	April 2 – April 10 (Highland) (Th-F) April 6 – April 16 (Elementary schools) (M-Th)	IAR (3 rd -8 th) ISA (5 th & 8 th)
Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS)	Enter data on 40 th day in October. Can also enter data on 105 th day in early February and on 170 th day in May)	Kindergarten
Fitnessgram Assessments	Submit to ISBE via IWAS by June 1st	5 th and 7 th
BVSD Universal Math Screener	<u>Kindergarten and first grade teachers will administer the assessments to their students during the winter and spring benchmarking periods. The CRT team at each building will administer the BVSD assessment to first grade students in the fall.</u>	K-1
ACCESS for ELs	Standard Test Window: January 15 - February 18	
DLM-AA	March 11-May 6	

***STAR benchmark timeline: September, October, November, December, February, March and April**

Noted below are summaries of each of these assessments:

Fountas and Pinnell

The Fountas and Pinnell is an individual, comprehensive reading assessment administered throughout the year to kindergarten through fifth grade students that helps teachers identify students' independent and instructional reading levels.

This benchmark assessment helps teachers

- Determine independent and instructional reading levels.
- Determine reading placement levels and group students for reading instruction.
- Select texts that will be productive for student's instruction.

- Assess the outcomes of teaching.
- Assess a new student's reading level for independent reading and instruction.
- Identify students who need intervention.
- Document student progress across a school year and across grade levels.
- Inform parent conferences.

Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)

Second grade students will be taking the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) starting on Tuesday, February 8th. In Libertyville District 70, the CogAT will guide efforts to adapt instruction to the needs and abilities of students, identify students whose predicted levels of academic achievement differ markedly from observed levels of achievement, and measure cognitive development to help identify academically talented students. CogAT results will be mailed to parents in March.

Illinois Science Assessment (ISA)

The Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) is required to be administered online during the 5th and 8th grade students. The test lasts less than one hour. Each test will begin with reading passages, called scenarios, and will be followed by a series of test items. Some items will be open-ended, some will be multiple-choice and some will be multiple-select (more than one correct response). Other items will involve dropdown selections. Each test will also include stand-alone, multiple-choice items that do not follow a scenario.

ISA is based on the Illinois Learning Standards in science incorporating the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). The State Board adopted these standards in 2014. The Illinois Learning Standards in science incorporating the NGSS replaced the previous science standards that were adopted in 1997. See <http://www.isbe.net/nils/science/default.htm> for more details.

Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS)

The Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS) is an observation tool; it is not a “test.” Teachers use it to look at children and write notes about their learning. Teachers will look at children alone and in groups. They will watch kids in lots of different places and at different times of the day. The purpose of KIDS is to:

- Help teachers get a clear picture of what children can do.
- Make learning goals clear between preschool and elementary school.
- Identify children’s needs.

Teachers learn the most about children by watching them when they are working and playing so they can:

- Learn what children are good at, what they like and how they learn best.
- See the big picture of the child.
- Watch children doing school work; playing together or alone; eating; and following classroom routines (washing hands, cleaning up, lining up, moving from center to center).

Please find additional information at the following website:

https://www.illinoiskids.org/sites/default/files/training_docs/KIDS2015FULL081314.pdf

Fitnessgram Assessments

Starting with school year 2016-17, schools must test students fitness in an effort to meet State Goal 20, where students achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fitness. Based upon continual self-assessment, fitness testing can help students identify their fitness levels and set goals for improvement. Gathering this data also enables parents and schools to better understand the health trends within their region and encourage enhancements in a school's physical education program. School districts must:

Ensure district maintains **evidence** of individual school personnel's successful completion of the training and make it available to the ISBE upon request.

Establish procedures and protocols to ensure the **confidentiality** of individual student assessment results consistent with the requirements of the Illinois School Records Act and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

Begin administering the following **four portions of FitnessGram protocols** in the second semester (first and second semesters preferred for pre and post results) and annually thereafter:

- for **Aerobic Capacity** - the **PACER test** (recommended) or **Mile Run Test** (alternate) or Brockport test (any of the adapted tests for aerobic functioning for students with disabilities) for students in grades 4-12;
- for **Flexibility** - the **Back-Saver Sit and Reach test** (recommended) or **Trunk Lift test** (alternate), or Brockport test (any of the adapted tests for flexibility or range of motion for students with disabilities) for students in grades 3-12;
- for **Muscular Endurance** - the **Curl-Up test** or Brockport test (any of the adapted tests for strength and endurance for students with disabilities) for students in grades 3-12; and
- for **Muscular Strength** - the **Push-Up test** or Brockport test (any of the adapted tests for strength and endurance for students with disabilities) for students in grades 3-12.

STAR Enterprise Assessments from Renaissance Learning

Kindergarten through eighth grade students will be assessed online with 30-minute STAR assessments for reading and math this fall, winter and spring. With computer-adaptive technology, students complete STAR Enterprise assessments quickly while teachers and administrators receive the results immediately. Moreover, STAR tests can assist students in need because they are accurate, reliable, valid, and are highly rated for screening and progress-monitoring by the National Center on Response to Intervention.

What are STAR assessments?

STAR Enterprise measures student skills in reading and/or math to keep teachers informed about student growth and achievement. Renaissance Learning created STAR (once

known as Standardized Test for the Assessment of Reading, but now only referred to as STAR) assessments in 1996 as a computer-adaptive classroom test. Students take the assessment on computers and the software scores it automatically. Teachers are immediately able to review a variety of reports at the individual, classroom, and grade level to monitor progression. The results help teachers to customize their instruction to individual students.

STAR Early Literacy Enterprise is a computer-based diagnostic assessment of early literacy skills developed for Pre-K–3 students. STAR Early Literacy Enterprise tracks development in three domains and 10 sub-domains:

- 1) Comprehension Strategies and Constructing Meaning** (Sentence-Level Comprehension and Paragraph-Level Comprehension)
- 2) Numbers and Operations** (Early Numeracy)
- 3) Word Facility and Skills** (Alphabetic Principle, Concept of Word, Visual Discrimination, Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, Structural Analysis and Vocabulary).

STAR Reading Enterprise is an assessment of reading comprehension and skills for independent readers through grade 12. STAR Reading Enterprise tracks development in five domains:

- 1) Word Knowledge and Skills,**
- 2) Comprehension Strategies and Constructing Meaning,**
- 3) Analyzing Literary Text,**
- 4) Understanding Author’s Craft and**
- 5) Analyzing Argument and Evaluating Text.**

STAR Math Enterprise is an assessment of math achievement for students in grades 1–12. STAR Math Enterprise tracks development in four domains:

- 1) Numbers and Operations,**
- 2) Algebra,**
- 3) Geometry and Measurement and**
- 4) Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability.**

What are computer-adaptive tests?

All STAR assessments are computer-adaptive tests (CATs). Computer-adaptive tests continually adjust the difficulty of each child’s test by choosing each test question based on the child’s previous response. If the child answers a question correctly, the difficulty level of the next item is increased. If the child misses a question, the difficulty level is decreased.

How long does it take to complete a STAR assessment?

STAR tests are designed to be efficient. On average, students will complete the STAR Math Enterprise test in about 20 minutes, the STAR Reading Enterprise test in about 15 minutes and the STAR Early Literacy Enterprise test in 15–20 minutes. However, some students may require more time.

What are STAR assessments used for?

The STAR assessments are often used to screen students for their reading and math achievement levels. STAR Enterprise assessments help determine reading and math achievement levels, monitor student growth throughout the year, estimate students’ understanding of state standards, and predict students’ performance on the state test. In

addition, STAR can help teachers determine appropriate instructional levels and skills that students are ready to learn.

What kind of score does my child get?

For every STAR assessment, your child receives a **scaled score (SS)**, which is based on the difficulty of the questions and the number of correct answers. Scaled scores are useful for comparing your child's performance over time and across grades. STAR Reading and STAR Math scaled scores range from 0–1400. STAR Early Literacy Enterprise scaled scores range from 300–900.

STAR offers educators a variety of scores and reports. Some STAR scores compare your child's performance to a specific criteria or to a standard (criterion-referenced scores). STAR Enterprise reports also include scores which compare your child's performance to other students who have taken the same test (norm-referenced scores). The criterion- and norm-referenced scores are based on the scaled score.

How can I help my child prepare for a STAR assessment?

There is little assessment preparation other than to encourage your child to be well-rested, eat a good meal before school and to try their best. The teacher who gives the test uses pre-test instructions to explain the test to your child. It is important for you to encourage your child to try to do his or her best on the assessment as STAR is a general measure of student ability.

How will I know how my child is doing?

STAR assessment results will be shared with parents each trimester. Additional information will be shared once testing begins.

Parts of the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR)

Excellent and equitable assessment design includes four key components. Each part of the Illinois Assessment of Readiness utilizes the expertise of Illinois educators to better meet students' needs.

1. STANDARDS

Illinois stakeholders and educators created the rigorous Illinois Learning Standards. The standards emphasize depth over breadth and the application of knowledge to real world situations. The Illinois Assessment of Readiness measures the same standards students and educators have become familiar with over the past four years, which helps to ensure comparability.

2. QUESTIONS

Illinois educators and the nonprofit New Meridian develop questions to test students' knowledge of key concepts and critical thinking, reasoning, research, communication, and problem solving skills. Items are validated for bias and precision before counting toward students' scores. An anchor set of questions that is the same from year to year links individual forms and maintains longitudinal comparability.

3. ADMINISTRATION

The Illinois Assessment of Readiness reduces testing time by about one-third to six hours or less. A new computer-adaptive design coming in 2021 will allow questions to become more or less challenging for each student, based on their prior responses, which will provide more precise data on individual students' needs and skillsets. Computer-based assessments provide a greater set of tools, accessibility features, and supports for all students than are possible on paper.

4. SCORING & REPORTING

Illinois educators use the data showing how much students' have grown and what standards they have mastered to improve instruction and support and to communicate with parents and families. The state also sends more resources and support to the schools in the greatest need. Schools and families will receive machine-scored results within one week and hand-scored results within one month of the end of the testing window beginning in 2020.