Assessment & Accountability Newsletter
Wednesday, November 20, 2019

Our next Assessment & Accountability Newsletter will be December 3, 2019

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Did you know?
President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the first and official Thanksgiving holiday in 1863. It was during this time that Thanksgiving became an official national holiday, declared on the fourth Thursday of every November.

It is hard to believe we are nearing the end of November. The time has flown by and we, like all of you, are looking forward to some time with family and friends.

During this month of Thanksgiving we often reflect on the things we are most grateful for. Primarily among them are the talented and dedicated educators we are honored to work with.
Thank you for all you do for the students of Idaho. We wish you a Thanksgiving filled with abundance and bright moments.

- Karlynn

Karlynn Laraway is the director of Assessment and Accountability. She can be reached at klaraway@sde.idaho.gov or by calling (208) 332-6976.

Final 2019 Fall IRI results by state, district, and school is now available. Click here to access the data.

IRI Reports

Districts and schools are encouraged to continue to review fall IRI data and any progress monitoring data collected since the close of the window to support instructional decision making. An easy reference guide is available to support administrators to understand the various reports available. (Please see attachment)

IRI Accessibility Update

In response to stakeholder feedback and to ensure the IRI is accessible to all Idaho students, the SDE has convened two working groups to develop accommodated forms of the IRI for students who are deaf/hard of hearing (DHH) or blind/visually impaired (BVI).

- SDE sought participation of stakeholders across Idaho working with students from these populations.
- The initial BVI group convened in October.
  - BVI October Recap; this team studied and analyzed the accessibility of each IRI subtest and prioritized the assessment of subskills to ensure appropriate assessment of literacy acquisition for blind/visually impaired students.
- The DHH group met for a second session in early November.
  - DHH November Recap; the team began drafting administration guidance and protocols for an accommodated for IRI. Istation representatives were in attendance.
- Additional stakeholder feedback, outside the working groups will be important to the process and will be sought when draft guidance is made available.
- Watch for additional updates in future newsletters and webinars.
IRI Accommodations

We appreciate the communications from staff in the field during the IRI testing window regarding accommodations for students. Current guidance is being reviewed and will be updated to provide additional clarification to those testing students in schools and districts.

Karren Streagle, alternate assessment coordinator, will be leading the work to bring stakeholders together and begin discussions around an Alternate IRI for students with significant cognitive disabilities.

For more information, contact Alayna Knop at aknop@sde.idaho.gov or at (208) 332-6979.

New: Change in Contact

Danielle Taylor has been promoted to oversee the GEAR UP program, replacing Patty Alonzo in the Student Engagement & Safety Coordination team. Congratulations to Danielle! Starting December 2, you can reach Danielle at 208-332-6943 or dtaylor@sde.idaho.gov.

Ayaka Nukui, will be coordinating the PSAT and SAT school day administrations. Many of you know Ayaka from her work with cohort graduation rate and ISAT appeals applications. Ayaka looking forward to providing a single point of contact for high school activities specific to graduation requirements. Ayaka can be reached at 208-332-6926 or anukui@sde.idaho.gov.

New: Essay Opt-in

From January 27 to February 5, students can opt to participate in the SAT Essay. Students will make their selection in their College Board account or by calling 855-373-6387. While optional and student selected, the state does cover the cost of the essay. A link to a pre-recorded webinar regarding the essay opt-in will be sent to SAT Test Coordinators on December 9, 2019.

Reminder: Important PSAT/NMSQT Dates

Visit Counselor Score Week to prepare for student score release.

- December 2: Educator Score Release
- December 10: Student Score Release
Reminder: Upcoming Resources and Trainings

- A link to a pre-recorded SAT School Day Overview Webinar will be sent to SAT Test Coordinators soon.
- A link to a pre-recorded Accommodation Overview Webinar will be sent to SAT Test Coordinators and SSD Coordinators on December 3, 2019.
- A link to a pre-recorded SAT School Day Bulk Registration Overview Webinar will be sent to SAT Test Coordinators and Bulk Registration Coordinators on December 12, 2019.
- Regional implementation overview workshops (face-to-face) will be scheduled for spring 2020. More information to come.

Reminder: College Entrance Exam as a Graduation Requirement

Participation in a College Entrance Exam (SAT or ACT) is a graduation requirement ([IDAPA 08.02.03.105.03.](https://rulesidaho org/idapa/08.02.03.105.03)). As the ACCUPLACER is no longer available to K-12 agencies, communication between Special Education staff and SAT test coordinators will be critical to establish the appropriate accommodations for the students participating in the SAT.

The following students may elect an exemption from this requirement:
- Students who meet the alternate assessment eligibility criteria;
- English learners enrolled in an LEP program for three years or less;
- Student transferring to an Idaho school from out of state; or
- Student who meets the eligibility for the [Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children](https://www.idaho.gov/education/special-education/).  

For any other extenuating circumstances, the LEA may submit an appeal to the SDE on behalf of the student. Please contact Ayaka for more information.

Reminder: Resources for Students and Parents

All students will have access to free, interactive personalized practice through [Khan Academy](https://www.khanacademy.org) and resources from the [College Board](https://www.collegeboard.org) to help reinforce what students are learning in classrooms and focus on the content tested, not just test-taking strategies.

Reminder: College Board’s Opportunity Scholarships and Recognition Program

Students who are juniors as of December 5, 2018 may win up to $40,000 scholarship from the College Board. The program ends on February 29, 2020 for the Class of 2020. For more information, visit [College Board’s](https://www.collegeboard.org) website. Last year, nine Idaho students won this scholarship.
GRADUATION RATES

To date, we have received 3120 appeals in the four-year appeals application and 139 appeals in the five-year appeals application. A team of SDE staff has been reviewing appeals, and we are hopeful to finish reviewing all appeals by the end of this month. Thank you for your diligence in providing appropriate documentation so we can process the appeals.

New: Follow-up Window

**December 9 – December 13** the appeals applications will reopen for a follow up window. If you have new or additional evidence, please submit it during this follow-up window. This is the last chance to submit appeals before the graduation rate is finalized.

New: ISEE Resubmission Requirements to Correct Grad Rate Data

We will approve all appeals with sufficient evidence, regardless of the exit reasons submitted via ISEE. However, if you submitted an appeal for 4A (regular graduate), 4G (early graduate), and 5F (foreign exchange student), please work with your ISEE coordinator to submit ISEE corrections to ensure the accuracy of the longitudinal data.

Please keep in mind:

- Students with an exit reason 4A (regular graduate) or 4G (early graduate), are NOT expected to return to any school in the following school year(s). If they returned to the school in the 2019-2020 school year, the corresponding appeal has been denied.
- Exit reason 5F (Foreign Exchange Student) should be the exit reason for all foreign exchange students and only for foreign exchange students. If the appeal was not accompanied with a copy of foreign exchange program application or VISA, the appeal has been returned. You can resubmit the appropriate documentation during the appeals window, or these students will remain non-graduates in your final report.

New: Error Identified in Five-year Application

We have identified those students who came back in the 2019-2020 school year were not correctly identified as Non-Graduates in the five-year appeals application. As a result of fixing this error, your five-year graduation rate may have been adjusted. Please review the 5-Year appeals application and be prepared to submit additional documentation and appeals during the follow-up window.

For more information, contact Ayaka Nukui at anukui@sde.idaho.gov or call her at (208) 332-6926.
Grade Levels for ISAT Science in 2020

On October 16th, the Board of Education approved the grades that will administer the Spring 2020 ISAT Science assessments.

- Elementary ISAT Science: Grade 5
- Middle School ISAT Science: Grade 8 NEW
- High School ISAT Science: Grade 11 NEW

The ISAT Science Assessment web page on the SDE website has also been updated to reflect this decision.

The ISAT Science summative assessments will be a field test in 2020, and we are requesting a waiver from the US Department of Education from reporting scores. You can comment on our waiver request by going to the SDE website. Schools and districts are still required to assess 95% of our students during the SY2019-20 testing window.

Introduction to Spring 2020 ISAT Science

A document that summarizes all of the key aspects of the new ISAT Science assessments has been posted on the ISAT Portal.

The document answers these questions, and more.

- What are the testing dates for the ISAT science assessments?
- What do the SY2019-20 ISAT Science blueprints tell us?
- What is a cluster?
- How can I administer the science interims?

Download your copy, today.

Assessment Support

We encourage all educators to continue the shift of instructional practices in the classroom to meet the new standards. Reach out to Kevin Chandler, at (208) 332-6988, if you have questions about the development of the new science assessment.

For more information, contact Kevin Chandler at kchandler@sde.idaho.gov or call him at (208) 332-6988.
Smarter Balanced Digital Library and ISAT Portal Single Sign-In

The Smarter Balanced Digital Library Resources for Teacher and the ISAT Portal sign-in systems have been integrated into a single sign on. This allows users logged into ISAT Portal systems (TIDE, ORS, TDS, etc.) to navigate directly to the Digital Library without having to sign in with a separate Digital Library account.

New user accounts created in TIDE will be automatically provisioned in the Digital Library. Users with both TIDE and Digital Library accounts will be able to sign-in to both systems using their TIDE username and password.

What’s New for 2019-20 School Administration

A slide deck for the new features available in the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE), Test Delivery System (TDS), AIRWays Reporting, and Online Reporting System (ORS) for the 2019-20 school administration is now available on the ISAT Portal.

Interim Assessments Supporting Documents

- The 2019-20 Interim Assessments Overview is available on the ISAT Portal. This helpful overview recaps all of the ELA/Literacy and Mathematics interims for the 2019-20 school year.
- A detailed summary of the Mathematics Interims is now available on the ISAT Portal. This document details the names, item counts, Targets assessed and order of the ICA, IABs, and Focused IABs (FIABs) as they appear in Test Administration (TA) and Assessment Viewing Application (AVA).
- The 2019-20 Assessment Viewing Application (AVA) User Guide is available in the ELA/Literacy & Math Assessments and Science Assessments resources section under the System Information – User Guides sub-folder. AVA is a component of the Online Testing System that allows authorized users to review interim assessments for administrative or instructional purposes.
- The 2019-2020 AIRWays Reporting User Guide and Quick Guide are available on the ISAT Portal. Results and scores from the 2019-20 interim assessments administered via the Test Administration application will be available in AIRWays Reporting.
Summative Assessments

The *Understanding the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment Video* is now available in the ELA/Literacy & Math Assessments resources section under the System Information - Training Modules sub-folder.

This video describes the Smarter Balanced summative assessment, providing details of the two components of the summative assessment, the Computer Adaptive Test (CAT) and the Performance Task (PT), and the accessibility supports available for test-takers.

Important Dates

- ISAT – ELA/Literacy, and Math – Summative Assessments: 03/16/2020 – 05/15/2020

For more information on the ELA/Literacy assessment, contact Alayna Knop at aknop@sde.idaho.gov or call her at (208) 332-6979. For more information on the Math assessment, contact Kevin Chandler at kchandler@sde.idaho.gov or call him at (208) 332-6988.

ISAT DESIGNATED SUPPORTS & ACCOMMODATIONS

Understanding Text-to-Speech and Read-Aloud

Recently, we have received a lot of questions regarding the use of text-to-speech (TTS) and read aloud on the ISAT. Understanding how TTS and read-aloud are used and when it is appropriate to use them is essential to ensuring that students can access the ISAT without changing the construct of assessment. Outlined below are four critical elements to understanding and using TTS and read-aloud appropriately.

1. **TTS is an embedded support.** This means that students access TTS in the secure testing platform.
2. **Read aloud is a non-embedded support.** Read aloud is considered a non-embedded support because it happens outside of the secure testing platform. However, the student can still take their ISAT using the secure testing platform. The test proctor administering read-aloud must be familiar with and abide by the requirements outlined in the *Read Aloud Guidelines*, downloadable from the Accessibility & Accommodations webpage on the ISAT Portal. Be on the lookout for an announcement when it gets posted.
3. **TTS and Read Aloud as Designated Supports:** The *Usability, Accessibility, and Accommodations Guidelines* (UAAG), downloadable from the Accessibility &
Accommodations webpage on the ISAT Portal, defines Designated Supports as “...those features that are available for use by any student for whom the need has been indicated by an educator (or team of educators with parent/guardian and student)...” (p. 10). The TTS or read aloud Designated Support is “...for math [and science] stimuli and items and for ELA items, not for reading passages [emphasis added]” (pp. 12 & 16).

4. **TTS and Read Aloud as Accommodations:** The UAAG defines accommodations as “...changes in procedures or materials that increase equitable access during the Smarter Balanced assessments...” (p. 19). The TTS or read aloud accommodations are “...available for ELA reading passages, all grades” (pp. 21 & 24). However, the TTS or read aloud accommodations are only “...appropriate for a very small number of students [emphasis added]. TTS [and Read aloud] is available as an accommodation for students whose need is documented in an IEP or 504 plan” (pp. 21 & 24).

It is important to understand that essential components of the ELA ISAT assess a student’s reading comprehension, not listening comprehension. This means that all but a very few students must read the passages for themselves. The TTS or read aloud accommodations are generally appropriate for students who are blind or have a visual impairment who may not be proficient braille readers. There may be very few instances when it would be appropriate for a student with a reading-based specific learning disability to have the TTS or read aloud accommodations on the reading passages; usually students with dyslexia or some other print-based processing disorder. TTS or read aloud of reading passages is not appropriate for students with disabilities who are reading below grade-level, even several grades below, because it changes the construct of the test, which is reading comprehension.

The Guidelines for Choosing Text-to-Speech or Read Aloud in Grades 3-5, downloadable from the Accessibility & Accommodations webpage on the ISAT Portal, contains crucial information for IEP teams considering the TTS or read aloud Designated Supports or Accommodations for a student with a disability on an IEP or 504 Plan. This guidance document includes questions for teachers and other questions that can help guide the IEP team deliberations regarding when and how to use TTS and read aloud to support a student’s access to the ELA ISAT without changing the test construct or validity.

For more information, contact Karren Streagle at kstreagle@sde.idaho.gov or call her at (208) 332-6824.
Upcoming WIDA Webinars

Test Administrators are highly encouraged to join the following webinars to prepare for the spring ACCESS administration. Click on the webinar title to join the Webex meeting.

- Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Test Administration
  - Tuesday, December 3, 2019 – 10:00AM – 11:00AM MST

- ACCESS for ELLs Overview
  - Wednesday, December 4, 2019 – 11:00AM – 1:00PM MST

- Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Overview
  - Thursday, December 5, 2019 – 11:00AM – 12:30PM MST

- During Testing – Managing Test Sessions (Online)
  - Wednesday, December 11, 2019 – 11:00AM – 12:30PM MST

- During Testing – Managing Test Sessions (Paper)
  - Tuesday, December 17, 2019 – 12:00PM -1:00PM MST

WIDA eWorkshops Opportunities & Webinars 2019-2020SY

Idaho has partnered with WIDA Professional Learning to offer ALL Idaho educators the opportunity to access to six, self-paced, on-demand eWorkshops. Developed by WIDA, these eWorkshops are intended for a variety of audiences.

Workshops include:
- Foundational Concepts
- Doing and Talking STEM
- WIDA Writing Rubric Series
- Leading for Equity: Classroom Walkthrough
- Classroom Educators: Engaging Newcomer Multilingual Learners
- Developing Language for Learning in Mathematics

To access the eWorkshops:
1. log in to your WIDA Secure Portal account. If you do not have an account, contact WIDA Client Services Center at help@wida.us or 1-866-276-7735
2. Select the “WIDA eLearning Center” tile to view available eWorkshops

ACCESS TEST WINDOW

ACCESS Main Test Window: January 27, 2020 – February 28, 2020
ACCESS Make-up Test Window: March 2, 2020 – March 6, 2020

English learners are required to complete all sections of ACCESS within the dates listed above, with the exception of some students with disabilities that are not able to participate in a particular domain.
If you have questions, contact Andrew Bennett at abennett@sde.idaho.gov or call (208) 332-6909.

IDAA Science Portfolio

Previous Assessment webinars and newsletter articles have included reminders for teachers administering the IDAA Science Portfolio to collect baseline data on students’ level of knowledge and understanding of the Science Extended Content Standards 5-7-10. Teachers should have finished collecting baseline data and should start teaching and collecting artifacts in Science, if they have not already begun doing so. The IDAA Science Portfolio testing window opens on Monday, January 6. It feels like we have lots of time before the testing window opens, but it will be here before we know it.

Please remind and support your teachers who administer the IDAA Science Portfolio to review the IDAA Science Portfolio Manual 2019-20 and tutorial videos in the IDAA Science Portfolio resource on the Idaho Training Clearinghouse (ITC). These resources contain detailed information to help them understand the process for collecting baseline data.

Speaking of the IDAA Science Portfolio tutorials, Tutorial 1: Overview of the IDAA Science Portfolio has been removed from the IDAA Science Portfolio resource because it include content related to the old IDAA participation criteria. The revisions to Tutorial 1 are underway will be available soon. In the meantime, the IDAA Science Portfolio Manual 2019-20 includes the revised IDAA participation criteria and should help teachers get a good understanding of the process until the new tutorial is completed.

IPASS Ready for Uploading Students

Speaking of the IDAA Science Portfolio, the IPASS application is now ready for SY 2019-20. Now, testing Coordinators can add teachers and students to IPASS and assign students to their teachers. You can access the IPASS application from the Special Education and Alternates Assessment webpage. The IPASS User Manual Final is downloadable from IPASS application landing page or the IDAA Science Portfolio resource on the ITC.
Don’t Forget... IDAA ELA/Literacy & Math Practice Tests

Remember the **IDAA ELA/Literacy & Math Practice Tests** I have been talking about since August? Please encourage your teachers who administer the IDAA in ELA and Math to use the practice tests with their students. The new adaptive IDAA ELA and Math tests are different enough from the old tests that we don’t want students to be unfamiliar with the format when the spring testing window opens.

Below is a re-publication of the practice test content included in the August newsletter.

The South Carolina practice tests are currently available, and parents and teachers can access them from the [ISAT portal homepage](#): click on the **Alternate Assessment ELA & Math card**; then, select the **SC-ALT Practice Tests Administered in Idaho card**. Be sure to review the **SC-ALT Practice Test Quick Guide** (adapted to reference relevant IDAA information) to get an idea of how the practice tests work. The **SC-ALT Practice Test Quick Guide** is now available in the **Alternate Assessments ELA & Math resources section** under the **System Information - Quick Guides sub-folder**.

For more information, contact Karren Streagle at kstreagle@sde.idaho.gov or call her at (208) 332-6824.
Assessment Participation Requirement for Dually Enrolled Students

Idaho Code Section 33-203 states:

The parent or guardian of a child of school age who is enrolled in a non-public school or a public charter school shall be allowed to enroll the student in any public school, including another public charter school, for dual enrollment purposes.

A dually enrolled student who is primarily educated in a non-public school MUST be indicated as privately educated or homeschooled in the phSchool indicator in the ISEE student demographic file. These students are not required to participate in any statewide assessments, ONLY IF coded correctly in ISEE. The school may choose to provide assessments to these students at their own capacity.

A dually enrolled student who is primarily educated in a public school MUST NOT be indicated as privately educated or homeschooled in the phSchool indicator in the ISEE student demographic file. These students MUST participate in all statewide assessments, regardless of courses they are or are not taking from your school.

If a student is dually enrolled among public schools, the school of record has to assess the student. The school of record cannot be a curriculum provider or a shared-time entity that primarily offers career and technical education or targeted curriculum in which the majority of students are enrolled at a separate school of record and attend the entity on a part-time basis. If a student has multiple schools of records, the schools should consult to each other to arrange testing for the student.

For more information, contact the corresponding assessment coordinator.

For more information, contact Ayaka Nukui at anukui@sde.idaho.gov or call her at (208) 332-6926.
DON'T MISS OUR DECEMBER WEBINAR

It’s not too late to register for the December 3 webinar. We will begin at 10 a.m. MT. This is your chance to hear timely updates from the SDE Assessment and Accountability team concerning important deadlines and changes that you’ll want and need to know.

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER

If you would like to subscribe to our newsletter, fill out the subscription form. You can visit our Resource Center to read/review previous newsletters and webinars.

If you have questions, please contact Morgan Phillips at mphillips@sde.idaho.gov or call her at (208) 332-6877

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