



ISTEP

IREAD



ECA

**COLLEGE AND
CAREER
READINESS**

Welcome to Testing 101



Where we will demystify Indiana State testing and answer questions you had concerning standardized testing.



Testing 101

What Are Standardized Tests?

Standardized tests are designed to give a common measure of students' performance. Because large numbers of students throughout the country take the same test, they give educators a common yardstick or "standard" of measure. Educators use these standardized tests to tell how well school programs are succeeding or to give themselves a picture of the skills and abilities of today's students.

Why Do Schools Use Standardized Tests?

Standardized tests can help teachers and administrators make decisions regarding the instructional program. They help schools measure how students in a given class, school, or school system perform in relation to other students who take the same test. Using the results from these tests, teachers and administrators can evaluate the school system, a school program, or a particular student.

How to Help My Child

Be prepared. Cramming for any test is never the best way to prepare. Keep up with your homework and ask your teachers for help when you need it.

Review. In the weeks before your test, take it seriously when your teachers review important information.

Make sure your child gets plenty of sleep. Go to bed a little earlier so you get a good night's sleep. Being well rested will give you an extra boost of energy for test day.

Have a good breakfast. Eat protein (eggs, meat, cheese, etc.), which will help you perform better than a sugary donut. Too much food can make you feel sleepy, so don't overdo it.

Take a break. Get some exercise during your breaks or after school to keep your energy up.

Ask for help. If you've had trouble with ISTEP+ in the past, ask a teacher, counselor or parent about extra help now.

Double-check your work on the test. You'll catch mistakes if you take time to proofread your answers carefully



Testing 101

Quiet!
EXAM IN PROGRESS



ISTEP+

The purpose of the Indiana Statewide Testing for Educational Progress-Plus (ISTEP+) program is to measure student achievement in the subject areas of



How ISTEP+ Is Changing

Students in grades 3-8 will take a new ISTEP+ exam during the 2014-2015 school year.

- The test will still be given in two testing windows. The first window (the former Applied Skills portion) will be in February/March. This test will contain writing prompts and other response-type items. Writing prompts will now be based on text readings and students will be asked to respond to a writing prompt that is based on the content of the reading. Students will be expected to provide evidence from the text to support their responses. The test will include math problem solving and in identified grade levels science and social studies. This test mostly be paper/pencil. The second window will be in April/May. Part 2 will be computer based and cover language arts and mathematics. In addition, science and social studies are tested at selected grade levels.
- Technology-enhanced items will allow students to use computer “tools”, manipulate items on the page, highlight or otherwise use technology to assist with their answers.
- The new ISTEP+ will be focus on the higher-level thinking skills that are prompted by the new College and Career Ready (CCR) standards. This will require students to select their own tools without prompts (such as a protractor or ruler), to solve multi-step problems, and to provide evidence or discuss how to solve a problem.

ISTEP+ Sample Questions

[+ ISTEP+ English/Language Arts Grade 3-8 sample questions](#)

[+ ISTEP+ Mathematics Grades 3-5 sample questions](#)

[+ ISTEP+ Mathematics Grades 6-8 sample questions](#)

[+ ISTEP+ Science Grades 4 & 6 sample questions](#)

[+ ISTEP+ Social Studies Grades 5 & 7 sample questions](#)

Testing 101

IREAD 3

The purpose of the Indiana Reading Evaluation And Determination (IREAD-3) assessment is to measure foundational reading standards through grade three. IREAD –3 requires the evaluation of reading skills for students who are in grade three beginning in the Spring of 2012 to ensure that all students can read proficiently before moving on to grade four.

Students Who Do Not Pass IREAD-3 in the spring have an opportunity to retest in the summer. Students who do not pass the spring or summer administrations of IREAD-3 will be officially reported as a third grader, will continue to receive Grade 3 reading and literacy instruction, and will fully participate in the Grade 3 ISTEP+ assessment and IREAD-3.

[+ IRead 3 sample questions](#)

ECA's

End of Course Assessments (ECAs) are given to high school students at the end of Algebra I, English 10 and Biology I courses.

- Students must take the Biology I exam for federal accountability, but have no state or local requirements to pass this test for graduation or course credit.
- Students take Algebra I and English 10 after they complete the course.
- These ECAs must be passed for graduation OR a student must earn a waiver.

How the ECAs Are Changing

The ECAs are changing this year to reflect the new English-Language Arts and Math standards. There will be more technology enhanced items and more writing using source support than before. High School students also must take a College and Career Readiness Exam for federal ac-

[+ ECA English 10 sample questions](#)

[+ ECA Algebra I sample questions](#)

[+ ECA Biology 1 sample questions](#)

OTHER WAYS TO SAY
GOOD LUCK

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF!
You can do it!
show what you've learned!

TRY YOUR BEST!

DON'T GIVE UP!
TAKE your time!

I BELIEVE IN YOU!
Double check your work!
You are a Rock Star!
YOU ARE GOING TO ROCK TODAY!

Reading and Math Tips Sent to Your Phone or E-mail!

WHAT IS REMIND101 AND WHY IS IT SAFE?

Remind101 is a one-way text messaging and email system. With Remind101, all personal information remains completely confidential. Teachers will never see your phone number, nor will you ever see theirs.

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K-2nd Grade :

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3rd-6th

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Notes: Weekly reading and/or math tips will be sent out each week. If you ever want to unsubscribe, follow the instructions listed in the pictures above. **Standard text message rates apply!**

7th-12th Grade : Reading and Math Tips Sent to Your Phone or E-mail!

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To receive messages via text, text **@7th21** to **81010**. You can opt-out of messages at anytime by replying, 'unsubscribe @7th21'.



Or to receive messages via email, send an email to **7th21@mail.remind.com**. To unsubscribe, reply with 'unsubscribe' in the subject line.



Notes: Reading and/or math tips will be sent out each week. If you ever want to unsubscribe, follow the instructions listed in the pictures above. **Standard text message rates apply!**