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Superintendent of Public Instruction

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Working Together for Student Success

TO: Superintendents, Principals, School Leaders
FROM: Dr. Charity Flores, Director of Student Assessment
DATE: August 7, 2020
RE: ILEARN and I AM End-of-Course Assessment (ECA) Participation Guidance

The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) defined participation guidance for the 2020-2021 ILEARN and I AM Biology and ILEARN U.S. Government ECAs that schools and corporations should consider in advance of test administration for students completing Biology and/or U.S. Government coursework. Please [contact the Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

ILEARN Biology ECA

Students enrolled in Biology must participate in the ILEARN Biology ECA upon completion of the Biology course, regardless of their enrolled grade level (7-12).

- Students must participate in the Biology ECA during one of the approved testing windows that coincides with course completion (see chart, below).
- Indiana educators designed this assessment to meet ESSA requirements. As such, it is not designed to serve as the basis for or to be used in calculating students' final course grades.

I AM Biology ECA

Students must complete the I AM Biology ECA once after the Biology Content Connectors have been taught, regardless of their enrolled grade level (9-12).

ILEARN U.S. Government ECA

Students enrolled in the U.S. Government course may participate in the **optional** ILEARN U.S. Government ECA, available in the Spring only. Indiana educators designed this assessment to serve as a final exam, which is meant given at the end of the U.S. Government course. Decisions about the use of results when calculating students' final course grades may be determined at the school or corporation level.

Approved Test Windows

Course completion records are managed locally and inform which test windows are appropriate for students. Each paper-and-pencil test window closes one week early to ensure on-time reporting.

Assessment	Test Window(s)	Paper-and-Pencil Test Windows
ILEARN Biology ECA	Fall: November 30 – December 17, 2020	Fall: November 30 – December 10, 2020
	Winter: February 8 – 25, 2021	Winter: February 8 – 18, 2021
	Spring: April 19 – May 21, 2021	Spring: April 20 – May 15, 2021
I AM Biology ECA	Spring: April 5 – May 14, 2021	Spring: April 5 – May 14, 2021
ILEARN U.S. Government ECA	Spring: April 19 – May 21, 2021	Spring: April 20 – May 15, 2021

Impact to Schools and Students

- Participation in the ILEARN or I AM Biology ECA fulfills a federal reporting requirement for Indiana schools.
- Passing scores on ILEARN ECAs are **not** required for high school graduation.
- ILEARN ECA results are not incorporated in a school's accountability determinations.

Additional Notes

- There are **no** retest opportunities for the ILEARN or I AM ECAs.
- ILEARN ECAs: Corporations must submit orders in TIDE for any accommodated (e.g., paper-and-pencil) test forms during the appropriate Additional Orders window, as needed.