



OPT-IN: EARLY INDICATOR OF STUDENT READING PROFICIENCY

Students who can read by the end of grade three are more likely to be successful in their future endeavors, making it extremely important that schools have valuable information regarding a student's ability to read as early as possible. The Indiana Department of Education (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. IDOE is offering a new opportunity for schools to voluntarily administer IREAD-3 to grade two students, beginning with the Spring 2022 IREAD-3 administration.

USING IREAD-3 AS AN EARLY INDICATOR OF READING PROFICIENCY

The Indiana Reading Evaluation and Determination (IREAD-3) is a reading assessment developed to measure foundational reading skills. Schools currently administer IREAD-3 at the end of grade three.



- Students receiving free or reduced lunch, racially and ethnically diverse populations, and English learners have consistently performed at least 10 percentage points behind their peers on IREAD-3.
- Approximately 6,000 students annually receive Good Cause Exemptions, but may struggle to become lifelong learners.
- Of the approximately **81,000 third grade students** who took the IREAD-3 assessment in spring 2021 (following the initial pandemic year), **81% passed**.

It is crucial that students are equipped with the essential literacy skills to successfully access vocabulary and comprehend texts from a wide variety of disciplines at each grade level and beyond. To provide schools with information about reading ability at grade two, IDOE will set a new cut score, "On Track," for reading proficiency during summer 2022.

BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS



Early indicator of proficiency means earlier intervention and support for students.



Reduced testing at grade three for those students who pass in grade two.



Early reading support may lead to higher rates of reading success at grade three.



Early reading support may lead to fewer Good Cause Exemptions in grade three.



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NEXT STEPS FOR OPT-IN SCHOOLS

1. Complete this [JotForm](#) to confirm participation. Opt-in will occur at the school level, not the student level. Schools that opt-in must plan to assess all grade two students.
 2. Contact IDOE's Office of Student Assessment via email at INassessments@doe.in.gov or via phone at 317-232-9050 with any questions.
- Grade two students will receive assessment accommodations as indicated in their IEP.
 - Grade two students will populate in the Test Information Distribution Engine prior to test administration.
 - Grade two Test Administrators (TAs) will receive the same test administration training as grade three TAs.
 - Grade two students will test during the same assessment window and with the same assessment materials.

RESULTS AND POLICY

Students who participate in IREAD-3 during grade two and receive the "Pass" indicator (a cut score of 446 or higher) will not have to participate in IREAD-3 during grade three. They have achieved proficiency in foundational reading.

Students who do not achieve the "On Track" indicator are flagged for early support and remediation to ensure they can achieve proficiency by the end of grade three.

Students who participate during grade two who receive the new "On Track" indicator are not flagged for specific remediation but will still participate in the grade three administration to confirm they have achieved proficiency in foundational reading.

Good Cause Exemptions cannot be granted until after the grade three IREAD-3 administration.

All students (grades two and three) 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. The new "On Track" cut score for grade two students will be provided to schools in late summer.