

ISASP FAQs: 2020-2021

*The responses to the questions are based on the information that we have at this time. Responses may be updated as we gather more information.

Question	Response
General	
Can districts choose when to administer the ISASP?	Districts can administer the ISASP test between March 15 th – May 28 th , 2021. Best practice is to define a 2–3 week testing window.
What subjects and grades are included in the ISASP?	Mathematics: Grades 3-11 English Language Arts (Reading and Language/Writing): Grades 3-11 Science: Grades 5, 8, 10
What are the approximate test times?	Recommended testing times are in the Test Administrator Manual .
What are the costs to administer the ISASP Test?	The costs are outlined in the ISASP Costing Information document on the Bulletins page of the ISASP Portal.
Should scratch paper be returned to Pearson?	Scratch paper can be securely destroyed locally and should not be returned to Pearson.
Test Design	
Do the tests assume understanding of the Iowa Core Standards?	The test blue prints are on the Test Preparation page of the ISASP Portal.
How do the paper and online test compare when online uses one type of calculator?	Questions have been written to be neutral with regard to calculators. Use of a scientific or graphing calculator will not enhance performance.
Can paper-and-pencil students bring their own math tools?	Rulers and protractors are not available as online tools. No questions on the ISASP Mathematics test requires the use of rulers or protractors.
Will the test be norm-referenced or criterion-referenced?	The ISASP is a standards-based, criterion-referenced assessment.

Our district has a high rate of students moving in and out. How close to our testing window will we be able to update student registrations?	Student enrollments can be updated throughout the testing window.
Student Registration	
Our district has a high rate of students moving in and out. How close to our testing window will we be able to update student registrations?	Student registrations can be updated throughout the testing window.
How will home school students be enrolled for testing?	PearsonAccess ^{next} will support manual entry of students who need to test. Testing locations will need to work with ITP to enroll students who do not have a state ID.
Do students need to be enrolled in PearsonAccess ^{next} if we are only testing paper-and-pencil?	All students must be registered for testing in PearsonAccess ^{next} regardless of testing mode and online students must be placed in a test session in PearsonAccess ^{next} . To receive pre-ID labels and an initial shipment of materials, students must be placed in paper test sessions by January 22 nd , 2021. Students roster data will be uploaded based on the date indicated in the district's response to the ITP Testing Mode Survey.
How do schools handle student enrollments for open-enrolled students placed in programs like Eldora and Rabiner?	The receiving district (where the student has been sent and is attending) should test the student. Students in special programs should be tested by the district the programs are affiliated with or the appropriate AEA.
How do we test a student who attends our school, but the student's home is not in our district?	Students may be tested in the same manner as your district's students. PearsonAccess ^{next} provides a variety of enrollment codes. Please see Student Registrations on the PearsonAccess^{next} page of the ISASP Portal. for a complete list of codes.
How do we test a student who attends school in a different state?	Contact Iowa Testing Programs (ITP) for assistance.

How do I enroll a new student?	Schools can complete a Student Registration File import or manually create new students in PearsonAccess ^{next} . Students must be loaded into PearsonAccess ^{next} and online students placed in test sessions prior to the beginning of testing.
Accountability and Testing Requirements	
Will full academic year still be an important consideration as it was under NCLB?	Students who attend a partial academic year will be included in accountability determinations.
Is out-of-level testing still allowed?	Students should take the assessment in the grade in which the student is registered to participate.
How will the State determine participation?	All students who are enrolled prior to the test date and during the assessment window will be required to be assessed.
Does the ISASP replace the Iowa Assessments and are the Iowa Assessments still available?	The ISASP will be used for state and federal student accountability purposes in the 2020-2021 school year. The Iowa Assessments are still offered and may be continued to be used (for Social Studies, ACT predictions, primary grades, off-grade Science, longitudinal studies).
How do I check if my student is testing online or paper?	A student registration export in PearsonAccess ^{next} should be completed to verify student registrations. Students with the value “1” in the Online Testing column will be registered as online.
Transfer and New Students	
If a student enrolls in our district after we have finished testing, are we required to test the student?	No. If a district has finished testing, the State does not expect that student to be assessed.
If a student enrolls in our district, is it our district’s responsibility to contact the previous district to un-enroll them?	Your district should contact the previous district to ensure you are able to register the student, then add this student to a test session. If the previous district has already added the student to a session, contact ITP for assistance.
Training	
Have the upcoming training dates been set?	Training will be completed in the ISASP Training Management System (TMS): https://ia.tms.pearson.com

Test Security	
Are districts required to have a written policy on test security?	Each district should establish written procedures for test security. Districts can refer to Chapter 2 of the Test Administrator Manual , the Test Security Training located in the Test Administration Training module, and the State of Iowa Test Security Manual .
Where can we find the required Test Security Training?	The required Test Security Training is incorporated into the Test Administration Training module. All educators who perform any tasks associated with ISASP will be required to review the Test Administration Training module.
How do we document completion of the required Test Security Training?	For TMS to document completion of a training module, you must view all the slides. Once you log in to TMS, you can access a record of your completed training modules by selecting the User icon next to your name on the upper-right, then selecting View Completed Trainings from the drop-down menu. This record can be printed. Admin users can download a report in TMS to verify completed trainings for all users at a district.
Who can proctor and monitor a test?	To answer whether a person can proctor the ISASP or not, three questions must be answered in the affirmative: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the person hold a current license from the BOEE? 2. Is the person accountable to the Iowa Teaching Standards or the Iowa Educational Leadership Standards? 3. Has the person been appropriately trained by the district and agrees to comply with the test security requirements found in the Test Administrator Manual and the State of Iowa Test Security Manual?
Practice Tests	
Where are the practice tests located?	Practice tests are located on the Test Preparation page of the ISASP Portal. Practice tests are only available online.

<p>When should students complete the practice test?</p>	<p>It is strongly advised that students access the practice tests prior to testing so they become familiar with the item types and the online testing experience. Students typically benefit from taking the practice tests a month or two prior to operational testing.</p>
<p>General Testing</p>	
<p>When can we discontinue the assessment for a student who is not making progress?</p>	<p>Proctors may exercise their professional judgement to determine when a student is no longer making progress and if the test should be stopped.</p>
<p>If a student has not finished a test subject and all other students move on to another test the next day, should the student who is not finished with the previous subject move on to the next subject?</p>	<p>Students who are not able to complete a test subject during the scheduled time must be provided additional time on that initial test day to complete the test.</p>
<p>Must a test be finished the same day it began?</p>	<p>Due to test security issues, every effort must be made to ensure students finish the test on the day it began.</p>
<p>Does the Language/Writing test need to be completed the same day?</p>	<p>For online Language/Writing, the test is broken up in three sections to allow for breaks or multiple day testing.</p> <p>For students taking the paper-and-pencil version of Language/Writing, the test is broken up in three sections to allow for breaks or multiple day testing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language Section 1 (test book and writing section 2 answer document) • Writing Section 2 (writing section 2 test book/answer document) • Writing Section 3 (writing section 3 test book/answer document)
<p>Accessibility and Accommodations (Paper and Online)</p>	

<p>How do we select the appropriate accommodations for students?</p>	<p>Designated supports are not intended to be universal tools turned on for all students or entire grades, but rather determined on an individual basis based on student need. The intent of these tools is to provide extra support to a student who might not otherwise be able to access the assessment without these designated supports. The Iowa Statewide Assessment System Accessibility Manual includes a Personal Needs Profile Planning Tool which should be used by educators and instructional teams to determine the appropriate designated support for a particular student.</p>
<p>Are there translated versions of the test?</p>	<p>The Mathematics and Science tests will be available in Spanish. ELA (Reading, Language/Writing) will not have a Spanish version. Students testing in Spanish must be either placed in an online test session for online testing, or a paper test session for paper testing.</p>
<p>Who can utilize the Spanish versions of the assessment?</p>	<p>Only students who are designated as English learners (ELs) may take the test in Spanish if it has been determined appropriate by a team of local educators.</p>
<p>Will responses in Spanish (short answers or extended responses) be scored?</p>	<p>For students taking a Spanish version of the test, answers written in Spanish or English will be scored. For ELA (Reading, Language/Writing) only responses written in English will be scored.</p>
<p>Where can I find a full list of the available accommodations?</p>	<p>The Accessibility and Accommodations Manual is posted on the ISASP Portal.</p>
<p>Is extra time able to be given to IEP/504 Plan students?</p>	<p>The ISASP is not a timed test. All students should be given ample time to take each test in accordance with test security policies.</p>
<p>Can students use speech-to-text for testing?</p>	<p>Speech-to-text is not available in TestNav. Speech-to-text requires third party software and proctor transcription of student responses into either TestNav or the paper-and-pencil answer document.</p>

<p>Will the directions for administering the assessment be available in various languages?</p>	<p>The directions in the Test Administrator Manual for the Mathematics and Science tests include English and Spanish directions. The Spanish online version of the test will have directions in Spanish. All other local translations should be done in accordance with Appendix B in the Accessibility and Accommodations Manual.</p>
<p>Is there a calculator policy for the ISASP?</p>	<p>The Calculator Policy is found on the Bulletins page of the ISASP Portal.</p>
<p>What type of documentation is required to be kept for accessibility features? Can districts use any form/spreadsheet?</p>	<p>Districts may use a locally-developed method to document the decision-making process used to assign supports to students. The documentation should be retained locally.</p>
<p>Paper-and-Pencil Testing</p>	
<p>How long will paper-and-pencil tests be available?</p>	<p>Paper-and-pencil versions of the tests will be available each year. The expectation is that districts will move to online testing.</p>
<p>How is paper-and-pencil testing administered?</p>	<p>Paper-and-pencil tests will be administered with a test book and a separate scannable answer document. All materials will be returned to Pearson for scoring.</p>
<p>Why do I have to enter students who will be testing paper into test sessions in PearsonAccess^{next}?</p>	<p>For paper-and-pencil testing, initial shipments of materials will be shipped in two waves, based on the start date of the paper test sessions.</p> <p>The first wave will be sent the week of March 1st for those testing between March 15th – April 9th, 2021.</p> <p>The second wave will be sent the week of March 29th for those testing between April 12th – May 28th, 2021.</p>

<p>If I switch students from an online session to a paper session after the January 22nd deadline, will I receive paper materials for these students?</p>	<p>Paper materials will not be automatically sent for students moved to paper sessions after the January 22nd, 2021 deadline. An additional order for materials must be placed. Pre-ID labels are not available for students added to paper sessions after the January 22nd deadline, so student information will need to be hand-gridded on to the answer documents.</p>
<p>Accessibility and Accommodations (Paper)</p>	
<p>Are there Braille versions of the test?</p>	<p>Braille is available for all tests. Braille student responses must be transcribed into a scannable answer document for scoring. Please contact the Iowa School for the Blind for Braille materials.</p> <p>Karen Cunningham 524 4th Street Des Moines, IA 50309-2302 Karen.Cunningham@blind.state.ia.us</p>
<p>Are there large print versions of the test?</p>	<p>Large print is available for all tests; however, all responses circled in large print test books must be transcribed into a scannable answer document for scoring. Large print tests can be ordered during the additional materials order window. See the Important Dates document in the Bulletins page of the ISASP Portal.</p>
<p>Online Testing</p>	
<p>Is online testing required?</p>	<p>The goal is to move to 100% online testing for all Iowa districts and schools. Some schools may not be ready to make the transition immediately. Paper-and-pencil tests will be available at an additional cost during the transition.</p>
<p>Is 1-to-1 required to administer the test online?</p>	<p>No, the ISASP may be given online in a computer lab (or similar) environment.</p>
<p>Do students with accommodations need to be setup in a different test session?</p>	<p>Depending on the accommodation, schools may find it easier to manage testing if students with accommodations are setup in separate test session.</p>

If I switch students from a paper session to an online session after the January 22 nd deadline, will I still receive paper materials for these students?	Students in paper sessions prior to the January 22 nd deadline will receive paper materials. The students can be moved to an online session, but there will be a fee for excess unused paper materials.
How are students placed into the correct test sessions?	Educators assign students to sessions for online testing. These sessions are created locally by schools in accordance with their testing schedule. Educators can organize the students into any groups desired.
Who prints the student testing tickets?	Educators with the PearsonAccess ^{next} user role of Proctor or Coordinator can print test tickets for online testing.
Accessibility and Accommodations (Online)	
Is text-to-speech available for any student?	Text-to-speech (or computer audio) is only available to students who have been assigned that Designated Support in PearsonAccess ^{next} .
Can text-to-speech be utilized for the online directions?	The online directions are included as part of the verbal directions read to students in the Test Administrator Manual .
What grades can utilize text-to-speech?	Text-to-speech is available for Language/Writing and Math (all grades), as well as Science (grades 5, 8, 10), and Reading (grades 6-11).
Can a human reader be utilized for the online test as opposed to text-to-speech?	Human reader is an acceptable accommodation for the paper-and-pencil test only, and only for Language/Writing and Math (all grades), as well as Science (grades 5, 8, 10), and Reading (grades 6-11).
Technology	
What devices/platforms will be supported for online testing?	Information about technical requirements may be found in the TestNav System Requirements on the TestNav 8 Online Support page.
Can we test online using iPads?	Yes, it may be possible to offer the test via iPads. Information may be found on the Set Up TestNav on iOS on the TestNav 8 Online Support page.

Can we test online using Chromebooks?	Yes, it may be possible to offer the test via Chromebooks. Information may be found on the Set Up TestNav on Chrome OS on the TestNav 8 Online Support page.
How do I complete a Local Infrastructure Trial?	The infrastructure trial can be conducted in the training admin in PearsonAccess ^{next} . Directions on how to complete an infrastructure trial is located on the Technology Setup page of the ISASP Portal. The infrastructure trial can be completed at any time but is available starting December 4 th , 2020.
How do I know if everything went well during my Local Infrastructure Trial?	Schools experiencing error codes during their infrastructure trial should reference the TestNav Common Error Codes page to resolve issues. If issues persist, please contact Pearson Customer Support . If you have successfully completed the trial without receiving any error messages, you may assume your district is ready to complete online testing.
Does TestNav and PearsonAccess ^{next} have the capacity to handle all the current users across the state?	ISASP's testing platform and servers are designed to accommodate as many concurrent Iowa users possible as users may choose to test on any given date. Districts may choose to test anytime during the State Designated testing window.
Reporting	
When will test results be reported?	A list of important reporting events are listed in the Important Dates document in the Bulletins page of the ISASP Portal.
How many questions must a student answer to receive a score?	Students who respond to one or more questions on a test will receive a score.

<p>When should I mark an online test as complete?</p>	<p>Some students will have started a test (logged into a test and responded to questions) but will not be able to complete it (refusal, illness, moving out of state). Any such test started should be marked complete. Students still in Ready status in sessions at the end of the district's testing window will need to be removed from those sessions.</p>
<p>How is Do Not Report (DNR) used? Will my student receive an ISR if the test is marked DNR?</p>	<p>DNR should be utilized for a student tests that had started testing but should not have tested. Tests marked as DNR will not receive any score including an ISR.</p>
<p>Are any manuals or instructions from previous years usable?</p>	<p>No, only manuals and instructions for the 2021 ISASP should be used during this test administration.</p>
<p>How will the naming of test session impact the ability to view and sort student data when it is received?</p>	<p>The test session name will not limit the viewing or sorting of student results. However, the Class Name listed on the student registration will determine the grouping and sort order of the Student Roster. If no name is listed students will be sorted by grade and subject.</p>
<p>How can I access ISASP data and reports from the spring 2019 administration?</p>	<p>Spring 2019 data and reports will be available in PearsonAccess^{next}. Users can go to Reporting Resources page of the ISASP Portal and click on the drop-down in the 2019 Reporting Resources box.</p> <p>Users will need to log in to PearsonAccess^{next}, confirm their administration is set to 2018-2019 in the top-right of the page, and then select Reports > Published Reports.</p>