



## Required Student Assessments and Training

### Introduction

The purpose of this guidance is to summarize expectations for academic student assessments in Iowa schools.

The table below identifies all assessment requirements for districts and nonpublic schools per federal law and Iowa code during the 2023-2024 school year.

### Federal Requirements

| Required Assessment   | Legal Citation  | Grades Required  | Testing Window  | Comments   |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| State Academic Assessment - Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP) | Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)<br><br>Iowa Code 256.7(21)(b)(2) and Iowa Code 279.60(3)<br><br>Applies to public districts | <b>For ESSA*</b> : Reading and mathematics: grades 3-8, 10 and 11. Science: grades 5, 8 and 10.<br><br><b>For Iowa Code*</b> : Reading and mathematics: grades 3-11. Science: grades 5, 8 and 10.<br><br><b>*See note below table.</b> | Per state statute, tests will be administered during the last quarter of the year. To accommodate district calendars, the testing window for 2023-24 will be open March 11 - May 3, 2024. | All students in these grades are to take this assessment. The exception is students taking the state alternate assessment. |
| State Alternate Assessment - Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)                          | Every Student Succeeds Act, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act   | Reading and mathematics: grades 3-11.<br><br>Science: grades 5, 8 and 10.  | Fall: Phase 1 Sept. 12 - Oct. 27, 2023.<br><br>Fall: Phase 2 Oct. 30 - Dec.22, 2023.<br><br>Spring: Phase 1 Feb. 5 - Mar. 22, 2024.<br><br>Spring: Phase 2 Mar. 25 - May 17, 2024.        | For students with an Individual Education Program (IEP) describing qualification for Iowa's Alternate Assessments.         |

| Required Assessment  | Legal Citation   | Grades Required   | Testing Window   | Comments  |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| ELPA21 Summative Assessment: Measure of Annual Progress and Attainment of English<br><br>Alt ELPA21 Summative Test | IA Administrative Code (IAC) Rule 281.60.3(1)<br><br>Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) [Sec. 1111(b)(2)(G)(i) and (ii); Sec. 1112(e)(3)(a); Sec. 1112(e)(3)(b); Sec. 3113(b)(2)] | ELPA21 Summative: All K-12 English learners.<br><br>Alt ELPA21 Summative: K-12 English learners with significant cognitive disabilities (test takes the place of general ELPA21 requirement).   | Summative ELPA21: Jan 30 - Mar 22, 2024.<br><br>Alt ELPA21: Jan 30-Mar 22, 2024.   | 100% participation is expected for ELPA21 Summative and Alt-ELPA21 including English learners with disabilities.          |
| ELPA21 Dynamic Screener: Instrument used for Identification of English learners                                    | IA Administrative Code (IAC) Rule 281.60.3(1)<br><br>Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) [Sec. 1111(b)(2)(G)(i) and (ii); Sec. 1112(e)(3)(a); Sec. 1112(e)(3)(b); Sec. 3113(b)(2)] | Dynamic Screener: All K-12 students new to a district whose Home Language Survey indicates a prominent use of a language other than English in the home.<br><br>Note: Transfer students previously screened in another Iowa district do not need to be re-screened. | Dynamic Screener: Year-round. Screening is part of statewide entrance procedures for identification of English learners. | Screening, identification and parent notification of program placement must occur within the first 30 days of enrollment. |

**\*Note: The Iowa School Performance Profiles is an ESSA-required report. Thus, grade 9 is not included in the report, even though they are required by Iowa Code to be assessed.**

## State Requirements

| Required Assessment                              | Legal Citation   | Grades Required   | Testing Window  | Comments |
|--|--|---|---|----------|
| Preschool Assessment -- Teaching Strategies GOLD | Iowa Code 279.60(1)<br><br>Child Development Coordinating Council Policy<br><br>Applies to public districts community partners and Shared Visions Preschool Grantees | All PK or 4 year old students in a Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program, Early Childhood Special Education Program, or Shared Visions Preschool Program. | Fall: Aug. 12 - Nov. 17, 2023.<br><br>Winter: Nov. 18, 2023 - Feb. 23, 2024.<br><br>Spring: Feb. 24 - May 31, 2024. |          |

| Required Assessment  | Legal Citation   | Grades Required  | Testing Window  | Comments   |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| Early Literacy Universal Screening and Progress Monitoring Assessment        | Iowa Code 279.68   | All students K-3, continuing for those students persistently at risk.      | Fall: Aug. 27 - Sept. 29, 2023.<br>Winter: Jan. 2 - Feb. 2, 2024.<br>Spring: April 22 - May 31, 2024.     | Districts may use any approved Universal Screening assessment to meet this requirement.                            |
| Early Literacy Alternate Assessment (ELAA)                                   | Iowa Code 279.68 and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act                       | K-3, continuing through 6th grade for those students persistently at risk. | Fall: Aug. 28 - Sept. 29, 2023.<br>Winter: Oct. 2, 2023 - Feb. 2, 2024.<br>Spring: Feb. 5 - May 31, 2024. | For students with an Individual Education Program (IEP) describing qualification for Iowa's Alternate Assessments. |
| Diagnostic Literacy Assessment   | Iowa Code 256D(1)(b)(1)<br>Applies to public districts                                 | K-3.   |   | The required universal screening measures under Iowa Code 279.68 may be used to meet this requirement.             |
| End-of-unit assessment for students taking one-half unit of U.S. Government. | Iowa Code 256.11(5)(b)<br>Applies to public districts and accredited nonpublic schools | Applies to course, not grade level.  | End of course.  |  |

## Training for Federal and State Mandated Assessments

### General Training Requirements for all Federal and State Assessments

| Name of Training   | Audience and Frequency   | Location  | Summary  |
|--|--|---|--|
| State of Iowa Test Security Training                       | <b>Audience:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Test Administrators/ Proctors</li> <li>Test Coordinators</li> </ul> <b>Frequency:</b><br><b>Required at least once every 3 years</b> | AEA Learning Online:<br><a href="https://training.aealearningonline.org/course/AS00109999">https://training.aealearningonline.org/course/AS00109999</a> | This training module includes the importance of test security and ways to ensure test security before, during and after the administration of the assessment.                        |
| State of Iowa Test Security Training for Test Coordinators | <b>Audience:</b><br>Test Coordinators<br><br><b>Frequency:</b><br><b>Required at least once every 3 years</b>  | AEA Learning Online.  | This training module supports district and school assessment coordinators to create an assessment policy and plan that follows the guidelines within the State Test Security Manual. |

## Federally Mandated Assessment Training Requirements

### ISASP Training

| Name of Training   | Audience and Frequency   | Location  | Summary   |
|--|--|---|---|
| ISASP Test Coordinator Overview  | <b>Audience:</b><br>ISASP Test Coordinator<br><br><b>Frequency:</b><br>Required every year   | ISASP Portal:<br><a href="https://ia.tms.pearson.com/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2f">https://ia.tms.pearson.com/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2f</a>            | In preparation for online and paper testing, the purpose of this training module is to support District and/or School Coordinators. The training includes an overview of the ISASP Portal, Pearson’s assessment platforms (PearsonAccess <sup>next</sup> and TestNav8), tasks coordinators can complete and next steps.   |
| ISASP Technology Readiness   | <b>Audience:</b><br>ISASP Technology Staff<br><br><b>Frequency:</b><br>Required every year   | ISASP Portal:<br><a href="https://ia.tms.pearson.com/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2f">https://ia.tms.pearson.com/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2f</a>            | The purpose of this training module is for technology staff to understand how to determine a school’s readiness to test their students online. Topics include: technology resources, components of online testing, TestNav8, ProctorCache, PearsonAccess <sup>next</sup> , infrastructure setup, infrastructure trial, next steps and support.  |
| ISASP Test Administration Training (with Test Security)<br><br><i>*Meets the Test Security Training Requirement*</i> | <b>Audience:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ISASP Test Coordinators</li> <li>• ISASP Test Administrators/ Proctors</li> </ul> <b>Frequency:</b><br>Required every year | ISASP Portal:<br><a href="https://ia.tms.pearson.com/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2f">https://ia.tms.pearson.com/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2f</a>            | The purpose of the required test administration module is to provide District and School Coordinators with a refresher on the functionalities within PearsonAccess <sup>next</sup> . This training provides more information regarding how to set up testing and the critical tasks needed to prepare for the ISASP administration. The required Test Security training module is located in this training. |
| ISASP Reports Overview   | <b>Audience:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ISASP Test Coordinators</li> <li>• Teachers</li> </ul> <b>Frequency:</b><br>Required every year                            | ISASP Portal:<br><a href="https://ia.tms.pearson.com/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2f">https://ia.tms.pearson.com/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2f</a>            | This training module includes the importance of test security by everyone and guidelines for scribes during federally mandated assessments.   |
| Scribe Training  | <b>Audience:</b><br>Scribes<br><br><b>Frequency:</b><br>Highly recommend at least <b>once</b> every <b>3</b> years   | AEA Learning Online:<br><a href="https://training.aealearningonline.org/course/AS00199999">https://training.aealearningonline.org/course/AS00199999</a> | This training module includes the importance of test security by everyone and guidelines for scribes during federally mandated assessments.   |

## DLM Training

| Name of Training                 | Audience and Frequency   | Location  | Summary   |
|----------------------------------|--|---|---|
| DLM Required Assessment Training | <p><b>Audience:</b><br/>DLM Test Administrators</p> <p><b>Frequency:</b><br/>Required every year</p> | Dynamic Learning Maps:<br><a href="https://training.dynamiclearningmaps.org/login/index.php">https://training.dynamiclearningmaps.org/login/index.php</a> | DLM has new and returning training for teachers who administered the DLM assessments the prior year.                              |
| DLM Optional Training            | <p><b>Audience:</b><br/>DLM Test Administrators</p> <p><b>Frequency:</b><br/>Required every year</p> | Dynamic Learning Maps:<br><a href="https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/professional-development">https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/professional-development</a> | DLM Professional Development Modules cover a range of topics including DLM Fundamentals, English language arts, math and science. |

## ELPA21 Training

| Name of Training  | Audience and Frequency   | Location   | Summary   |
|---|--|--|---|
| <p>ELPA21 Summative Test Administration Training for New Test Administrators</p> <p>ELPA21 Summative Test Administration Training for Experienced Test Administrators</p> <p>Alt ELPA21 Summative Test Training for Test Administrators</p> | <p><b>Audience:</b><br/>All Test Administrators/ proctors</p> <p><b>Frequency:</b><br/>Required annually for test administrators</p> | <p>Accessed through AEA PD Online.</p> <p>Available in December.</p> | <p>This is required training for all educators who will have responsibility for the administration of the ELPA21 Assessment to English learners.</p> <p>Test administrators new to ELPA21 must take the initial training module series. Test administrators who have completed the initial training in a previous year, may take the shorter training option for experienced TAs.</p> <p>Alt ELPA21 training is required for all test administrators prior to giving this new assessment.</p> |
| <p>ELPA21 Dynamic Screener Training</p> <p>ELPA21 Dynamic Screener Training for Experienced Test Administrators</p>   | <p><b>Audience:</b><br/>Test Administrators</p> <p><b>Frequency:</b><br/>Required annually for test administrators</p>               | <p>Accessed through AEA PD Online.</p> <p>Available in August.</p>   | <p>This is required training for all educators who are responsible for the administration of the ELPA21 Dynamic Screener to potential English learners.</p>   |

| Name of Training   | Audience and Frequency   | Location                        | Summary   |
|--|--|---------------------------------|---|
| Additional ELPA21 Modules: There are a number of ELPA21 training modules available on AEA Online | <p><b>Audience:</b><br/>Unique testing situations</p> <p><b>Frequency:</b><br/>*Highly recommended<br/>**Required as appropriate</p> | Accessed through AEA PD Online. | <p>Modules include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ELPA21 Test Coordinator Training*;</li> <li>• ELPA21 Summative Administration of Paper Forms for Religious Exemptions**;</li> <li>• New Test Administrators: Introduction to ELPA21 Screening and Summative Assessments*;</li> <li>• Accessing, Interpreting and Using ELPA21 Results*.</li> </ul> |

## State Mandated Assessment Training Requirements

| Name of Training  | Audience and Frequency  | Location   | Summary   |
|---|---|--|---|
| Administering assessments for ELI requirements (279.68) | <p><b>Audience:</b><br/>All users of assessments</p> <p><b>Frequency:</b><br/>Prior to initial assessment administration; updated at least annually</p> | Specific to the assessments used by the district. For example, FAST assessments have training modules in the training and resources tab in the FAST system | Prior to first administration of assessments, any user must complete required training for the assessment as defined by the assessment vendor. It is strongly recommended that users frequently refresh their administration and scoring knowledge. Some assessments (such as the FAST suite of measures) have an assessment certification process.                     |
| Early Literacy Alternate Assessment (ELAA)              | <p><b>Audience:</b><br/>All users of the assessment</p> <p><b>Frequency:</b> Annually</p>   | Accessed through AEA PD Online.  | Prior to administration of Iowa's Early Literacy Alternate Assessment, teachers are required to take training that reviews the assessment requirements and any changes from the previous administration   |
| Teaching Strategies GOLD                                | <p><b>Audience:</b><br/>All users of the assessment</p> <p><b>Frequency:</b><br/>Every 3 years</p>  | In the Develop Area of <a href="#">My Teaching Strategies GOLD website</a> (login required).   | <p>It is highly recommended that teaching staff complete the Interrater Reliability Certification (IRC) to support reliable use of GOLD®.</p> <p>Teaching assistants who have completed MyTeachingStrategies® GOLD® Introduction and Interrater Reliability Certification may complete preliminary leveling if the lead teacher and administrator are in agreement.</p> |