January 2024

2024 Early Literacy Request for Applications (RFAP): Vendor Questions and Department Responses

Introduction

The following questions were submitted prior to the December 29, 2023 deadline. The table below reports the questions and the Iowa Department of Education's response to each. Additional information and submission details continue to be available on the Department's Request for Approval (RFAP): Early Literacy Universal Screening & Progress Monitoring Assessments page.

	Submitted Question	Department Response
1	Can vendors submit an assessment for a subset of grades K-6, or are assessments required to cover all grades K-6?	Vendors may submit for a subset of grades within the K-6 grade span.
2	*Assessment X* is a 3-12 grade foundational literacy assessment. Are we eligible to submit for this Early Literacy RFAP?	Yes. *Assessment X* may submit for this RFAP.
3	What are the department-adopted minimum standards for reliability, validity, area under the curve, specificity, sensitivity, and reliability of slope?	Minimum department-adopted standards are: Reliability ($\geq$ .70), Validity (NA), Area Under the Curve ($\geq$ .70), Sensitivity ($\geq$ .70), Specificity ($\geq$ .70), and Reliability of Slope ($\geq$ .60).
4	What types of documents/publications are acceptable to use as evidence within the Request for Approval Submission Template?	Supporting evidence may exist in various forms. These might include, but not be limited to, vendor research and development validation studies, vendor-provided Technical Manuals, internal or external research reviews, research briefs, and published peer-reviewed research.
5	Must the technical data reported on the Request for Approval Submission Template be from studies conducted in Iowa schools or is it acceptable to submit studies conducted elsewhere in the United States?	Technical data does not need to be based on a population of Iowa students. It is acceptable to submit studies conducted elsewhere in the United States.
6	On page 1 of the RFP, you state "The committee will identify those assessments that meet the minimum technical characteristics required for inclusion on the approved assessment list." Can you please provide more information on the minimum technical characteristics that will be evaluated?	The technical characteristics that will be evaluated are those reported and described in the 2024 ELI Request for Approval (RFAP) Screening Tool document. These follow the industry-standards for quality early literacy screening and monitoring assessments. The provided response for Question #3 may be helpful.