



Indiana's I AM Assessments: Information for Educators

“Educator-Created; Student-Centered”



1. What is I AM?

I AM (Indiana's Alternate Measure) is an accountability assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities in grades 3–8 and 10. I AM is an accessible assessment developed by educators tailored to student needs that measures student achievement according to Indiana's Alternate Academic Standards or Content Connectors. The primary mode for administering the I AM is through the online testing system. I AM is a stage-adaptive untimed assessment delivered in a one-on-one setting with a classroom educator.

NEW!

2. What is new about I AM?

The new online tests are more accessible to students who require features or accommodations while testing. New tools and accessibility features for I AM assessments include:

- Answer eliminator
- Calculator for calculator-allowed items (mathematics grades 6–8, 10)
 - Calculators are not available for students in grades 3–5
- Expandable passages
- Highlighter
- Line reader
- Mark for review
- Mathematics tools (e.g., ruler)
- Text-to-Speech
- Zoom in and zoom out
- Color contrast
- Masking
- Mouse pointer (size and color)
- Print size
- Translation-Spanish (Stacked) for mathematics, science and social studies



3. What is a Stage-Adaptive Test?

In a stage-adaptive test, the student's answers help determine the next group of items the student receives, building the test in stages.

In stage one, a placement test is administered to all students to determine the student's general level of performance. In stage two, a more targeted test is administered to the student based on their performance in stage one.

There are three versions of stage two: Tier 1 (low complexity), Tier 2 (moderate complexity) and Tier 3 (high complexity). The student's tier placement in stage two will be determined by their performance in stage one. The student's total score is based on performance from both stages of the test.



4. When will I AM be administered?

I AM assessments will be administered during the spring of the 2018–2019 school year to students in grades 3–8 and 10. There is a single testing window from April 8–May 17, 2019.

Subject	Grade(s)
I AM English Language Arts	Grades 3–8 and 10
I AM Mathematics	Grades 3–8 and 10
I AM Science	Grades 4, 6, and Biology
I AM Social Studies	Grade 5

Note: While final policies related to high school assessment are being defined, grade 10 will be assessed for the 2018–2019 school year. Scoring information will be available for all grades by August 15, 2018, for the 2018–2019 school year.



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5. What are the participation criteria for I AM?

There are four criteria for a student to participate in I AM:

1. The student's records must indicate a disability that significantly impacts intellectual functioning and adaptive behavior. Adaptive behavior is defined as essential for someone to live independently and function safely in daily life.
2. The student requires extensive, repeated, individualized instruction and support that is not identified as a temporary accommodation.
3. The student must use substantially-adapted materials and individualized methods of accessing information in alternative ways to acquire, maintain, generalize, demonstrate, and transfer skills across multiple settings.
4. The goals listed in the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) must be linked to the enrolled grade-level Alternate Achievement Standards (Indiana Content Connectors).

Please note, in a given year, a student must participate in either all general education assessments or all alternate assessments—not parts of both.



6. How are educators involved in the new I AM?

Educators are involved in developing I AM at each step of the process including:

- Defining Content Connectors
- Developing test blueprints
- Developing item specifications
- Reviewing content for bias/sensitivity issues
- Developing new items
- Reviewing data from field-test items
- Determining cut scores for proficiency



7. What can I expect in the upcoming year regarding I AM assessments?

We expect to work closely with Indiana educators throughout the school year to build an assessment system that benefits our students and drives educational improvement. We encourage Indiana educators to participate in the future development milestones of I AM Assessment, including our upcoming I AM Assessment Meetings and Training Opportunities:

- Data review (summer 2019)
- Standard setting (summer 2019)

In February and March 2019, in-person Test Administration Training sessions will be delivered in multiple locations throughout the state. More information will be available on the I AM Portal: <https://iam.portal.airast.org/>

To participate in I AM assessment development, please visit this [site](#).



8. What resources can I use to help prepare my students for I AM?

You can prepare students for I AM by using I AM blueprints to support instruction. Blueprints define essential content that will be measured by the assessment. I AM blueprints are located on the Indiana Department of Education website, <https://www.doe.in.gov/assessment/i-am-test-design>.

Visit the following resources for more information on I AM assessments:

- **Indiana I AM website**
<https://www.doe.in.gov/assessment/iam>
- **Indiana Portal**
<https://indiana.portal.airast.org/>

Please direct questions to inassessments@doe.in.gov.