

Illinois Science Assessment (ISA)

School Year 2019-2020 Testing Dates

April 13 – 30, 2020

What is the Illinois Science Assessment?

Illinois School Board of Education (ISBE) requires administration of the ISA to comply with federal law. The federal NCLB/ESEA requires that students be assessed in reading, math and science. The assessment will be administered in an online format and is aligned to the Illinois Learning Standards for Science incorporating the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), which were adopted in 2014.

Test	Number of Items	Before/After Prep Time	Estimated Test Time	Total Time
Grade 5	18	15	38	53
Grade 8	23	15	40	55
Grade 11	21	15	32	47

What types of items will appear on the ISA?

Each test (5, 8, and 11) will begin with reading passages, called scenarios, and will be followed by a series of test items. Some items will be open-ended, some will be multiple-choice and some will include drop-down selections or other technology-enhanced choice. Each test will also include stand-alone, multiple-choice items that do not follow a scenario.

What NGSS science content is covered in each test?

Grades 5 and 8 will have items aligned to Physical Science (PS), Life Science (LS), Earth/Space Science (ESS) and Engineering (ETS). The grade 11 is aligned to Life Science (LS) with a small portion covering Engineering (ETS).

How are ISA results reported and used?

ISA results will be included on the IL State School Report Card. Schools can use ISA results to inform their science curricula and instruction. Parent reports are also available.

Where can I find additional information about the Illinois Science Assessment?

CPS staff can find additional information on the CPS Knowledge Center ISA page here:

<https://sites.google.com/a/cps.edu/kc/assessment/illinois-science-assessment>

Parents can find additional information at <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-Science-Assessment.aspx>

Visit cps.edu/assessment for information on Chicago Public Schools full assessment system.