Section 4: English Learners and English Learners with Disabilities (Formerly Tables 6 and 7)

All students are initially registered for the standard computer-based Illinois Assessment of Readiness and the computer-based Illinois Science Assessment through the Student Information System. All Grade 3-8 students are assigned a grade-level ELA/L and mathematics assessment and a science assessment at Grades 5 and 8. The Illinois Assessment of Readiness and Illinois Science Assessment are timed tests.

All students are assigned to the regular IAR or ISA computer-based test **until** a Test Coordinator changes the assignment to an accommodated test in the Illinois Administration Platform.

Accessibility features and English Learner test supports are available for students currently classified as ELs (or EL, Limited English Proficient (LEP)).

Accommodated computer-based tests are available for students with disabilities. Paper-based tests are available as an accommodation for students with disabilities or who meet a qualifying condition.

The Illinois State Board of Education provides reading, writing, and calculation accommodation support on computer-based tests for students with disabilities. ISBE provides a paper version of each test for students with disabilities. ISBE provides the paper version in Spanish for mathematics and science. ISBE provides a computer-based Spanish mathematics and science test as an English Learner accessibility support.

! **IMPORTANT:** All assignments listed under *Testing Platform Accommodation Assignments* and *Locally Provided Accommodation Assignments* **are limited only** to students who have an established Individualized Education Plan or Section 504 Plan that specifically documents that the accommodation is a required need for the student.

English Learners
Federal law requires that students not be excluded from assessments with the intention of holding schools accountable for the academic performance of all students. ELs in Illinois may not be excluded from summative assessments in ELA/L, mathematics, or science assessments. ELs whose parents have waived services may not be excluded from state assessments and are still eligible to receive test supports allowed to ELs on the Illinois Assessment of Readiness and Illinois Science Assessment.

Eligibility for EL Accommodations
Only students currently identified as ELs are eligible to receive English Learner test supports on the Illinois Assessment of Readiness and the Illinois Science Assessment. Students who have been reclassified or former EL students are no longer eligible to receive EL test supports and should be assigned the standard test form. For schools that provide instruction in Spanish for Dual Language Learners (classrooms composed of native speakers and English Learners), school staff can choose to administer the assessment in Spanish or in English. However, please verify the preferred language with the student in advance. Once the student begins testing, the language cannot be changed, and the student must finish testing in that assigned language.

4.1 English Learner Accessibility Supports: All Subjects

In addition to the Universal Tools, Accessibility Features, and Administration Considerations available on standard computer-based IAR and ISA tests, ISBE recommends that all students classified as EL have access to the following while taking an ELA/L, mathematics or science assessment:

4.1.1 Extended time: A student may be allowed an extended time accommodation beyond the section testing time up to the end of the school day to complete a section **ONLY IF** this accommodation is listed in his or her IEP or 504 plan (or EL plan).

It is highly recommended that these students be scheduled to test in a separate setting. A student may be on a different testing schedule from other students because of this accommodation, as long as testing is completed within the testing window (in addition, each section must be completed on the day on which it begins).

❖ Reference Section 3.2.8 Extended Time for complete directions for administering an extended time accommodation before, during, and after testing.

4.1.2 Native Language: General administration directions read aloud, repeated, and clarified in the student's native language.

LOCALLY PROVIDED: Translated test administration Test Proctor scripts embedded with translated audio files are located on the Illinois Support Site at https://il.mypearsonsupport.com/.

Click on **Resources>Test Proctor Scripts and Resources>Translated Test Proctor Scripts and Audio Files**. Each script displays the English version of the testing directions and a corresponding audio file in one of the following languages that can be played by the Test Proctor for the student tester.

- Arabic
- French
- Mandarin
- Polish
- Russian
- Spanish
- Tagalog
- Telugu
- Ukrainian
- Urdu

4.1.3 Word-to-Word Dictionary:

LOCALLY PROVIDED: Students may use an approved word-to-word dictionary listed on the 2025-2026 ACT-Authorized Bilingual Word-to-Word Dictionaries located on ACT's website:

https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/ACTApprovedBilingualDictionariesList.pdfExtended Time.

4.2 English Learner Accessibility Supports Mathematics and Science

The following supports are available for English Learners taking a computer-based assessment.

4.2.1 Standard Online Computer-Based Form Mathematics and Science: text-to-speech is embedded as a feature on all mathematics and science test forms.

- Students are registered through the SIS.

4.2.2 Online Spanish Form (w/TTS) for Mathematics and Science: Spanish version of the mathematics and science assessments. This version of the test is embedded with Spanish text-to-speech and contains all of the universal tools and accessibility features found on the Standard Online Computer-Based Mathematics and Science tests with the following exception:

- Item interactions are limited to multiple choice, multiple select and constructed response items.
- Online Spanish Form (w/TTS) for mathematics and/or science must be assigned to the student in the Illinois Administration Platform.

4.3 English Learners with Disabilities

ELs with disabilities are eligible for accommodations allowed for students with disabilities. The IEP team or 504 Plan Coordinator should collaborate with school EL (i.e., language) staff and evaluation professionals to determine the English language development needs of an EL with an identified disability.

Making assessment accessibility features and accommodations decisions in isolation can result in providing inappropriate access to the student. Therefore, an EL staff familiar with the student should be a member of, or collaborate with, the IEP team or 504 Plan Coordinator in order to:

- Determine the appropriate accommodation(s) that address both the student's linguistic needs and disability;
- Discuss the effective implementation of the accommodations; and
- Determine the effectiveness of such accommodations.

4.3.1 Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Provided in Spanish for Mathematics and Science

4.3.1.1 Paper Form – Spanish for Mathematics or Science

Student Profile: Student meets a condition that allows for paper-based testing as described below. Students should be tested in the language of instruction if at all possible.

- A student unable to use a computer due to the impact of their disability such as:
  - a health-related disability, neurological disorder, or other complex disability, and/or cannot meet the demands of computer-based test administration;
  - an emotional, behavioral, or other disability who is unable to maintain sufficient concentration to participate in a computer-based test administration, even with test accommodations;
  - A student with a disability who requires assistive technology that is not compatible with TestNav.

- A student who recently entered school and has had very little or no prior experience with technology.
- A student who is unable to access an online assessment due to religious beliefs.

Paper Form - Spanish must be assigned in Illinois Administration Platform, and the Test Coordinator must order a Spanish Paper Kit from the Illinois Administration Platform Orders page. Allow 5-7 days before testing is scheduled to account for shipping.

Test Proctors are responsible for collecting all nonscorable student work, test booklets, and answer documents (if appropriate) and returning materials to the Test Coordinator.

IAR paper tests come with answer documents or consumable test booklets and will be scored by Pearson.

ISA responses must be transcribed directly into TestNav in order to be scored.

Only transcribed responses will be scored. At least two persons must be present during transcription of student responses (one transcriber and one observer confirming accuracy). It is recommended that one of the individuals be a District or School Test Coordinator.

❖ Refer to **Appendix A: Protocol for the Use of the Scribe Accommodations and for Transcribing Students Responses** for complete scribing and transcribing instructions.

4.3.1.2 Paper Form – Spanish Large Print for Mathematics or Science

Student Profile: Student with a visual impairment who is unable to take a computer-based assessment. Students should be tested in the language of instruction if at all possible.

Paper Form – Large Print must be assigned in Illinois Administration Platform, and the Test Coordinator must order a Spanish Large Print Kit from the Illinois Administration Platform Orders page. Allow 5-7 days before testing is scheduled to account for shipping.

During Testing: The font size for the large print edition will be 18 point on paper sized 14" x 18". Students will not record their answers in standard print test booklets or answer documents. Instead, students will circle their answers in a large print test booklet. For constructed response items, students will write their answers on the lines provided in their large print test booklets. In mathematics, students will need to write their answers in boxes at the top of the answer grids, but they do not need to bubble in their answers.

Test Proctors are responsible for collecting all nonscorable student work, test booklets, and answer documents (if appropriate) and returning materials to the Test Coordinator.

IAR Mathematics and ELA/L responses must be transcribed verbatim in a standard student test booklet or answer document, which is included in the Large Print Test Kit.
ISA responses must be transcribed directly into TestNav.

Only transcribed responses will be scored. At least two persons must be present during transcription of student responses (one transcriber and one observer confirming accuracy). It is recommended that one of the individuals be a District or School Test Coordinator.

❖ Refer to **Appendix A: Protocol for the Use of the Scribe Accommodations and for Transcribing Students Responses** for complete scribing and transcribing instructions.