

# What's New and Improved Quick Guide Spring 2026 Test Administration

## Illinois Assessment of Readiness Illinois Science Assessment

The purpose of this quick guide is to provide an at-a-glance view of What's New or Improved for Test Administration for the Spring 2026 Illinois Assessment of Readiness and the Illinois Science Assessment. This guide provides a brief description of high-level changes and improvements to platforms, policies, and manuals used to administer the Illinois Assessment of Readiness and the Illinois Science Assessment.

Information in this quick guide is also available on the Illinois support site at [il.mypearsonsupport.com](http://il.mypearsonsupport.com). There you may watch the training video or download the PDF titled *What's New or Improved for Test Administration for the Spring 2026 Illinois Assessment of Readiness and the Illinois Science Assessment*.

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Testing Platforms	What's New or Improved
TestNav	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TestNav must be uninstalled and reinstalled on all testing devices.</li> <li>• TestNav TTS voice has been replaced with more authentic-sounding AWS Polly.</li> <li>• The TestNav embedded version of Read&amp;Write will be updated by Everway in January.</li> </ul>
Illinois Administration Platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proctor Dashboard User Interface has been updated.</li> <li>• All paper tests must be ordered through the IAP.</li> <li>• Accommodations Upload Template has been updated.</li> <li>• Locally provided accommodations will no longer be collected in the platform.</li> </ul>
Accommodations	What's New or Improved
Text-to-Speech	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Now a universal feature on all computer-based mathematics assessments.</li> <li>• TestNav TTS voice has been replaced with more authentic-sounding AWS Polly.</li> </ul>
Speech-to-Text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Now available as a mathematics accommodation on the Online Accommodated Form – Bundle.</li> </ul>
New Test Forms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Online Accommodated Form – Bundle is a new test form for ELA, Math, and Science. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Math and Science include TTS, STT, and Proctor Read Aloud.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> ELA includes TTS and Proctor Read Aloud.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Co-Writer/Read and Write	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everway, the company that owns both browser extensions, has merged the products and retained the Read&amp;Write brand. Students with subscriptions already see the changes.</li> <li>• The TestNav embedded version will be updated by the company in January.</li> </ul>

Accommodations Upload Template	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The template has been updated.</li> </ul>
Accommodations Field Guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New field guide developed to assist STC and DTC.</li> </ul>
Locally Provided Accommodations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pearson will no longer collect locally provided accommodations designations in the Illinois Administration Platform.</li> <li>Districts and Schools must continue to collect and maintain locally provided accommodations.</li> </ul>
Materials Ordering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All paper tests must be ordered by the District or School Test Coordinator through the Illinois Administration Platform.</li> <li>Initial orders will no longer be available for paper testing.</li> </ul>
Directions in Native Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General testing directions in ten languages are being developed to include audio files of the 'Say' directions in the Test Proctor Scripts.</li> </ul>
AF&A Manual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New AF&amp;A manual is under construction and will be posted by December 31.</li> <li>Includes updated alternative text guidelines for ELA and Math and new Science guidelines.</li> </ul>
<b>Test Directions and Proctor Scripts</b>	<b>What's New or Improved</b>
Computer-Based Test Directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All computer-based test proctoring scripts have been re-developed to address the use of seal codes and the student-facing screens for logging into testing.</li> </ul>
Math Grades 6&7 CBT Directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 1 Part A and Section 1 Part B directions have been updated to include an emphasis on completing both parts using one seal code.</li> </ul>
ELA Directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Student directions have been updated to include an emphasis on responding to the writing prompt.</li> </ul>

All Test Directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sections have replaced Units.</li> </ul>
Directions in Native Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General testing directions in ten languages are being developed to include audio files of the ‘Say’ directions.</li> </ul>
<b>Students</b>	<b>What’s New or Improved</b>
Test Directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ELA testing directions edited to emphasize the importance of responding to the writing prompt.</li> <li>Various other testing direction updates.</li> </ul>
Practice Tests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ELA, Math, and Science practice tests are being developed to include released IAR and ISA items that are TTS and STT enabled.</li> </ul>
Text-To-Speech	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All computer-based mathematics test forms are enabled with text-to-speech.</li> </ul>
Speech-To-Text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Speech-to-Text is now available as an online embedded accommodation for math.</li> </ul>
<b>Test Proctors</b>	<b>What’s New or Improved</b>
Test Administration Manual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TAM updates to Accommodations, Room Prep and Start Testing sections.</li> </ul>
Illinois Administration Platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Illinois Administration Platform Proctor Dashboard User Interface has been updated.</li> </ul>
Professional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ISBE now offers professional development credit for training completed through the Learning Management System on Pearson’s support site at <a href="http://il.mypearsonsupport.com">il.mypearsonsupport.com</a>.</li> </ul>
<b>District and School Test Coordinators</b>	<b>What’s New or Improved</b>

<p>How to Train Staff Toolkit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targeted training module to assist School Test Coordinators planning how to train campus-wide staff to administer the IAR and ISA.</li> <li>• Kit includes administration planning template</li> </ul>
<p>Test Coordinator Manual Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant areas of update include applying accountability codes, managing transfer students, creating, managing, and monitoring proctor groups, managing makeup testing, transcribing paper tests, and assigning accommodations.</li> </ul>
<p>Professional Development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ISBE now offers professional development credit for training completed through the Learning Management System on Pearson’s support site at <a href="http://il.mypearsonsupport.com">il.mypearsonsupport.com</a>.</li> </ul>
<p>Accessibility and Accommodations Manual Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant areas of update include a new Accommodations Upload Template and Field Guide, a section dedicated to student profiles matching testing scenarios, and decision tree to assist campus IEP teams with testing assignments, and crosswalk between 2025 and 2026 testing assignments and testing labels.</li> </ul>
<p>Illinois Administration Platform</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proctor Dashboard User Interface has been updated.</li> <li>• All paper tests must be ordered through the IAP.</li> <li>• Accommodations Upload Template has been updated.</li> <li>• Locally provided accommodations will no longer be collected in the platform.</li> </ul>
<p>Materials Ordering</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All paper tests must be ordered by the District or School Test Coordinator through the Illinois Administration Platform.</li> </ul>