

Working Together for Student Success

To: Parents of Students with Disabilities in Grades 3-5 With Text-to-Speech, Screen Reader, Human Reader, or Calculator Accommodations (School years 2020 – 2021 and 2021 – 2022)

From: Dr. Charity Flores, Director of Assessment

Dr. Nancy Holsapple, Director of Special Education

Date: December 4, 2020

Subject: Notice Regarding Statewide Assessments

The Indiana Learning Evaluation Assessment Readiness Network (ILEARN) assessment is given to students in grades 3, 4, and 5 in the areas of English/Language Arts and Mathematics to measure students' knowledge and ability based on Indiana Academic Standards. Accommodations are available for instruction and assessments as determined by Case Conference Committees (CCCs) and outlined in each student's Individualized Education Program (IEP).

There are, however, certain accommodations that, while allowable for instructional periods, may not be allowed for particular students during assessment as determined by the CCC. In particular, the use of text-to-speech (TTS), screen reader, or human reader may not be permitted on the English/Language Arts ILEARN assessment as determined by the CCC. Similarly, the use of a calculator on the Mathematics ILEARN assessment may not be permitted. IEP decision-making teams should consult the IDOE guidance approved by the State Board of Education on November 10, 2020 in determining whether these accommodations are appropriate.

Pursuant to Indiana Code 20-32-5.1-18.8, not later than February 1, 2021, schools must provide a copy of this notice to parents at the annual case review when reviewing a student's IEP, service plan, choice special education plan, or Sec. 504 plan. Please be advised that IC 20-32-5.1-18.8 requires that case conference committees discuss the contents of this notice.

As always, IDOE is prepared to provide all technical assistance schools may need in implementing this new statutory requirement. Questions can be referred to the Office of Student Assessment or Office of Special Education.