

To: Indiana State Board of Education

From: Lynn Schemel, Deputy Chief Academic Officer

Date: July 16, 2025

Subject: 2025-2026 Formative Assessment Grant: List of Assessment Programs and Universal Screeners Including Characteristics of Dyslexia Recommended for Approval

Indiana Code 20-32-5.1-17 requires the Indiana State Board of Education (SBOE) to approve at least two benchmark, formative, interim, or similar assessments for use with Indiana's Formative Assessment Grant. By law, these assessments must satisfy the requirements of one of the two below categories. The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) procured a preferred assessment that meets the requirements specified in IC 20-32-5.1-17 (b)(2) for use by schools in which fewer than 70% of students passed the IREAD assessment. Through the Request for Services (RFS) process, additional universal screeners including characteristics of dyslexia met outlined criteria. These approved universal screeners may be utilized by schools who are at or above the seventy percent benchmark.

Category 1:

- Show alignment, verified by a third party, to Indiana's academic standards *OR* Indiana's selected college entrance exam (College Board SAT) for grades 8-10 assessments;
- Provide predictive study results for student performance on the statewide assessment; AND
- Enter into a data share agreement with the department.

Category 2:

- Be a universal screener including characteristics of dyslexia that meets the screening requirements listed in IC 20-35.5-2-2;
- Measure foundational reading skills;
- Receive a convincing rating for accuracy, reliability, and validity by the National Center on Intensive Intervention or a nationally recognized dyslexia assessment expert;
- Screen for early literacy skill deficits;
- Provide parents and schools with data analysis guides for interpreting results and comprehensive support for schools to guide classroom instruction and the implementation of reading interventions; and
- Provide the department with an annual analysis of statewide data trends to support identification of early literacy skill deficits and guide targeted intervention efforts.

In spring 2025, IDOE convened a committee of Indiana school leaders to review benchmark, formative, interim, and similar assessment programs for required criteria. Technical validity, reliability, accessibility, and usefulness of scoring and reporting were also considered and reviewed by the technical advisory committee (TAC). All assessment vendors were invited to participate in the <u>public request for approval process</u>. Previously approved assessment programs submitted assurances stating that there were no

substantial changes made to the assessment program. If substantive changes were applied, the assessment was considered to be a new assessment, and all documentation was provided for the committee to review. All new assessment programs were evaluated impartially by an educator committee according to the published <u>Criteria and Evaluation Rubric</u>. These published criteria establish a high standard for approved assessment programs to ensure that schools and students receive trustworthy and useful data that support remediation efforts and differentiated instruction for students throughout the school year.

Based on this comprehensive review, IDOE recommends the following assessment programs for approval for use with the 2025-2026 Formative Assessment Grant. The committee approved three new assessment programs, italicized below. Cambium Assessments, Inc: Clearsight did not submit for renewal and thus was not included in the list.

Category 1:

- Amira Learning & HMH: Amira Learning Assess ISIP
- Amplify: mCLASS with DIBELS 8th Edition
- College Board: PSAT 8/9College Board: PSAT 10
- Curriculum Associates, LLC: i-Ready Assessments
- Edmentum: Study IslandEdmentum: Exact Path
- NWEA: MAP Growth
- NWEA: MAP Suite for Early Learners
- Renaissance Learning, Inc: DnA Indiana Interim Assessment

Category 2:

Preferred Universal Screener including Characteristics of Dyslexia (schools with fewer than 70% of students passing IREAD must utilize this screener)

• Acadience Learning: Acadience K-6 Reading

Additional Universal Screeners including Characteristics of Dyslexia

- Amira Learning & HMH: Amira Learning Assess ISIP
- Amplify: mCLASS with DIBELS 8th Edition
- Imagine Learning LLC: Imagine+Early Literacy/Dyslexia Screener
- NWEA: MAP Reading Fluency Dyslexia Screener