

ISAT Replaced As Assessment Tool

The prior ISAT testing is being replaced with the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessments during the 2014-2015 school year and moving forward. Public Act 98-0972 amends the School Code to add a new section 2-3.64a-5 (State goals and assessment) make this change in the State goals and assessment methods for schools. The Act requires ISBE to implement its new academic standards and assessments that are to be applicable to students who are subject to State assessments. The Act requires (subject to funding appropriation by the State):

1. For this 2014-2015 school year, ISBE annual assessment of all students grades 3 through 8 in English and math.
2. By the 2017-2018 school year, ISBE annual assessment of all students in science at one grade in grades 3 through 5, at one grade in grades 6 through 9, and at one grade in grades 10 through 12.
3. ISBE annual assessment of high school students in English and math.

For high school students, one of the assessments must include a college and career ready determination. The law now provides that students who are not assessed for college and career ready determinations may not receive a regular high school diploma unless the student is exempted from taking State assessments.

The law includes specialized requirements for special education and ELL students. The Act was effective July 1, 2014.

With the ISBE adoption of learning standards based on the Common Core, the existing (ISAT) tests are being replaced with these new PARCC assessments which are designed to provide more reliable data, not simply to provide a "snapshot" of a student's achievement levels, but additionally to help guide instruction.

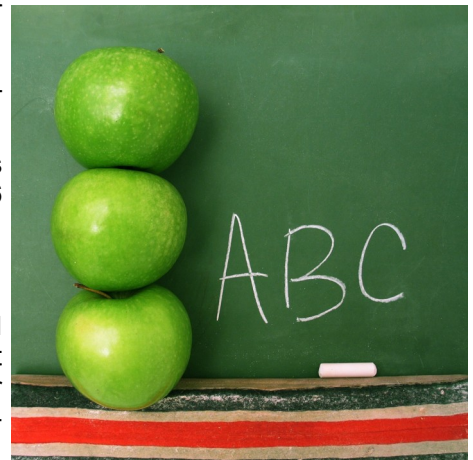
The full text of Public Act 98-0972 can be found at:

[Public Act 98-0972](#)

An ISBE Q & A regarding of the new Section 2-3.64a-5 can be found at the following link:

[New ISAT Cut Scores/Transition to PARCC Assessments](#)

For more information about matters discussed in this issue, please contact any one of the KTJ School Law Attorneys.



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