



Early Learning Assessments (ELA) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

This FAQ will provide you with information regarding ISPROUT and Indiana Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (IKRA).

Purpose		
Number	Question	Answer
1	Why should schools/early education programs opt in to administer ISPROUT and/or IKRA to all children?	ISPROUT and IKRA provide educators and families with information about their child's progress in all eight early learning domains through a developmentally appropriate assessment system. This information will identify strengths, uncover gaps, and support instructional planning for children. Having actionable data will also facilitate discussions between educators and families about how children can grow at home. They focus on learning domains that many assessments overlook, but are proven to have a high impact on a child's experience and achievements. Administrators will also be able to access program-level reports. These results should not be used to evaluate educators.
2	Is ISPROUT and IKRA available to all schools and early education programs?	Any school-based (public, private, charter, or non-public) or community-based early child care and education program may elect to administer ISPROUT to all children enrolled for ages birth through five. All accredited schools must continue to administer ISPROUT to children ages three through five who receive special education services using the entry and exit guidelines, including re-administering if a formerly tested student begins an IEP. Additionally, all programs serving children receiving On My Way Pre-K are required to administer ISPROUT to enrolled children. Finally, all programs who received funding through the High-Quality Curriculum Grant in 2025 are required to administer ISPROUT to all enrolled children in classrooms who received curricula from grant funding. Any school-based (public, private, charter, or non-public) may elect to administer IKRA to enrolled kindergarten students. Note: community based early care and education programs are not eligible to administer IKRA.
3	What areas are assessed with ISPROUT and IKRA?	ISPROUT and IKRA assess eight early learning domains aligned to Indiana's Early Learning Standards: English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Creative Arts, Physical Health and Growth, Approaches to Play and Learning, and Student Wellbeing.



4	How are children assessed using ISPROUT and IKRA?	ISPROUT and IKRA Children are assessed using various observations or specific-assigned tasks, based on ongoing non-bias observations of children's typical daily routines and activities. There is a recommended sequence to follow when conducting ratings, but educators will be able to administer the assessed areas in any order. IKRA Only In addition to the observation items, IKRA includes direct assessment items, utilizing a variety of child appropriate materials and manipulatives administered by teachers one-on-one or in small groups or utilizing tablets.
5	Can children without an IEP or OMWPK funds be assessed with ISPROUT and is there a cost?	ISPROUT is open to all Indiana early learning programs. IDOE encourages programs serving children with IEPs and/or OMWPK funds to assess all enrolled children with ISPROUT to provide a common assessment for all children in the program. There is no cost for administering ISPROUT to those who do not have IEP or receive OMWPK funds.

Special Education		
Number	Question	Answer
6	Are students with an IEP required to be assessed with ISPROUT?	Yes. This requirement is part of the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Indiana Article 7. Local education agencies (LEA) are required to ensure compliance with IDEA and Indiana Article 7. Eligible children must be evaluated, have a Case Conference Committee (CCC) meeting, and have services implemented by their third birthday. For more information review: Federal Regulations: 34 CFR § 303.321; 34 CFR § 300.15-300.311 State Regulations: 511 IAC 7-46-4(c).
7	When are IEP students required to be assessed with ISPROUT?	ISPROUT is required to be administered to all students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) who are ages three through five: • Within six weeks of beginning an IEP; and • Within six weeks of exiting for Kindergarten.
8	What are the requirements for assessing speech only students?	ISPROUT is required to be administered to all students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP), including speech only, who are ages three through five: • Within six weeks of beginning an IEP; and



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		Within six weeks of exiting for Kindergarten. Educators are to follow all of the requirements of the assessment as a student with an IEP. Students will have a reduced number of SKBs required to be assessed. The speech only SKBs are identified as “Priority Only” in KReady.
9	When a student’s IEP is for speech only and they attend preschool in a program administering ISPROUT, who should assess the student, the SLP or the classroom teacher?	The SLP and classroom teacher would work together on the items that are part of the speech only list of SKBs.
10	Can ISPROUT or IKRA be used to determine a need for special education services or eligibility?	ISPROUT or IKRA can be used by schools as a component of the initial evaluation process to help determine a need for special education services. It cannot be the sole determination for eligibility, but may be used to aid in the decision-making process. Early care and education programs can also use ISPROUT results to discuss and share concerns with families, directing them to their local schools for further evaluation.
11	Is a student with an ISP or CSEP required to complete ISPROUT?	No. Students with an ISP or CSEP are not required to participate in ISPROUT.

On My Way Pre-K (OMWPK)		
Number	Question	Answer
12	Are On My Way Pre-K children required to be assessed with ISPROUT?	Yes. Administering ISPROUT is part of a program’s agreement to be an On My Way Pre-K provider. Both an entry and exit assessment is required for each child.



13	Are On My Way Pre-K children required to be assessed with IKRA?	No. The IKRA is administered to students in kindergarten. OMWPK children are required to be assessed using ISPROUT.
14	What do I do if a parent/guardian does not consent to have the child assessed for OMWPK?	The Family Consent Form is locally maintained with other forms. The program administrator/director must contact the Office of Early Childhood and Out-of School Learning at Pre-K@fssa.in.gov . It is recommended the child be assessed using a print out of the SKBs and information shared with the parent. The child can be assessed again at another time and to show growth. Do not request an SSID/STN. Print out of SKBs for Ages 3-5: PDF ISPROUT SKBs - Ages 3-5.pdf
15	If a child withdraws from OMWPK before the end of the school year, am I still required to assess them?	Since the assessment is based on ongoing observations, the teacher should have enough data collected for the assessment to be completed at the time of withdrawal. Please complete an exit assessment at the time of withdrawal and notify FSSA/OECOSL at Pre-K@fssa.in.gov .
16	As an OMWPK Provider, if I administer ISPROUT, do I still have to give the old KRI?	Administering ISPROUT twice annually is required to be an On My Way Pre-K provider. The previously required assessment, KRI, is no longer required. Contact FSSA/OECOSL for further information and instructions for what to do with those testing materials.

Training and Professional Development		
Number	Question	Answer
17	How do educators receive training for ISPROUT & IKRA?	Programs determine the method of training: • Synchronous, i.e., live instruction, with an educator who has completed the Training of Trainers, • Hybrid, combination of synchronous and asynchronous with educators completing some of the training online and some with a group, or • Asynchronously, completing all of the training through the online modules. Refresher training is required annually.



18	What if the educator does not pass the end of course assessment, including the retake?	If a teacher unsuccessfully completes both assessment attempts, a request can be sent to the JHU Helpdesk by the DM, ToT, or teacher to reset the assessment for an additional retake. Teachers should reach out to ToT for additional discussion prior to each retake of the assessment. IDOE is notified if two or more resets are requested from the help desk for a user.
19	Do educators have to complete training each year?	Yes. Teachers complete a refresher training each year following the initial year of implementation. The refresher is a shorter training module reminding educators of important assessment content and updates made to the assessment or KReady.
20	Is there a report to let me know when teachers have completed their training?	KReady does not provide a training completion report. Administrators or ToTs can request a copy of the teacher's training certificate that can be downloaded and/or printed following the training. The certificate is available by selecting the dropdown menu by your name and selecting "Transcripts" from the menu. Proctor training for the IKRA (schools only) is by paper and is kept on file with the CTC or STC as part of their training materials for all assessments.

Test Administration		
Number	Question	Answer
21	What equipment is required to successfully administer and support ISPROUT and IKRA?	Technology is required for teachers to enter assessment data. Data can be entered through the KReady web page or app*, login required. Please note the app is only supported on tablets, and is not supported on cell phones. Detailed technology guidelines are available here . <i>*Please note the ELA app used for ISPROUT is not available for the 2026-27 school year, all entries must be made through the KReady web page.</i>
22	Who can administer ISPROUT and IKRA? Do educators have to have a teaching license to administer	ISPROUT Test Administrators (TAs) administering ISPROUT must (1) be employed by the child's school or district or early care and education program and (2) have successfully completed the required yearly training. It is strongly recommended that each child's primary classroom educator or another educator who has regular contact with the child (e.g., a special education therapist, an intervention specialist or reading specialist in the schools or a co-educator/assistant educator in an early care program) administers the



	ISPROUT and IKRA?	assessment. Administrators may assist as well, if they are knowledgeable about the child and have completed the required training. Educators are not required to have an Indiana Teaching License to administer ISPROUT. IKRA Test Administrators (TAs) administering IKRA must (1) be employed by the child's school or district; (2) have successfully completed the required annual training; and (3) hold an Indiana Teaching License. A proctor may assist with the online portion of the assessment. A proctor must complete the offline training for proctors and Indiana's required Test Security Training.
23	Can ISPROUT be administered using a staggered start date model?	ISPROUT can be administered at any time that aligns to the Entry, Interim, and Exit instances of the individual child. The assessment should be completed in small increments of time over the corresponding reporting window.
24	How long does it take to administer ISPROUT?	The amount of time it will take to administer/conduct observations, score and review observational data, and input results within ISPROUT KReady System will vary between educators and classes. Educators must ensure that adequate time to provide high-quality observations aligned to the early learning domains occurs. Observations should be completed in small increments of time. Educators will be trained in strategies to record observations without adding additional time and work to classroom routines.
25	How do I order or receive materials for ISPROUT or IKRA?	ISPROUT ISPROUT is an observation based assessment; therefore, teacher materials are not required in implementing this tool. Resources are available in the Professional Development and Resources dashboard if teachers would like to view or print guidance documents and supporting ISPROUT lessons. IKRA Teacher/Test Administrator kits are shipped to the district/program Corporation Test Coordinator (CTC) or Non Public Corporation Test Coordinator (NPCTC) based on the district/program information provided during the spring opt-in registration period. These are secure testing materials and must be locked up when not in use.
26	Does ISPROUT include the use of technology?	Children do not interact with technology for the completion of ISPROUT. The technology requirement is for educators to input data into KReady.



27	How many artifacts need to be included?	IDOE recommends recording nine to 15 artifacts for each full data collection with three to five in each of the three reporting categories: Knowledge & Skills, Social/Emotional, and Independence and Motor Control. Educators will select three to five SKBs within the reporting category to upload artifacts which may include anecdotal notes, pictures of student work, pictures or videos of students working, etc.
28	How do I submit the scores when I finish my observations?	ISPROUT Educators utilize the Capture Milestones button to close the assessment and submit the ratings. Utilize the following information in selecting the type: ● Entry General ○ The student's first ISPROUT (ELA) assessment ● Entry IEP ○ The student's first ISPROUT assessment with an IEP ○ May not be the first time the student is assessed with ISPROUT ● Interim ○ Assessment completed between any entry and any exit assessment ○ Progress monitoring to capture full or partial SKB ratings ● Exit General ○ The student's final ISPROUT (ELA) assessment prior to entering kindergarten for any student without an IEP ● Exit IEP ○ An IEP student's final ISPROUT (ELA) assessment prior to entering kindergarten ○ An IEP student's final ISPROUT (ELA) assessment after being released from their IEP ■ Can happen during the school year. IKRA IKRA assessments are automatically submitted at the close of the window.
29	How can others provide support to educators with ISPROUT administration?	All TAs must be employees of the school district or early care and education program and successfully complete the teacher training. Literacy specialists, intervention specialists, special education therapists, educators who work with multilingual learners, and other related services personnel who regularly work with a specific child, would be appropriate to provide information on the student. Early care and education program administrators or other staff members may also administer ISPROUT if they are familiar with the child and have completed the training.



		District employees or early care and education program employees who have not completed the educator training can support educators with completing the assessments in several other ways: • Preparing manipulatives for lessons; and • Teaching the class while the primary classroom educator administers direct assessment items • Collecting and sharing observations of children with educators to help inform the assessment It is also helpful for administrators of large programs to ensure at least one member of administration has completed the teacher training in order to support their staff of educators in understanding how to navigate the platform and assessment system, and answer staff questions in a timely more direct fashion.
30	Is there an ISPROUT SKB missing? I only see 27 SKBs in the KReady platform. Where is #22?	With the new ISPROUT assessment in 2026-27, there are 27 SKBs for students ages 3-5. Educators only need to submit 27 of the 28 SKBs. SKB #22 is Spatial Understanding and that SKB is only to be administered to students Birth – age 2. That SKB is part of the new Birth – 2 assessment. When you go to capture milestones, it will indicate only 27 of 28 SKBs are complete, which is correct for the ages 3-5 assessment. Click continue to capture milestones.

Data Manager Responsibilities		
Number	Question	Answer
31	Is there a guide for data managers and administrators for both ISPROUT and IKRA?	Yes. The Data Manager and Administrator User Manual is available in the administration dashboard by selecting the Support icon.  The manual is updated throughout the year as there are updates; therefore, it is recommended to access the guide in this manner rather than downloading it.
32	How do I get an account for both of the early learning assessments?	Your district/program data manager will create users for teachers. If you are to be the data manager (DM), responsible for adding educators and students to the ELA database, complete the Data Manager Account Request Form. It will take approximately three to five business days for the DM account to be created. An email will be sent from noreply@kready.org when the account is created to activate your account. LEAs should check with their Corporation



		Test Coordinator (CTC) prior to requesting an account.
33	Where do I get training as the data manager?	2026-2027 Training Links: The ISPROUT Data Manager training is available here. The IKRA Data Manager training is available here. The ELA Data Manager and District Manager User Manual is available by logging into ISPROUT and selecting “Support” on the DM Dashboard. 
34	I am the DM and cannot assign students to myself.	Your account was not connected to the school level. Contact the help desk by completing the JHU Technical Help Desk Online Form indicating the school/program name and ask to be added as a teacher in the description box.
35	Students were assigned to the teacher, but they cannot see them on their list.	The student needs to have the enrollment token added. This can be completed through the bulk upload with enrollment template (EXCEL files only) or manually. For individual student assignment of the enrollment token: • Go to the Data Manager Dashboard • Select Organizations • Select View District next to Indiana Schools • Select View Locations next to the district name • Select View Students next to program or school name • Select Open next to the student name • Select Data Collection Assignments Tab • Select Assign Data Collections • Select Assign next to the appropriate assessment (you may need to scroll to find your assessment) • Select Finished Double check the Teacher Associations as well: • Select the “Enrollments” tab. • Verify the teacher is listed under “Teacher Associations” • If the teacher is assigned, you have completed the verification. • If the teacher is not assigned, select “Assign Teacher” and assign the appropriate teacher to each student. • Click “Finished at the bottom of the window.
36	I’m a DM and cannot access the Professional Development	The assessment tag was not activated for you. Contact the helpdesk at 888-602-8343 or complete the JHU Technical Help Desk Online Form indicating you need the assessment tag turned for either ELA (ISPROUT) or KRA (IKRA). Email the Office of Student Assessment if access to both



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	and Resources.	assessments is needed.
37	What do I do when a teacher already exists?	To add a teacher who already exists, you must have access as data manager to the other district as well. This usually happens when a district is part of a special education cooperative. Contact the help desk for additional assistance.
38	A teacher receives an error when trying to access the Professional Development and Resources Link.	The data manager must edit the teacher's user profile to turn on the assessment tag for ELA (ISPROUT) or KRA (IKRA). Email Office of Student Assessment if access is needed for both.
39	How can I remove a teacher who is no longer administering ISPROUT at my program?	If you have teachers who no longer utilizes ISPROUT, please mark them inactive in your teacher list. This will remove them from your roster and the email lists utilized to update teachers throughout the year. If a teacher has administrative rights, such as a Data Manager, that will need to be removed prior to marking the teacher inactive. Data Manager access must be removed by our vendor JHU. Please complete the data manager update request form for this: https://ido.e.jotformgov.com/242414360999161

Scoring and Reporting		
Number	Question	Answer
40	How are individual child results provided? When are results/scores available?	ISPROUT Assessment results are provided via Individual Student Reports (ISRs), which show the child's overall performance and area performance in the eight domains of early learning. Each ISR includes a performance indicator for each domain as well as an overall score. ISRs are available immediately to educators for children who complete the assessment. Educators are able to generate ISRs once all data is collected and added to the online system. Additionally, reports are available to send home to each child's family. IKRA ISRs for IKRA are available approximately two weeks following the close of the IKRA window.



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		The following reports are available to data managers and district administrators: <table><tr><th>Available ANY TIME During the IKRA Administration Window</th><th>Available AFTER the IKRA Administration Window</th></tr><tr><td>KRA Percentage Completion Report</td><td>Data Displays</td></tr><tr><td>KRA Completion by Item Report</td><td>KRA Scale Score Report</td></tr><tr><td>KRA Domain Data Export</td><td>KRA ISR Report</td></tr><tr><td>KRA Students and Enrollment Report</td><td>KRA ISR Zip File</td></tr><tr><td>Data Downloads: A System Report</td><td></td></tr></table>	Available ANY TIME During the IKRA Administration Window	Available AFTER the IKRA Administration Window	KRA Percentage Completion Report	Data Displays	KRA Completion by Item Report	KRA Scale Score Report	KRA Domain Data Export	KRA ISR Report	KRA Students and Enrollment Report	KRA ISR Zip File	Data Downloads: A System Report	
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Data Downloads: A System Report														
41	Can IDOE verify the completion of my assessments?	IDOE does not have access to the KReady database. The data manager can generate reports to show the completion and or progress of the assessments. ISPROUT: ELA Milestones  DM How to run the ELA Milestones Report.pdf IKRA: KRA Percentage Completion by Item Report or KRA Percentage Completion Report												
42	After capturing milestones, I received a message about a report generated later, what does this mean?	That message appears because there is a new ISR being built into the system due to the new ISPROUT assessment administered this school year. Don't worry – the milestone was captured and you can view the data on other reports in the system in the meantime. Once the new ISR is available, the system will generate any ISRs for those milestones that were submitted and the ISR will be available to view and/or download at that time. You do not need to resubmit the milestone.												
43	How do I access the 17 SKBs for Infants and Toddlers?	When a teacher is logged in, and after the window is selected, use the “Administration” drop down and select “Data Collection Settings” At the bottom of the pop up window, Click “Show” under Birth-Age 2 and close. The 17 SKBs will then be available for the teacher to rate.												
44	Where do I get the PIN for the IKRA app?	You cannot bypass the pin in the KRA App. That is required for security reasons. If you are logging into the KRA App for the first time, then the screen should read – Enter your NEW quick access pin. You can create any 4 digit pin you would like the first time on that screen. To change the PIN follow these steps: When you log into the app, you should land on the Select												



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		Student page. Click the Back button which will take you to the Select Assessment page. Then, you will see a Change Pin button. Click on that to change your pin for the app. You can create any 4 digit pin you would like. Make note of that pin – that is what you will use whenever you are assessing students with the app.
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Support			
Number	Question	Answer	
44	How do I contact the Help Desk for ISPROUT or IKRA (KReady) for technology questions?	Phone: 888-602-8343 <i>Reference Early Learning Assessment for ISPROUT</i> Online request: JHU Technical Help Desk Online Form.	
45	Who do I contact with questions not included here?	Office of Student Assessment INAssessments@doe.in.gov	Data Manager accounts, training information
		Office of Special Education OSEMonitoring@doe.in.gov	Compliance for IEP students
		Office of Early Childhood and Out of School Learning Pre-K@fssa.in.gov	Compliance for On My Way PreK (OMWPK) children

For additional information, email INAssessments@doe.in.gov.

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Early Learning Assessments (ELA) Frequently Asked Questions

This FAQ will provide you with information regarding ISPROUT and IKRA and commonly asked questions.

Term	Definition
Data Manager	The Data Manager (DM) is responsible for entering teachers and students into the database, assigning assessments, providing reminders to educators as needed, and generating end of year reports.
CSEP	A Choice Special Education Plan (CSEP) is a written plan that describes the special education and related services that will be provided to the eligible student by the Choice school. It is written jointly by the Choice school and the parent.
IEP	An Individualized Education Program (IEP) is a legally binding document under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) that outlines specific special education instruction, supports, and services for eligible students with disabilities.
IKRA	Indiana Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (IKRA) is an assessment administered to kindergarten students at the beginning of their kindergarten year, and is for use by school-based programs only.
ISP	An Individual Service Plan (ISP) is used for students with disabilities in private schools or homeschools, that outlines specific special education services, goals, and accommodations provided by a public school district.
ISPROUT	Indiana Student Performance Readiness and Observation of Understanding Tool (ISPROUT) is an observation based assessment administered to children birth through age 5, and is used by community and religious based early learning programs as well as I preschools in public and nonpublic schools.
ISR	Individual Student Report
KReady	KReady is the system used to manage ISPROUT and IKRA.
KRI	Kindergarten Readiness Inventory - previously utilized assessment for OMWPK. It is no longer used as an Indiana assessment for this purpose.
OMWPK	Indiana's <u>On My Way Pre-K</u> program was created to help make sure all Indiana children have access to high-quality pre-K programs and get off to a great start.
Personally Identifiable Information (PII)	Personally Identifiable Information (PII) includes: • name • date of birth



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	• Social Security Number Sharing PII is a violation of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Email is not considered a secure method of sharing student data including but not limited to: • Student name • Student date of birth • Social security number • IEPs • Testing reports with this information • Any documents with this information Please do not include PII in email communication.
Proctor	Non-certified staff, such as paraprofessionals, who may assist teachers in administering IKRA App items after signing the appropriate training documents.
SKBs	Skill, Knowledge, and Behaviors (SKB) are the individual concepts observed for ISPROUT, and are what children know and can do.
STN	The State Test Number identifies a student for state reporting. The STN is used in the SSID field for KReady.
TA	Test Administrator (TA) is the educator completing the observations and recording the final ratings in KReady.

For additional information, email INassessments@doe.in.gov.

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