

Students and parents/guardians should be aware that the State and SASSED require students to take certain standardized tests, including the following:

<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Description including grade levels assessed</b>	<b>When assessment takes place</b>
<i>Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR)</i>	This reading and math assessment is given to most 3rd through 8th grade students	Spring (March/April)
<i>Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)</i>	This alternate reading and math assessment is given to a small number of 3rd through 11th grade students with disabilities in cases where the IAR, ISA, PSAT, and/or SAT is not appropriate to assess the student's learning. Specific criteria are defined and considered as an IEP decision	Spring (March/May)
<i>Illinois Science Assessment</i>	This science assessment is given to students in grades 5, 8, and 11	Spring (March/April)
<i>ACCESS</i>	This assessment is given to all identified English Learners each year until they reach a certain level of English proficiency	January/ February
<i>Early Childhood Outcomes (ECO)</i>	This assessment is given to all preschool students with disabilities as an annual progress rating in play skills, pre-academic skills, and daily living skills	May
<i>Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS)</i>	This assessment measures school readiness in language, literacy, self-regulation, math, and social/emotional development. All kindergarten students are observed in the first 40 days of school	first 40 days
<i>PSAT &amp; SAT</i>	The PSAT and SAT measures the reading, writing, and math skills that students are learning in high school. It lets students show that they have the knowledge they need to succeed in college and career. The PSAT is given in 9th and 10th grade, and the SAT is given in 11th grade.	April

In addition, students in SASSED programs take local assessments one to three times a year. These might include Fastbridge assessments or program specific assessments in language arts, math, social/emotional learning and/or functional/daily living skills. These assessments are used for several purposes including:

- providing peer comparison data for student's Present Levels of Performance in IEPs
- providing data points for consideration of student growth or needs
- assisting with program improvement and class building

Parents/Guardians are encouraged to cooperate in preparing students for the standardized testing, because the quality of the education SASSED can provide is partially dependent upon SASSED's ability to continue to prove its success in the state's standardized tests. Parents/Guardians can assist their students achieve their best performance by doing the following:

1. Encourage students to work hard and study throughout the year
2. Ensure students get a good night's sleep the night before exams;
3. Ensure students eat well the morning of the exam, particularly ensuring they eat sufficient protein;
4. Remind students and emphasize the importance of good performance on standardized testing;
5. Ensure students are on time and prepared for tests, with appropriate materials;
6. Teach students the importance of honesty and ethics during the performance of these and other tests;
7. Encourage students to relax on testing day.