



Dear South Loop Parents,

This Spring, your student will be taking the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR). This test is an important measure for us as a school to better understand our students' learning levels and to identify trends over time so that we can address potential achievement gaps. Another component of the IAR is the parent portal which allows parents to access information regarding their child's performance on the assessment and track their progress over time.

What is the structure of the IAR?

The IAR has both ELA and Math sections. The ELA section is divided into two units, while Math is divided into three units. The units may be spread across different days, but each individual unit should be completed within a single testing session.

What kinds of questions are on the IAR?

The IAR assesses students on grade appropriate content aligned to Common Core standards and the Illinois Learning Standards in both ELA and Math. Both the ELA and Math sections include both multiple choice and constructed answers. For grades 6-8, the second and third units of the Math section require the use of a calculator. For grades 6-8, there are no constructed response items on the non-calculator portion of the test.

How are IAR results reported and used?

Schools and families will receive machine scored results within one week and hand-scored results within one month of the end of the testing window. These results show how students are learning and growing compared to their peers statewide and measure both mastery of the Illinois Learning Standards and the College and Career Ready benchmarks of the SAT and PSAT.

Where can I find additional information about the Illinois Assessment of Readiness?

Parents can find additional information at <https://www.isbe.net/iar>

Visit cps.edu/assessment for information on Chicago Public Schools full assessment system.