

ISTAR-KR

Q and A

Q1. Why is the completion of the ISTAR-KR required?

A1. We use the ISTAR-KR as our assessment tool to report Early Childhood Outcomes to OSEP. Indicator 7 includes:

- A. Social and Emotional Skills
- B. Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills
- C. Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs.

Q2. Who enters the data points into ISTAR-KR?

Q2. ALL Teachers of Record are responsible for entering the data. Discussions with all staff should take place in order to accurately report the student's skills.

Q3. Which students should be assessed using ISTAR-KR?

A3. ALL students with IEP's. "Walk-in" speech students are included. It may be necessary to include the parent to gain the most accurate information.

Q4. When should the ISTAR-KR be completed?

A4. For our purposes, it should be scored at the entrance of the program, annually (interim), and at the exit of the program.

Q5. What is the definition of exit?

A5. Our definition of exit is when the student is going to kindergarten the next year, or is no longer eligible for special education services. A student should only have 1 exit assessment given (EEMG and OMW PreK students will differ). Exit assessments should not be given for students who move, parents revoke consent, or any other reason other than the two stated in the definition.

Q6. When should the interim assessment be completed?

A6. We ask that an interim assessment be completed annually for progress monitoring purposes (within 6 weeks of birthday or before ACRs). However, if a TOR wants to give an assessment for end of year scores, the interim should be chosen as the type of assessment.

Q7. Why is choosing exceptionality important?

A7. There are community-based preschool teachers also using the ISTAR-KR for progress monitoring purposes. When separating the data, we need to be able to view only those students with special needs. Please remember when completing an exit assessment due to the student no longer being eligible for services, continue to choose the exceptionality that was used at the entrance assessment.

Q8. When will the ISTAR-KR be updated?

A8. A team from Purdue is currently working on the new and improved ISTAR-KR. It will be aligned with the Foundations. However, it will be approximately 2 years before it is complete and ready for implementation in the field.

Q9. Who do I contact when a student is not listed?

A9. Check to make sure he/she has been included in RT/A reporting. If he/she has been reported, complete a help ticket through Learning Connection.

If you have any other questions or want to request on-site training, please contact Kristy Wright at kwright@doe.in.gov or 317-232-9142