

Participation in Spring 2026 ACT with Writing or DLM-AA for Grades 11 and 12

The home school district determines the student's grade level for enrollment in the Student Information System (SIS) and which test is more appropriate: ACT with Writing (with or without accommodations) or DLM-AA.

Grade 11

Student is **required to participate** in ACT with Writing or DLM-AA, as appropriate, in spring 2026.

Note: If a student begins SY 2026 as Grade 11 and is promoted to Grade 12 any time before spring 2026 testing, refer to the "Grade 12" portion of this document.

Grade 12

Does student have a Grade 11 or 12 score in SIS for any ISBE-provided administration from any previous year that was not suppressed or invalidated?

YES

Student is **not required to participate** in ACT with Writing or DLM-AA in spring 2026.

NO

Does the student have a [Reason for No Valid Test Attempt](#) Code 1, 2, 3, 4, 16, 22, 25, 50, 51, 52, 53, or 54 for Grade 11 or 12 from any previous year?

YES

Student is **not required to participate** in ACT with Writing or DLM-AA in spring 2026.

NO

Does the student have an enrollment in SIS during SY 2025?
Note: Students with [exit codes](#) 3, 4, 7, 18, or 19 on or before 3/12/25 will be excluded if they have no subsequent enrollment on or before 4/25/25.

YES

Student is **required to participate** in ACT with Writing or DLM-AA, as appropriate, in spring 2026.

NO

Student is **not required to participate** in ACT with Writing or DLM-AA in spring 2026.

Students who have sufficient credits to qualify for Grade 12 status and who transfer into an Illinois public school for the first time or who were not enrolled in Illinois during the 2024-25 school year are not required to participate in ACT with Writing or DLM-AA in spring 2026. This includes students transferring from out of state, from private schools, or from homeschooling. For situations not addressed by these criteria, including errors in enrollment records or incorrect exit codes, or if your district believes a Grade 12 student has been erroneously identified for spring 2026 participation in ACT with Writing or DLM-AA, please contact the Assessment Department at 866-317-6034 or assessment@isbe.net.

Updated 10/10/25: SIS programming to exclude Grade 12 students from Pre-ID has been implemented.