



Kindergarten School Readiness Assessments

Purpose

As part of an aligned system of public education, school readiness assessment was recognized by the General Assembly as a critical element of aligned assessments continuing from preschool to elementary (§22-7-1002).

The purpose of the school readiness assessment is to inform:

- 1) classroom instruction and individual school readiness plans,
- 2) families of their child's progress toward school readiness, and
- 3) statewide policy decisions.

The Colorado State Board of Education has approved assessment tools determined to be valid, reliable, and research-based instruments to aid in meeting the assessment requirements of kindergarten school readiness (§22-7-1014). Each student is required to be assessed in physical well-being and motor development, social and emotional development, language and comprehension development, cognition, literacy, and mathematics (§22-7-1004).

Colorado's School Readiness Description

School readiness describes both the preparedness of a child to engage in and benefit from learning experiences, and the ability of a school to meet the needs of all students enrolled in publicly funded kindergarten. School readiness is enhanced when schools, families, and community service providers work collaboratively to ensure that every child is ready for higher levels of learning in academic content. *State Board of Education, 2023.*

Assessment Tools Choice

Each assessment tool on the current list of State Board of Education (SBE) approved [kindergarten school readiness assessment tools](#) meets the above criteria. Use of SBE-approved assessment tools does not require a waiver of the use of an approved assessment tool or a replacement plan. Additional information on approved tools is located at the end of this document.

Waiver of an Approved Assessment Tool

A charter school that wishes to use an assessment tool *not* on the SBE-approved list of assessment tools must create a replacement plan that addresses the assessment of each statutorily required domain. The assessment tools used to meet the requirements of kindergarten school readiness (§22-7-1014) are to:

- be research-based, valid, and reliable,
- inform [individual learning plans](#) in kindergarten,
- provide aggregate data for the [KSR Data Collection](#).



Colorado School Readiness

- 1) Use [state board approved assessment tools](#), or an approved KSR assessment tool replacement plan.
- 2) Assess [six domains of learning and development in school readiness](#).
- 3) Administer the [KSR Assessment](#) from the 1st day of school through the first 60 calendar days.
- 4) Create [Individual Learning Plans](#) (School Readiness or K Plans) for each student.
- 5) Report data during the [KSR data collection window](#), typically early October through early December. The data collection collects aggregate data on all publicly funded kindergarten students, including students who are homeschooled, attend school online and in charter schools.



Domains of Learning and Development

Within the first 60 days of school, schools administer kindergarten school readiness assessment tools to measure each student's progress toward school readiness. The required domains outlined in Colorado's Achievement Plan for Kids (CAP4K) are further defined below and on [CDE's website](#).

Physical well-being and motor development

A child's ability to use small and large muscles to engage in learning activities and to meet his/her own needs.

Social and emotional development

A child's ability to follow limits, persist with learning tasks, make friends, and take care of his or her own needs.

Language and comprehension development

A child's ability to listen and understand, to express his/her thoughts and needs, and to engage in appropriate conversations.

Cognition

Executive function skills and approaches to learning, including a child's ability to persist, solve problems, engage, and organize information.

General Knowledge

The Colorado State Board of Education further defined this area into two domains:

Math, and ***Literacy**.

**READ Act Interim assessments may be used to inform the literacy domain.*

Definitions

The following definitions guide the adoption of school readiness assessment tools that meet the criteria of valid and reliable, research-based instruments.

Research-based

"Research-based" means that parts or components of the method or program are based on practices that are proven to be effective through research. This is differentiated from "evidence-based," when the entire program or method has been demonstrated to be effective through research.

Reliability

In measurement theory, reliability refers to the consistency of a measure. This means that a survey, assessment, or instrument will measure the same construct every time. However, it does not mean that it will accurately measure that construct.

Validity

In measurement theory, validity refers to the accuracy of a measure. This means that a survey, assessment, or instrument will measure whatever construct it intends to measure. However, this does not mean that it will accurately measure that construct over time.

Assessment tools will have a technical study reporting the reliability and validity of the assessment tool.

Additional Resources

- [School Readiness in Kindergarten](#)
- [Kindergarten School Readiness Implementation Guide](#)

For more information, contact [Megan Prior Rogers](#).



Kindergarten School Readiness Colorado State Board of Education Approved List of Assessments, 2023-2029

The current [Kindergarten School Readiness Assessment tools approved by the Colorado State Board of Education](#) is online. However, the assessment tools are also listed below for convenience. Tools which assess all required domains are listed first followed by the approved tools which assess specific domains, but not all domains. *Each statutorily required domain is to be assessed and reported.*

For more information and a comparison of each of the tools, [download the Approved Kindergarten School Readiness Assessments Spreadsheet XLXS](#). To support tool selection, all information submitted by each vendor during the KSR Assessment Review (2022-2023) can be accessed in an [online folder](#). This includes vendor statements, cost sheets, technical evaluation summaries, and correspondence to the end of Preschool and end of Kindergarten Colorado Academic Standards from each vendor.

Tools Assessing all Required Domains

- [Brigance Early Childhood Screens III](#), by Curriculum Associates, LLC*
- [COR for Kindergarten](#), by HighScope Educational Research Foundation
- [Desired Results Developmental Profile \(DRDP-K\)](#), by WestEd
- [DIAL-4 Developmental Indicators for the Assessment of Learning](#), by NCS Pearson, Inc.
- [GOLD®](#), by Teaching Strategies
- [North Carolina Kindergarten Entry Assessment](#), as submitted by Jefferson County School District

Additional Tools Assessing Social and Emotional Development

- [FastBridge SAEBRS](#), by Renaissance Learning, Inc.*

Additional Tools Assessing Math

- [Acadience Math K-6](#), by Acadience Learning Inc. /Voyager Sopris Learning*
- [FastBridge earlyMath](#), by Renaissance Learning, Inc.*
- [Istation's Indicators of Progress \(ISIP\)](#), by Imagination Station, Inc.*

Additional Tools Assessing Literacy

- [FastBridge earlyReading](#), by Renaissance Learning, Inc.*

*Vendor also has an [approved interim reading assessment](#).

Flexibility in Assessing Literacy

If an interim reading assessment pursuant to §22-7-1205 (1)(a.5)) is administered within the first sixty days of the school year, the district is not required to administer the literacy component of the school readiness assessment.

[READ Act Approved Interim Assessments](#).

For more information on the SBE-approved interim reading assessments, visit the [READ Act Approved Assessment website](#). For a comparison of the approved assessments, [download the Approved READ Act Assessments Spreadsheet XLXS](#).