

Discover Talented 4th-6th Graders Through

I-Excel

IOWA

College of Education

Belin-Blank Center



I-Excel is an online above-level test for exceptional 4th-6th graders. Students who have scored in the top 5% of their age group on at least one section of a nationally-standardized test such as the *Iowa Assessments* are eligible.

I-Excel assesses four areas:

- Science
- Mathematics
- Reading
- English

The Belin-Blank Center has been using above-level testing to identify the academic talents of bright 4th-6th grade students for over twenty years. I-Excel offers the research-backed power of above-level testing in a convenient online format. Educators can use results to develop their students' strengths through recommendations about appropriately challenging curriculum.

I-Excel licenses content developed by ACT that was designed to measure academic progress of junior high students.

How much does it cost?

I-Excel is \$49 per student, and \$90 per student if testing fewer than four students. Financial aid is available.

How do students register?

I-Excel, an in-school assessment, is available throughout the school year. One educator is designated as the contact person for the school and oversees student registration for the testing session. Registration is completed online.

How can I-Excel results be used?

The Belin-Blank Center provides educators with group and individual reports that interpret the scores. This allows educators to make data-driven decisions and differentiate for their students through curricular intervention and enrichment. One option for bright Iowa students is the Iowa Online Advanced Placement Academy (IOAPA). Details can be found at belinblank.org/IOAPA.

How is I-Excel different from other tests?

Most grade-level tests are not very challenging for gifted students and the scores aren't informative about readiness for advanced work. I-Excel allows gifted students to showcase their strengths. Results help school personnel tailor educational opportunities to talented and exceptionally talented students. The I-Excel report helps educators utilize this information effectively.



I-Excel includes an emphasis on science and mathematics. Other above-level tests may include only verbal or quantitative sections.

Advantages of I-Excel:

- Educators schedule testing sessions at a time and place that is convenient for them and their students.
- Educators and parents do not have to wait for a specific national test date or drive long distances to a centralized testing center.
- Schools may schedule multiple testing dates during the school year.
- Testing can be conducted on weekdays or on weekends.

What are the technical requirements for I-Excel?

Testing requires a desktop or laptop computer (no tablets or phones). For best results, use a high-speed and wired internet connection, Google Chrome or Firefox, and an external mouse instead of a trackpad. No additional software is needed.

*For more information, visit
belinblank.org/inschooltesting
or email **assessment@belinblank.org***