

## Standardized Testing for Homeschoolers

**Test Administrator:** Kathryn Lavery, MEd.

**Location:** The STEM Hangar—120 Arnold Mill Park, Ste #400~Woodstock, Ga 30188

**Approved Administrator of the following test types:**

Stanford®/OLSAT®

The Iowa Tests®/CogAT®

### Spring 2019 Test Date Options

**Note:** Those students taking the IOWA® attend for 2 days. Those taking the IOWA®/CogAT® attend for 3 days.

A. May 13-14: IOWA® Grades: 3-8

C. May 15-17: IOWA®/CogAT® Grades 3-8

B. May 20-21: IOWA® Grades 3-8

D. May 22-24: IOWA®/CogAT® Grades 9-11

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**Time:** Check-in 8:00 AM—No admission after 8:30 AM

**Testing Begins:** 8:45 AM

**Pick-Up:** Times vary—Estimated—11:30-12:00

#### **What should my child bring?**

- Food/Drink: Please pack a healthy (and not messy) snack and a bottle of water. No other beverages may be brought into the classroom. Snacks can be eaten during the intermittent breaks between testing sections. \*We have students attending who have tree nut allergies and we request that you not send nuts or peanut butter.
- Calculators may be used on certain portions of the math test. Please do not send one if it is not something your child uses regularly. We cannot help with the use of the calculator and we do not provide calculators. Scratch paper is provided.
- A light jacket or sweater

**Scores:** Tests will be sent off at completion of the test week and should be back within 5-6 weeks.

**Special Needs:** Please call prior to booking a test date if your child requires accommodations. Students requiring accommodations or modifications will have been identified as eligible for special education services and will have an Individualized Education Program (IEP), an Individualized Accommodation Plan (IAP), or a Section 504 Plan. The IEP or other plan will indicate whether the student should receive testing accommodations or modifications during standardized assessments and what the nature of those accommodations or modifications should be.

## About the Tests:

### **Iowa Test of Basic Skills® (ITBS)**

The Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) is a group-administered achievement test for grades K-12 which measures a student's knowledge (achievement) in subject areas that students have learned in school.

Areas Tested:

- Reading Comprehension, Language, Vocabulary, Spelling, Word Analysis & Listening
- Math, Social Studies/Science

Time to Complete:

3rd grade-12th grade: up to 4 hours over 2 days (not all time is actual testing)

Testing will begin in the morning and will be done before lunch each day.

### **Cognitive Abilities Test™ (CogAT®)**

The Cognitive Abilities Test™ (CogAT) is an aptitude test that measures a student's general and specific cognitive abilities. It measures learned reasoning and problem-solving skills in 3 areas: verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal, which are closely tied to academic success. The CogAT is often used to identify gifted and talented students. It helps homeschool and private school educators understand their student's cognitive strengths and weaknesses and learning styles. Think of the CogAT as a test of your ability and the IOWA as a test of your achievement. Large gaps between the two may be indicative of at-risk students who may need further individual assessment.

Areas Tested:

- The CogAT® assesses developed reasoning and problem-solving abilities important for learning.
- Combination testing with the Iowa (recommended every 2-3 years) allows comparisons between a student's ability and their actual achievement

Time to Complete:

3rd grade-12th grade: up to 2 1/2 hours over 1 day (approx. 1 and 1/2 hrs. of test time.)

Testing will begin in the morning and will be done before lunch each day.

## **My feelings about the tests....**

I feel that there is so much that these tests do not assess or show about our children. I could go on and on about the constant data keeping when it comes to education. What I can say is that I do believe that there is validity in testing for the purpose of gauging our teaching efforts and for guiding us in where to close gaps in our children's learning. My promise to you is that I will provide a testing environment that is as stress free as possible while still maintaining the standardization required.

~ Kathryn Lavery