

# Islamic Studies Standardized Test Series



For decades, public schools have implemented standardized testing to ensure schools across the United States meet both the local and federal standards established for traditional content areas. Never before has there been an instrument to specifically measure student achievement within the Islamic education curriculum. Your school now has the opportunity to participate in a student assessment program that is unique to the Muslim community.

The Islamic Studies Standardized Test Series (ISST) was developed by knowledgeable Islamic educators actively working within the Islamic School System. These educators, representing full-time schools from across the country, worked cooperatively to identify the standards and content assessed by the ISST. The tests are designed to be similar to the tests administered in public and other private schools across the U.S. Based on extensive educational research, the developers of this program anticipate that the use of these standardized tests will be invaluable in measuring student achievement in four critical content areas: (1) Qur'anic Studies, (2) Sirah and Hadith, (3) Aquidah, Fiqh, and Akhlaq, and (4) Islamic History. Test forms are available for full-time and weekend school students in Grades 2 through 8.

## Test Development

Accredited Islamic educators worked jointly to develop standards based on the core curriculum of three prominent Islamic publishing companies as well as the nationally-recognized curriculums of several prominent Islamic Schools in North America. Standards were specifically designed to measure learning expectations for students in Grades 2-8 for each of the four identified content areas. Following the development of standards, Islamic educators developed test items to measure every standard for each content area and grade level.

Table 1

Full-Time and Weekend Schools				
GRADE	QUR'ANIC STUDIES	SIRAH AND HADITH	AQUIDAH, FIQH, & AKHLAQ	ISLAMIC HISTORY
2	X	X	X	X
3	X	X	X	X
4	X	X	X	X
5	X	X	X	X
6	X	X	X	X
7	X	X	X	X
8	X	X	X	X

All items represented in the Version II forms were pilot-tested in major Islamic schools across the country, including schools in Illinois, Minnesota, Texas, North Carolina and California.

Analysis of the pilot data and the application of advanced psychometric techniques were conducted by Denis Jarvinen, Ph.D., president of Strategic Measurement and Evaluation, Inc. (SME). One advantage of this approach is the ability to compare test scores from the previous editions of the ISST to the latest edition of the ISST. This will facilitate longitudinal tracking of student growth. For more information regarding psychometric evaluation and technical reporting, as well as other services provided by SME, please visit [smeasurement.com](http://smeasurement.com).

## Test Administration

Total administration time will be between one and two hours, based on grade level. Each grade-level test form includes 80 multiple-choice items and will measure student knowledge in the four identified content areas. Tests may be administered by content areas, across two sessions (e.g. morning and afternoon, or two days).

## Test Results

Due to high-volume participation, an external vendor skilled in data capture and analysis has been selected to manage the distribution of test materials and test scoring. Completed student answer documents will be shipped to Strategic Measurement and Evaluation, Inc. (a scoring contractor for Riverside Publishing Company) for processing and reporting. Student scores will be reported in percent correct and reports will include building averages. Participating schools will receive a building/grade summary report (by content area), a student roster (by class or school), and an individual student profile. As a reminder, specific student-level and school-level data will remain confidential and results may be used by school personnel as needed. In order to increase the understanding and standardization of Islamic curriculum, aggregate data from all participating schools may be used to strengthen related textbooks.

## Getting Started

Test materials consist of one test booklet and one answer document per student tested. Test booklets are reusable and may be used for at least three annual administrations. Answer documents are expendable and must be ordered each year. Approximate material expenditure will be \$5.00 per student in year one and \$1.00 per student in subsequent years.

Scoring services include the scoring of multiple-choice data and three reports: a building/grade summary, a student roster, and an individual student profile. Basic Scoring expenditure per student will be \$5.00 per student.

To order test materials and scoring, please complete the attached order form and fax to 217-355-0379, or mail the form to:

**Strategic Measurement and Evaluation, Inc.**  
**ATTN: Islamic Studies Standardized Test Series**  
**701 Devonshire Drive, Suite B-14**  
**Champaign, Illinois 61820**

For help with your order, please call Strategic Measurement and Evaluation, Inc. at 877-782-8269.

For additional information regarding the development of the Islamic Studies Standardized Test Series, please contact IQRA' at 847-673-4072 or email IQRA' International Educational Foundation at [ISST@IQRA.org](mailto:ISST@IQRA.org).

# Start using the Islamic Studies Standardized Test Series in your school today and—



- Evaluate Islamic curriculum effectiveness and instructional methods
- Measure and track student achievement across time
- Facilitate the transfer of students between Islamic Schools