

Date: August 2022

Subject: International Benchmark Tests (IBT) – Update on Registration Fee & Invitation for Participation in IBT 2022

Dear Principal,

Warm greetings from the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER), UAE. We would like to extend our invitation to your school to register for the IBT 2022 online assessments, which will be offered over a personalized test window from 01 - 30 November 2022. The IBT will serve as the ideal instrument to help monitor and track student performance over time while providing robust data to inform teaching and learning and school improvement initiatives.

We are happy to inform you that, further to our discussions with various school stakeholders, we have revised the costs for IBT's Arabic (A&B) Language Assessment to AED 35/- per student (more details on the cost are provided in the latter part of this letter).

ACER's International Benchmark Tests (IBT) 2022 are a world-class, skills-based diagnostic assessment program **based on the TIMSS framework and follows similar processes like TIMSS for developing the content and test items, the IBT Scale, generating the IBT Scale scores, and Reporting parameters to give students precise information on their performance on each test item and to help improve teaching and learning in schools.**

Designed for students from Grades 3 to 10, the IBT is offered for subjects of Arabic, English, Mathematics, Science, and Critical Thinking and Reasoning, and has been improving learning **since 2005, with more than 2.4 million global assessments administered to over 1 million students, in over 750 schools worldwide.**

The IBT is designed to measure skills and concepts underlying these core subjects and built on higher-order thinking skills associated with these domains. ACER has developed Proficiency Statements, similar to those in TIMSS, PIRLS and PISA that describe proficiency and achievement levels for these subjects. The **Described Achievement Bands** give students a clear indication of what they know and can do and the next level of achievement that they need to strive towards and also enable teachers to use the results to more effectively target their teaching.

As part of our ongoing commitment to support schools and students with high quality tests and data to help improve learning outcomes, the **Reasoning Skills Assessment (RSA)** assesses key strands of **Verbal, Numerical, Abstract, Spatial and Kinetic Reasoning** and provides a comprehensive report on problem solving and critical thinking skills and assesses students abilities to make logical deductions, identify connections and spot patterns.

The **Arabic Language Assessments** are designed to assess proficiency in Arabic and is based on the Arabic Curriculum provided by the Ministry of Education. In order to cater for the two distinct populations in Private English Schools based on native and non-native speakers of the language, the Assessments are divided into two categories, **Arabic A and Arabic B respectively.**

The IBT offers schools the opportunity to participate in a standardized Assessment that provides comprehensive diagnostic feedback and includes a host of key features which include:

- clear description of levels of achievement that will help map the IBT Standards to your curriculum.
- clear indication of each skill being assessed, which Level the students are at, and what they need to do to progress to the next level.
- benchmarks performance against other students and schools in the region and internationally.
- provides students with a Scale Score, Percentile score, Percent correct and Summary of their performance to help them set clear goals.
- enables teachers to use the data to differentiate and target their teaching more effectively;

- tracks students' progress and monitors achievement over time.
- detailed Reports for each Class which include Interactive, Benchmark and Described Proficiency Reports
- Certificates of Honor, High Distinction, Distinction and Participation.

REGISTRATION FEE FOR IBT ASSESSMENTS 2022:

Subjects	Registration Fee per student
English, Math, Science, & Reasoning	AED 35/- for 1 subject; AED 60 /- for 2 subjects; AED 75/- for 3 subjects; and AED 90/- for 4 subjects
Language Assessments: Arabic Language (Arabic A/ Arabic B)	AED 35/-

Note: 10% of the total fee to be retained by the school for administration of the test.

NB: All fees are inclusive of VAT charges

TEST SCHEDULE FOR IBT 2022 ASSESSMENTS:

Test Window	Subjects	Grade
01 - 30 November 2022	Arabic Language A	Grades 3 to 10
	Arabic Language B	Grades 3 to 10 (Level 1, 2 or 3)
	English	Grades 3 to 10
	Mathematics	Grades 3 to 10
	Science	Grades 3 to 10
	Reasoning	Grades 3 to 10

All ACER assessments including Arabic are available as online assessments for schools with customized delivery options. The IBT 2022 assessment will be offered as a **flexible test window over four weeks**. Schools can choose suitable test dates for each of the Grades and subjects and create a personalized pre-agreed schedule for the assessments.

Please use the 'Registration Pack' containing the Registration Forms, Circular for Parents, Test Schedule Form and Student List template for registering your students. For assistance in completing the registration process or for any related inquiries regarding the Tests for your school, please contact us at ACER, UAE at **+971 4 2830120/2830124** or ibt-me@acer.org.

Please send us the Registration Form, Test Schedule Form and Student List on or before Monday, 03 October, 2022.

ACER is committed to ensuring an efficient test administration and monitoring of student learning by providing schools with reliable data and workshops to assist Teachers with interpreting and using the data to inform their teaching. We look forward to your school's participation and enthusiastic support in making Assessments available to the students.

With Kind Regards,



Alan Egbert
CEO
ACER, UAE