



**Wyoming Department of Education**

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**MEMORANDUM NO. 2014-116**

**TO:** District Superintendents  
Elementary School Principals

**FROM:** Lachelle Brant, Early Childhood Consultant  
Standards and Accountability Division

**DATE:** September 29, 2014

**SUBJECT:** WDE453 Data Collection, Instructional Foundations for Kindergarten

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## **INSTRUCTIONAL FOUNDATIONS FOR KINDERGARTEN COLLECTION WINDOW OPENS OCT. 20.**

**CHEYENNE** - The administration window for the Instructional Foundations for Kindergarten (IF-K) will be open from October 20 through November 21, 2014.

The purpose of the IF-K is to support instruction, facilitate transition from preschool to kindergarten, and identify levels of student readiness for the kindergarten curriculum.

The IF-K was designed by Wyoming teachers to reflect children's ability to meet the demands of diverse curricula used in kindergarten. The IF-K represents the performance of children in nine (9) key areas identified in readiness research:

1. Representation (use of symbolic and abstract information);
2. Language (knowledge of vocabulary and semantics for comprehension in verbal communication, reading and writing);
3. Writing (knowledge of writing as a form of communication and its relationship to the spoken word);
4. Reading (knowledge of printed material, its conventions and the relationship between sounds, words and meaning);
5. Geometric and Algebraic Math (knowledge of shapes and ability to distinguish

- similarities and differences as well as patterns);
6. Number and Operations (knowledge of numbers as symbols, their relationship to quantity and problem solving);
  7. Science (knowledge of materials and the scientific method);
  8. Relationships and Self-Regulation (knowledge of appropriate classroom behavior); and,
  9. Social Problem-Solving (knowledge of positive peer social interactions and conflict resolution).

## Data Collection

The WDE-453 Data Collection is completed by teachers whose district provides a preschool program in accordance with Wyoming §21-4-302. By statute, the school readiness and academic performance of pupils who participate in preschool programs as compared with those who do not participate in the preschool programs is reported to the WDE biennially (twice per year). One collection is completed in the fall and one is completed in the spring. The fall collection includes kindergarten students who participated in preschool the previous year. The spring collection includes students who are currently enrolled in preschool. This memo is in reference to the fall collection only. A separate memo for the spring collection will be distributed later this school year.

Student data entry for the fall collection is available through November 21, 2014. The teacher feedback survey is due December 4, 2014.

There are two ways teachers can access the site for data submission:

- Access the WDE-453 form and enter data at: <https://edu.wyoming.gov/dcs/default.html>
  - Choose: WDE453
  - Select: “Document” Tab
  - Click: WDE453 Link; or
- Enter the IF-K observation data at <http://ddehome.com/ifk>

## Technical Assistance and Reports

Principals and teachers who set up an account in previous years, may access it with their same email address and password. New kindergarten teachers may set up an account with their email address and the default password of ddeifk. New principals who have not set up an account previously, should contact Juliann Jenson at [Juliann@DataDrivenEnterprises.com](mailto:Juliann@DataDrivenEnterprises.com) or 303-255-5607 for assistance.

Teachers, building principals, and superintendents can request access to the IF-K instrument, training videos, WDE453 Data Collection manual, and data reports through: <http://www.ddehome.com/IFK/>.

Two training webinars will also be available on Oct. 1st and Oct. 2nd from 4:00-4:30. Access to the webinars is available at: [http://tiny.cc/WDE\\_Participant](http://tiny.cc/WDE_Participant). To participate you will need to download the Blackboard Collaborate Launcher.

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*If you have any questions regarding the IF-K, please contact Lachelle Brant at [lachelle.brant1@wyo.gov](mailto:lachelle.brant1@wyo.gov) or 307.777.6476.*

*For support or technical assistance, please contact Juliann Jenson at [Juliann@DataDrivenEnterprises.com](mailto:Juliann@DataDrivenEnterprises.com) or 303.255.1561.*