



Student Growth & Assistant Principals

The **Illinois Principals Association** has prepared this document to guide assistant principals and their evaluators in developing student growth components for the purpose of the assistant principal's evaluation. Note that the student growth components of an assistant principal's evaluation must be identified by October 1st of each year.

What are the requirements for an assistant principal's evaluation?

In accordance with the new education reform laws, beginning on September 1, 2012, principals and assistant principals must be evaluated on both professional practice and student growth. Student growth is defined as a "change in a student's or group of students' knowledge or skills, as evidenced by gain and/or attainment on two or more assessments, between two or more points in time" (23 Il. Admin. Code 50.30). In accordance with this definition, a school is required to identify two (2) cohort groups of students to measure student growth. (Note that the professional practice components are the exact same for principals and assistant principals.)

Who is considered an "assistant principal"?

According to the State's Administrative Rules, an "assistant principal" is defined as administrative employee of the school district who is required [by the State] to hold an administrative certificate and who is assigned to assist the principal with his or her duties in the overall administration of the school. This definition does not include athletic directors, deans of students and other positions for which the State does not require an administrative certificate.

How is an assistant principal's evaluation different from a principal's evaluation relative to student growth?

For an assistant principal, the student growth components may [and should] be aligned to the assistant principal's specific duties. (23 Il. Admin. Code 50.310). This could include such measurements as improvements in attendance or a decrease in disciplinary referrals or other areas not directly related to specific aspects of student growth.

How should the student growth components be developed?

Please see the Illinois Principals Association's guidance entitled "Identifying Student Growth Criteria".

For further information on student growth components or other aspects of the new education reform laws, please contact the **Illinois Principals Association** at 217-525-1383.