RIDE Rhode Island Department of Education

Technology Guidelines for RICAS Computer-Based Testing

Spring 2027

Important Contact Information and Resources

Contact:	**RICAS Service Center**

For questions on:	• general test administration support
	• RICAS Portal and RICAS Student Kiosk such as
	  ○ user accounts
	  ○ technology support and readiness
	  ○ student registration process and loading files
	  ○ viewing student data
	  ○ scheduling tests
	• locating resources
	• shipments of materials

Hours:	7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Monday–Friday
Web:	ricas.onlinehelp.cognia.org
Email:	ricasservicecenter@cognia.org
Telephone:	855-222-8936

Contact:	**RIDE Office of Instruction, Assessment, and Curriculum**
For questions on:	Contact RIDE with any questions on policy or accommodations. Questions regarding student registration data should be directed to the district's data manager.
Web:	www.ride.ri.gov/ricas
Email:	assessment@ride.ri.gov
Telephone:	401-222-8478

Table of Contents

I. Introduction 1

II. Operating System Support Plan 1

III. RICAS Portal Browser Specifications 2

IV. RICAS Student Kiosk Device Specifications 2

V. RICAS Student Kiosk Download and Installation 4

A. ChromeOS Users 4

B. iPad Users 4

C. Windows, Mac, and Linux Users 4

I. Introduction

RICAS computer-based testing will use the following components:

- the **RICAS Portal**, the test administration and management website for district test coordinators, technology coordinators, principals/school test coordinators, test administrators, and other staff as needed
- the **RICAS Training Site**, where test coordinators, principals, technology coordinators, and test administrators can practice the tasks required in the RICAS Portal
- the **RICAS Student Kiosk**, the student testing platform.

Additional information on using the RICAS Portal can be found on the RICAS Resource Center.

II. Operating System Support Plan

The table below describes eMetrics's plan for supporting operating systems during the upcoming school year for RICAS computer-based testing. This plan helps districts and schools manage operating system deployments based on the support timelines. Students testing on devices that do not meet the technology guidelines may encounter performance-related issues during testing. OS updates should not be made during the spring testing windows.

Table 1. Operating System Support Plan

Operating System	Version	Version Release Date	End of Support Date	eMetric Support Policy
Chrome OS™	150+ 144+ LTS	July 2026 April 2026	End of 2026–27 school year (June 2027)	eMetric supports the versions of ChromeOS that are current as of July of each school year. These versions will be supported through the end of the school year (June). Schools are **not recommended** to use beta versions of ChromeOS, as this may result in errors.
iPadOS®	18.7+ 26.5+ 27	September 2024 September 2025 September 2026 - expected	End of 2026–27 school year End of 2027–28 school year End of 2028–29 school year	eMetric supports the latest three major versions that are supported by Apple.
Linux®, Fedora™ (64-bit only)	44	April 2026	End of 2026–27 school year	eMetric supports the latest version of Fedora.

Operating System	Version	Version Release Date	End of Support Date	eMetric Support Policy
macOS®	15.7+ 26.5+ 27	September 2024 September 2025 September 2026 - expected	End of 2026–27 school year End of 2027–28 school year End of 2028–29 school year	eMetric supports the latest three major versions that are supported by Apple.
Windows®	11 (24H2 Educator, Enterprise, IoT Enterprise, Enterprise Multi-Session; 25H2; 26H1; 26H2)	October 2021	October 2031	eMetric supports major versions of Windows that are supported by Microsoft. The latest supported minor versions of Windows are supported.

III. RICAS Portal Browser Specifications

The RICAS Portal is accessible via the following browsers on desktops and laptops:

- Chrome™ 155 or newer
- Firefox® 157 or newer
- Microsoft Edge™ 155 or newer
- Safari® 27.0 or newer

IV. RICAS Student Kiosk Device Specifications

Students must use devices that meet the specifications provided in Table 2. A few important notes are included below:

- The RICAS Student Kiosk for Windows, Mac, and Linux devices identifies applications running in the background that may cause interruptions during online test administration. Users will be prompted to close these applications upon launching the kiosk. There may be additional applications not currently recognized by the RICAS Student Kiosk that can cause interruptions or interfere with the secure kiosk functionality. To minimize potential security issues and interruptions, schools should ensure that there are no third-party applications running prior to launching the kiosk, unless the student requires a screen reader or has an assistive technology accommodation.

- Practice tests can be taken using the RICAS Student Kiosk or using a web browser. Launch the RICAS Student Kiosk or navigate to the RICAS Student Site if using a browser and click the "Access the Practice Test" link on the sign-in screen. Students using logins generated from the RICAS Training Site must access practice tests through the RICAS Training Student Site and cannot use the RICAS Student Kiosk or the RICAS Student Site.



Note: This practice test environment differs from the RICAS Training Site and does not allow the reporting of completed practice tests. For more information on the RICAS Training Site, please see the *RICAS Training Site Portal User Guide* available on the RICAS Resource Center.

Table 2. Student Testing Interface Specifications

System Requirements – All Hardware	
Connectivity	Student devices must be able to connect to the internet via wired or wireless networks
Screen Size	9.7" screen size or larger/ "10-inch class" tablets or larger
Screen Resolution	1024 x 768 or larger
Browser Requirements	
Browsers (Used for Practice Test Only)	Chrome™ 155 or newer Firefox® 157 or newer Microsoft Edge™ 155 or newer Safari® 27.0 or newer
Desktop and Laptop Specific Requirements	
CPU	1.3 GHz

Memory	2 GB (4GB is strongly recommended for best performance)
Windows®	11 (24H2 Education, Enterprise, IoT Enterprise, Enterprise Mult=Session; 25H2, 26H1, 26H2)
macOS® (64-bit only)	15.7+, 26.5+, 27.0+
Linux® (64-bit only)	Fedora™ 44
Tablet and Chromebooks Specific Requirements	
iPadOS®	18.7+, 26.6+, 27.0+
ChromeOS[a]	Chrome OS™ Long-Term Support (LTS)[b] 144+ Chrome OS™ Stable Channel 150+

Note: Windows is a registered trademark of Microsoft Corporation. Firefox is a registered trademark of Mozilla Foundation. Safari, Mac, and iPad are registered trademarks of Apple Inc. Chrome and Chromebook are registered trademarks of Google Inc. Fedora is a trademark of Red Hat, Inc. Linux is the registered trademark of Linux Torvalds in the U.S. and other countries.

[s] eMetric supports the versions released from the beginning of the school year (July) through the end of the school year (June).
[b] Google releases new versions to the stable channel every four weeks and new versions to the Long-Term Support (LTS) channel every six months. eMetric strongly recommends the use of the LTS channel. Devices on the LTS channel continue to receive frequent security fixes. See https://support.google.com/chrome/a/answer/11333726 for additional information.

V. RICAS Student Kiosk Download and Installation

A. ChromeOS Users

The RICAS web app for ChromeOS is available via the Google Workspace Admin Console. If your school uses Chromebooks, download and install the RICAS for Chrome app through the Google Workspace Admin Console. Step-by-step instructions for installing the RICAS for Chrome app can be found in the *Guide to Installing the RICAS Student Kiosk and Conducting Site Readiness* available on the RICAS Resource Center.

B. iPad Users

The iTester app is available via the Apple App Store. If your school uses iPads, download the iTester app from the Apple App Store. Step-by-step instructions for installing the iTester app can be found in the *Guide to Installing the RICAS Student Kiosk and Conducting Site Readiness* available on the RICAS Resource Center.

C. Windows

New for the 2026-27 school year, there are two distinct installation options for the Windows kiosk. Both options deliver identical app features, security protocols, and student testing experiences. Schools may choose their installation method depending on their organization's deployment and management preferences.

Installation Options

- **Option 1: iTest Windows App Installation from the Microsoft Store**

This method delivers updates automatically in the background through the Microsoft Store, reducing the need for manual software maintenance.

- **Option 2: Legacy Windows Kiosk Installation from the RICAS Portal**
  This method grants full control over the app's local write locations and updates will be performed manually via new kiosk download.

Step-by-step instructions for installing both Windows options can be found in the *Guide to Installing the RICAS Student Kiosk and Conducting Site Readiness* available on the RICAS Resource Center.

D. Mac, and Linux Users

The RICAS Student Kiosk for Mac and Linux is available for download via the RICAS Portal. If your school uses Mac or Linux devices, you must download and install the RICAS Student Kiosk. Step-by-step instructions for installing the RICAS Student Kiosk can be found in the *Guide to Installing the RICAS Student Kiosk and Conducting Site Readiness* available on the RICAS Resource Center.