

ABOUT

- U.S. and Canadian
- \$3 per student, up to a cap of \$2,000 per administration (additional fee for more than 5,000 students)
- Two 55-item tests developed using the SAILS item bank
- Proportional representation of four ACRL standards

DELIVERABLES

- Overall information literacy score for each test-taker along with each test-taker's results for each item and the number correct
- Summary information by major and class level
- Proficiency and mastery levels to provide context

BENEFITS

SAILS is designed to give librarians, professors, and administrators insights about the information literacy skills of their students.

- Provides a snapshot of overall information literacy skills
- Identifies weak and strong areas of information literacy skills
- Allows librarians and faculty to target instruction and revise instructional programs
- Provides data for accreditation and state requirements
- Results can be shared with administrators and instructors
- Can track the information literacy progress of students throughout a college career

VALIDATION

Pilot study at partnering institutions

- 411 students took test 1
- 1015 students took test 2
- Each test found to be reliable with a Cronbach Alpha over 0.80

Correlation study at Kent State

- 118 students took both tests to determine whether they were parallel
- Order of the tests varied to control for test fatigue
- Disattenuated correlation = 0.98

SCORING LEVELS

70% - Proficiency Level

- Research strategy development
- Searching basics, including Boolean operators and strategies for expanding and limiting searches
- Information retrieval
- Basics of information evaluation
- Finding tool selection and use
- Basic understanding of source documentation
- Basic understanding of the role of the academic library in information literacy

85% - Mastery Level

- Advanced searching, including the use of controlled vocabularies
- Advanced understanding of source documentation
- Basic understanding of intellectual property issues involved in the use of information

USES

- Research projects where information literacy is a predictor or outcome variable
- Pre and post testing
- Information literacy course
- Information literacy proficiency requirement

SELECTING YOUR SAILS TEST

Individual Scores Test

- Select when measuring the overall information literacy of individual test-takers
- Appropriate for pre and post testing for short information literacy interventions (semester)

Cohort Test

- Use when you want detailed results for groups of students
- Use when seeking information literacy subscales (designed to measure typical parts of an information literacy instructional program)
- Select when interested in benchmarking against similar institutions

