ISTE Seal Review Findings Report

EVERFI

2025

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ABOUT

ABOUT ISTE

The International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) is home to a community of global educators and solution providers who are passionate about using technology to revolutionize learning. Our vision is to create a bold community where education innovators are supported in reimagining and redesigning learning with a focus on using technology to create transformational and equitable experiences for learners. We're making this vision a reality by delivering practical guidance, evidence-based professional learning, virtual networks, thought-provoking events and the ISTE Standards.

ISTE SEAL

The ISTE Seal serves as a mark of high-quality product design for solutions that enable and guide high-quality learning. By choosing to demonstrate their commitment to supporting best practices for teaching and learning, these products show a purposeful and meaningful dedication to practical usability, digital pedagogical implementation, and the ISTE Standards. With a focus on user experience, product usability, and the most essential elements of instructional technology today, the ISTE Seal provides a set of criteria and simple indicators to guide educators, students, and technology directors toward the very best products on the market.

ISTE awards a seal only after an extensive analysis conducted by trained ISTE reviewers that ensures a product meets all critical elements under specific review criteria.

By earning an ISTE Seal, ISTE verifies that this product:
- Promotes critical technology skills.
- Supports the use of technology in appropriate ways.
- Incorporates digital pedagogy and the learning sciences.
- Addresses key elements of tech usability, user experience and user interface.
- Aligns to ISTE Standards in specific ways.

RESOURCE DESCRIPTION

WHAT IS *EVERFI*?

EVERFI is a comprehensive digital curriculum that offers educators a time-efficient solution for equipping students with essential life skills necessary for success in both their careers and personal lives. Designed to align with academic standards, EVERFI's ready-made interactive lessons cater to students from kindergarten through twelfth grade. These lessons focus on critical areas such as financial literacy, digital citizenship, health and wellness, diversity and inclusion, and career readiness.

At the core of EVERFI's approach is a strong foundation of learning science and research. The platform's design is based on well-defined logic models and theory of action statements, rooted in extensive research. The library of evidence supporting EVERFI's impact on student learning and attitudes continues to grow, covering various K-12 courses. By utilizing EVERFI's comprehensive educator platform, educators gain access to a wealth of resources, including course outlines, curriculum guides, lesson plans, and standard alignments. This eliminates the need for educators to spend valuable time and effort creating new materials, allowing them to focus on delivering high-quality instruction and empowering their students with the skills they need to thrive in an ever-changing world.

HOW IS *EVERFI* IMPLEMENTED?

EVERFI provides K-12 educators and students with free, high-quality digital content that covers essential topics beyond traditional curricula, such as digital literacy, social-emotional learning, health and wellness, financial literacy, and STEM. The interactive and standards-aligned content is designed to be easily integrated into instruction, offering real-world contexts that support the development of critical life skills. EVERFI aligns with standards including the ISTE Student Standards, Common Career Technical Core (CCTC), and Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL) Competencies.

ISTE SEAL REVIEW

Product: EVERFI K-12
Product Type: Curriculum
Organization: EVERFI
Date of Award: June 2023, Updated August 2025

REVIEW METHODOLOGY

ISTE Seal reviews are conducted by a distinguished panel of experts in education, instruction and technology. These experts utilize the most up-to-date data provided by the organization to conduct thorough evaluations of each solution. The evaluations focus on assessing the solution's performance in addressing specific elements outlined in the technical and pedagogical usability framework and the ISTE Standards.

To complete their rigorous evaluations, the reviewers utilize a comprehensive rating system, categorizing each solution as either "meets expectations" or "does not meet expectations." This assessment covers both the required and optional "Look Fors" outlined in the application. To ensure the validity and reliability of their results, the reviewers regularly engage in calibrations. Final review findings are then analyzed and combined, providing an overall score for alignment with each indicator.

At ISTE, we take great pride in our unwavering commitment to delivering results that schools and districts can have full confidence in. To be deemed education-ready learning solutions, products must meet the high standards in learning sciences, user experience and interface, accessibility, and content quality.

SCOPE OF REVIEW

EVERFI was reviewed against the technical, pedagogical usability framework and the ISTE Standards to determine whether **the solution is education-ready**. ISTE reviewers examined all evidence provided by the organization and interacted directly with the product.

REVIEW FINDINGS

1.2.a Digital Citizen
Cultivate and manage their digital identity and reputation and are aware of the permanence of their actions in the digital world.

1.2.c Digital Citizen
Demonstrate an understanding of and respect for the rights and obligations of using and sharing intellectual property.

1.2.d Digital Citizen
Manage their personal data to maintain digital privacy and security and are aware of data-collection technology used to track their navigation online.

1.3.b Knowledge Constructor
Evaluate the accuracy, perspective, credibility and relevance of information, media, data or other resources.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
- Interactive lessons guide students through a journey to make responsible choices as they cultivate their digital identity, allowing reflection on outcomes in various scenarios and safe exploration of decision-making impacts. - Characters model important digital citizenship lessons throughout the platform, demonstrating how to manage digital identity, maintain privacy, and respect digital rights. - Students learn source evaluation strategies and receive immediate feedback about how to determine credibility.	✓

• Course content explores positive and negative outcomes of digital world interactions, enabling students to examine digital citizenship issues.	

DIMENSION 1: USER INTERFACE AND AGENCY

Definition: The design of the product interface and user experience helps teachers quickly and reliably achieve instructional goals. This dimension includes features related to interface design, learnability, navigation, maximizing time on task, control over actions, and general usability.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
• Onboarding experiences minimize the effort required to start using key features, with in-app tutorials and contextual guides appearing at strategic points. • Interface organization follows intuitive and consistent patterns, with prominently displayed key actions and clearly labeled interactive elements that support efficient navigation. • Educators can access technical assistance through multiple embedded options within the platform, including direct links to the Technical Support Center, email contacts, and organized documentation. • Dedicated website links provide easy access to privacy policies, which provide clear data use statements that describe collection, usage, and storage practices for student information.	✓

DIMENSION 2: LEARNING DESIGN

Definition: The product has features that exhibit and promote design and customization of learning episodes in ways that align with research-based best practices, including those rooted in the learning sciences.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
- Course modules incorporate well-defined learning objectives that align closely with content delivery and learning outcomes. - Multiple content and activity types support diverse learning preferences and maintain engagement throughout lessons. - Narration, audio, and video content create strategic learning checkpoints that encourage students to reflect before moving forward. - Game-based activities foster active participation and sustained engagement with course material.	✓

DIMENSION 3: DIGITAL PEDAGOGY

Definition: The product is designed to support the development of digital age learning skills, capacities and knowledge. This dimension focuses on how technology can help students and teachers experience the best possible learning experiences, including the social and learning affordances that digital educational products uniquely offer.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
- Character-based learning paths include simulation-based learning throughout the platform. - Structured approaches to solution design and goal-setting appear consistently across course offerings. - Course library content focuses specifically on developing safe, ethical online behaviors while building digital identities and citizenship skills.	✓

DIMENSION 4: INCLUSIVITY

Definition: The product helps teachers provide learning experiences that are relevant to students of many cultures, backgrounds, and abilities, and support learner motivation and agency in the learning process. The product meets current guidelines around accessibility, and supports a positive classroom culture.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
• Content reflects a diverse range of people, cultures, and experiences addressing identity, inclusivity, and diversity within the course activities. • Lesson modules provide opportunities to build empathy by focusing on an asset-based mindset and upstander behaviors. • Accessibility compliance meets third-party audits, including WCAG 2.1 Level AA and Section 508 standards, and default captions and customizable audio and video settings support diverse learner needs.	✓

DIMENSION 5: ASSESSMENT AND DATA

Definition: The product uses formative assessments – learning experiences that help make visible what students know and don't yet know – to generate data that inform teachers about student knowledge and skill gaps, and provide students assessment feedback that is specific, actionable, and constructive. As such, it guides teachers' instructional decisions and students' learning journeys.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
• Assessments clearly align with learning objectives and content. • Pre-assessments included at the beginning of lessons establish baseline understanding and guide individualized learning paths.	✓

● Formative assessment strategies provide continuous feedback throughout modules, supporting real-time learning adjustments. ● Gradebook functionality enables comprehensive student performance tracking and progress monitoring.	

CONCLUSION

EVERFI delivers a comprehensive educational solution that effectively combines user-friendly design with robust learning features. The platform's intuitive interface and simple navigation menus create accessible experiences for all users, while well-defined learning objectives maintain clear alignment with course content throughout each module. Strategic learning checkpoints incorporating narration, audio, and video content encourage meaningful reflection and enhance knowledge retention.

The platform's character-based learning paths integrate simulation-based experiences that enable students to apply knowledge in realistic scenarios. This approach, combined with real-time feedback mechanisms and ongoing formative assessments, supports continuous learning improvement. Multiple content types and game-based activities maintain engagement while accommodating diverse learning preferences. Digital citizenship development receives particular emphasis through interactive lessons that guide responsible decision-making and digital identity cultivation. The comprehensive exploration of both positive and negative digital interaction outcomes helps students navigate complex digital citizenship issues safely and thoughtfully.

Inclusivity remains central to EVERFI's design, with content representing diverse populations, cultures, and experiences while addressing critical topics of identity and diversity. The lesson modules not only provide valuable knowledge but also create opportunities for students to build empathy, considering the perspectives and experiences of others. The platform's extensive accessibility features go beyond basic requirements, offering multiple ways for students to interact with the content and ensuring inclusivity for all learners.

Through its combination of intuitive design, research-based learning features, comprehensive accessibility, and strong emphasis on digital citizenship development, EVERFI successfully meets the rigorous standards required for ISTE Seal recognition as an education-ready learning solution.