WIDA's ACCESS 2.0 for English Learners
2017-18 School Year

All students, including English learners (EL), must participate in state testing for their grade level. The only exception is for a student who is in his or her first year in a U.S. school. A first-year EL may be exempt from the English language arts, social studies, and U.S. history assessments. However, the first-year EL must take the math assessment but may have the score exempt from accountability.

In addition to participating in regular state testing, EL students must take annually WIDA's ACCESS 2.0, which is an English Language Proficiency Assessment. The following chart provides additional information about this specific test for ELs.

Key Questions	WIDA ACCESS 2.0
What is ACCESS 2.0?	• ACCESS 2.0 is an English language proficiency assessment for students in kindergarten through twelfth grade. The test is administered every year to help school districts monitor the English language development of students identified as English learners.
What areas of learning will the test cover?	• ACCESS 2.0 is aligned to the WIDA English Language Development Standards and assesses each of the four language domains of **Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing**.

How is the test administered?	**For Kindergarten**
	• Kindergarten ACCESS 2.0 is an individually administered. The student is only presented with questions that the test administrator reasonably expects the student will be able to understand and respond to, based on the student's response to questions in the previous level.
	For Grades 1 through 12
	• **Listening**
	  ○ Students play pre-recorded listening passages on the computer.
	  ○ Students select a response from multiple choice options on the computer screen.
	  ○ The test platform captures and scores student responses.
	• **Reading**
	  ○ Students read passages on their computer screen.
	  ○ Students select a response from multiple choice options on the computer screen.
	  ○ The test platform captures and scores student responses.
	• **Speaking**
	  ○ Student plays pre-recorded speaking prompts on the computer.
	  ○ Student speaks into headset to record their answers.
	  ○ Students' responses are automatically sent to DRC for rating and scoring.
	• **Writing**
	  ○ Students in grades 1–3 complete the full writing test (reading the prompts and writing responses) on paper.
	  ○ Students in grades 4–12 read prompts on the computer screen and type responses unless they are unable to keyboard.
	  ○ Typed responses are automatically sent to DRC; handwritten responses will be mailed.

Key Questions	WIDA ACCESS 2.0

How long is the test?	• ACCESS 2.0 for kindergarten is an individually administered assessment designed to take approximately 45 minutes total per student.
	• For grades 1 through 12, the approximate times by domain are as follows:
	  ○ Listening: Up to 40 minutes
	  ○ Reading: Up to 35 minutes
	  ○ Speaking: UP to 30 minutes
	  ○ Writing (Tier A): Up to 65 minutes
	  ○ Writing (Tiers B and C): Up to 65 minutes

What supports are available for my student?	• ACCESS 2.0 is designed with accessibility in mind in order to meet the needs of English learners. • Additional accommodations are provided for students served under an IEP or 504 plan.
What performance levels will be assigned?	• The Individual Student Report shows a parent the child's score on ACCESS 2.0. • ACCESS 2.0 reports the following eight scores: **listening, speaking, reading, writing, oral language, literacy, comprehension, and overall**. • Proficiency level scores are reported as numbers that range from **1.0 through 6.0.** These scores correspond to the six WIDA English language proficiency levels.
When will I receive my student's results?	• Individual student reports are typically available to districts **mid-June**.
What is new this school year compared to last school year?	• Just as expectations for all students has increased, the expectations for language use for English learners has also increased. The difficulty of test questions on ACCESS 2.0 has not changed, but **students will need to demonstrate higher language skills to achieve the same proficiency level scores.**
Will my student's score be included in his/her end-of-year grades?	• **No**, WIDA ACCESS is not a factor in a student's end-of-year grade.