

ACCESS for ELLs

202 -2 Information for Families

What is the ACCESS for ELLs?

ACCESS for ELLs is an annual assessment of the developing social and academic English language proficiency (ELP) of English learners (ELs) in grades K through 12. This assessment allows educators, students, and families to monitor students' progress in acquiring academic English in the domains of speaking,

How are the ACCESS for ELLs results used?

- x Students use them to understand their current level of ELP along the developmental continuum.
- x Teachers use them to enhance instruction and learning.
- x Schools use them as one of multiple measures to determine if a student has reached full English proficiency.
- x School districts use them to evaluate the effectiveness of their ESL/bilingual programs and to meet federal requirements to monitor the progress of ELs toward English language proficiency.

What types of scores are provided?

- x Scale scores on K12 vertical scales in the domains of listening, reading, writing, and speaking.
- x Proficiency level scores interpret the scale scores in terms of six proficiency levels.
- x Composite scores in Oral Language, Literacy, Comprehension, and an Overall Composite.

What are the English Language Development Standards?

The WIDA English Language Development (ELD) Standards are the foundation for the ACCESS for ELLs assessment and all WIDA resources. These standards represent the language students need to be successful in grades K-12. The standards are available at <https://wida.wisc.edu/teach/standards/eld>.

Where can I find sample test questions?

Sample test questions are available at <https://wida.wisc.edu/assess/access/preparing-students/practice>. These can be used by students to become familiar with the test format prior to testing. They also allow parents to understand what their students are expected to be able to do to demonstrate their English proficiency.

For more information about ACCESS for ELLs contact the Office of Educational Accountability at osamail@dpi.wi.gov or visit <https://dpi.wi.gov/assessment/ell>.