

Chapter Six

World-Class Instructional Design and Assessments (WIDA) for English Language Learners

Indiana's ESEA Flexibility Waiver requires the state to adopt an English language proficiency assessment that is college- and career-ready and aligned to Indiana's English language development standards. Indiana adopted the World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment 2 (WIDA) English language development standards in October 2013 and anticipates joining the WIDA consortium to adopt the corresponding English language proficiency assessments for the 2014-15 school year. WIDA Assessments will replace the current use of LAS Links.

The Purpose

WIDA (World-Class Instructional Design and Assessments) will be used in Indiana to determine a student's level of English proficiency. The placement test (**W-APT**), administered upon the student's arrival in the United States, is used to determine appropriate services for the student. The annual assessment (**ACCESS for ELLs**), administered in late winter, determines the student's current level of English proficiency and is used for accountability purposes.

Structure and Content of ACCESS for 2014-15

Testing personnel should note the following regarding the administration of the 2014-2015 ACCESS Assessments:

ACCESS is made up of two assessments: a placement test (**W-APT**) and an annual assessment (**WIDA ACCESS**).

1. **W-APT (WIDA-ACCESS Placement Test):**

W-APT is an English language proficiency "screener" test given to any student whose Home Language Survey (HLS) indicates a language other than English. It assists educators with program placement decisions such as identification and placement of ELLs. **W-APT** test forms are divided into five grade-level clusters: Kindergarten (administered to Kindergarten and first semester 1st grade students), Grades 1-2, Grades 3-5, Grades 6-8 and Grades 9-12. **The results from the placement test must be communicated to parents within 30 days at the start of the school year or within two weeks of arrival later in the school year.** Placement tests are scored locally. PowerPoint presentations, Test Administration Manual(s) and Scored Writing Samples are available from your Corporation Test Coordinator (CTC) or designated EL coordinator.

2. **WIDA ACCESS (Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners):**

WIDA ACCESS is the annual assessment administered to Kindergarten through 12th graders in late winter each school year, preceding the Applied Skills ISTEP+ assessment window. This assessment is given to students currently classified by LAS Links as Levels 1-4 and to students who have NOT received a Level 5 classification for two consecutive data points. **The results from the annual WIDA ACCESS assessment must be communicated to parents.** Since this is the first year of implementation, training will be offered online and/or in person for Test Coordinators and Administrators.

W-APT and **WIDA ACCESS** test items are written from the model performance indicators of WIDA's five English Language Proficiency (ELP) standards: Social & Instructional Language, Language of Language Arts, Language of Mathematics, Language of Science and Language of Social Studies.

Federal Flexibility

For newly arrived LEP students in their first year of U.S. schooling, for **one time only**, the annual **WIDA-ACCESS** may be substituted for the English/Language Arts portion of the ISTEP+ assessment utilizing Federal Flexibility (see *Chapter 10: Test Administration & Reporting*). This is a school corporation-wide decision, and STNs must be submitted to the Indiana Department of Education in May as part of the DOE-LE data collection.

Data Collection

Purpose

The purpose of this data collection is to gather student information used to populate student-level information for barcode labels for the WIDA ACCESS test during the 2014-2015 test administration window. The Corporation Test Coordinator (CTC) should assist with the collection of the data. The required data for barcode labels should be collected, combined into a file, and submitted to the Department of Education through the Application Center. The barcode labels will ensure more accurate student information.

Audience

This is a required collection for schools administering WIDA ACCESS:

- Public schools (Traditional and Charter)
- Nonpublic schools (Accredited and Freeway)
- Choice Scholarship Schools

Prior to testing

The CTC is required to access the vendors' site to set up test administration. Instructions and dates for completing this process will be sent out in September to CTC's from the Office of Student Assessment.

ACCESS Assessment Windows for 2014-2015

Window	Dates	Scoring
W-APT*	Based on student's arrival	Scored locally
ACCESS Annual Assessment	January 21 – February 27, 2015	Speaking portion scored locally; other portions submitted for scoring.

*LAS Links Placement Tests will be used at the beginning of the 2014-15 school year.

NOTE:

For additional information, please access <http://www.doe.in.gov/assessment/english-language-proficiency-assessments>.