

# ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW: WIDA EL Assessments

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## About WIDA EL Assessments

### What is WIDA?

WIDA stands for World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment. The WIDA consortium is a group of states dedicated to the design and implementation of high standards and equitable educational opportunities for English learners. **South Dakota** is one out of 39 states that belongs to the WIDA Consortium. The WIDA Consortium provides **South Dakota** with English language proficiency assessments for student in grades K-12, professional development opportunities, and English language proficiency standards.



ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 is a secure, large-scale English language proficiency assessment administered to KG through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students who have been identified as English learners. The assessment is given annually to monitor students' progress in acquiring academic English language

proficiency. The ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 assessments are aligned to the WIDA English Language Development Standards and assess students' proficiency in four domains: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

## 2017-2018 Testing Window

STATE TESTING DATES 2017-2018			
Testing Specifics		Start Date	End Date
Pre-Testing	DRC Provides 2016-2017 Site Data to SEA	Fri 8/11/17	Fri 8/11/17
	SEA Provides 2017-2018 Site Changes to DRC	Mon 8/14/17	Fri 10/6/17
	Test Materials Ordering Via Pre-ID File (SEA)	Thu 12/14/17	Thu 12/14/17
	SEA Loads Pre-ID File into AMS	Thu 12/14/17	Thu 12/14/17
	WIDA AMS Test Setup Available for Test Sessions	Mon 1/15/18	Fri 3/2/18
	Districts Receive Test Materials (On)	Mon 1/15/18	Mon 1/15/18
During Testing	<b>Test Window</b>	<b>Mon 1/29/18</b>	<b>Fri 3/2/18</b>
	Additional Test Material Ordering Window in AMS	Mon 1/15/18	Fri 2/23/18
Post-Testing	Deadline for Shipping Completed Test Materials to DRC	Fri 3/9/18	Fri 3/9/18
	Pre-Reporting Data Validation – LEAs in AMS	Tue 3/27/18	Tue 4/10/18
	Districts Receive Reports - Printed and Online (On)	Mon 5/7/18	Mon 5/7/18
	Data Available to State	Mon 5/7/18	Mon 5/7/18

*“Before anything else, preparation is the key to success.”*

## What are my responsibilities?

In the above section you will see that important dates and timelines are listed. It is important to remember that all ordering of test materials is completed through the SD DOE.

### What is my responsibility?

You need to ensure that all EL students are properly identified as EL

in Infinite Campus. This is very important because information is pulled from Infinite campus for ordering the necessary assessment materials. The file was pulled on **November 27, 2017**.

Please note that any new students that arrived after the pull date will be added later.

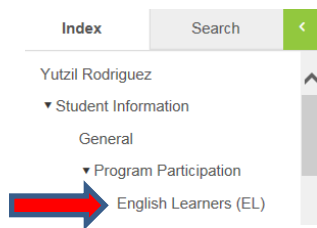
It is also important to

remember that students need to be identified in campus as EL as soon as the screener assessment is completed. LEAs have 30 days at the beginning of the school year to identify, screen, and notify parents of potential EL students and two weeks during the school year to complete this process.

## What are my responsibilities continued...

### I want to make sure my EL students are properly identified, where is the EL tab found in Infinite Campus?

The EL tab is found under:



### Families of EL students

WIDA offers a variety of resources for families regarding the WIDA EL assessments. It is important to keep families informed regarding their student's education.

One resource we would like to point out is the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Parent handout. This

handout is provided in 8 different languages. Please share with families! You can find the handouts [here](#).

## What resources are available to me?

WIDA offers the following resources for educators: Visit the [South Dakota Page](#) on the WIDA website!



## FAQs

### What will be covered during the January workshops?

The January workshops will cover a variety of topics from state expectations, information regarding all WIDA assessments, score reports, and time for participants to complete online training.

### If I attend the January workshop do I still have to complete my online training?

Yes. All online training and quizzes must be completed prior to administering the assessments. Remember you only have to complete the training that pertains to the assessment you will be administering.

### Who can administer the assessments?

The individual who administers the assessments must be a certified educator.



## December WIDA Webinars!

### Tech Coordinators

When: December 14

Time: 1-2 pm (CT)

Technology Troubleshooting

[Join Now](#)

### Test Coordinators

When: December 12

Time: 11-12 pm (CT)

Managing Test Sessions (Online)

[Join Now](#)

### Test Administrators

When: December 6

Time: 1-2 pm (CT)

Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Administration

[Join Now](#)

When: December 13

Time: 2-3 pm (CT)

Managing Students (Paper)

[Join Now](#)



## Reminders and Announcements

### Technology Support:

This would be a good time to start getting technology downloaded and ready to go!

For technology help and support please call DRC at 855.787.9615

Also, you can visit the Technology page on the [WIDA website](#).

### Writing Field Test Participants Needed!

WIDA is looking for students in grades 1-12 to participate in the field. All students in grades 1-3 will handwrite their responses, and those in 4-12 will keyboard. The field test may be administered before or after a student completes the operational test.

Please contact Alex Bauer, [alex.bauer@wisc.edu](mailto:alex.bauer@wisc.edu) for more information or if you are willing to participate in!

*“Everyone smiles in the same language.”*

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[SDDOE EL Assessment Page](#)

[WIDA Website](#)

[WIDA AMS](#)

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to the students of South Dakota! If you have any questions regarding any of the information covered in this newsletter, please don't hesitate to contact us!

