

What is the First Year in Country (FYIC) criteria?

- A. must be an identified EL student
- B. have been enrolled in a school in one of the 50 states in the United States or the District of Columbia for less than 12 months
- C. Must participate in ACCESS Online or Alternate ACCESS assessment if enrolled during the testing window
- D. For students arriving after the ACCESS testing window, the WIDA Screener must be administered to provide evidence for SD ELA or ACT ELA assessment exemption

If the student meets the above criteria, then...

The student is exempt from participating in the ELA portion of the SD state assessment or ACT for juniors; however, the student is **required** to participate in Math and Science. Scores are not included in accountability.

Qualifying Dates for ELA Exemption for School Year 2025-2026

May 2, 2025 – May 1, 2026

Qualifying Dates for ELA Exemption for School Year 2026-2027

May 2, 2026 – May 3, 2027