

Information on the WIDA ACCESS



What is WIDA ACCESS?

The WIDA ACCESS is a test that measures how students are developing their English skills in listening, reading, speaking, and writing, and is based on the WIDA English Language Development (ELD) Standards. These standards are connected to what students learn in school, and they help make sure students build the language skills they need to fully participate in classroom learning.



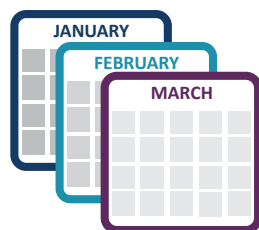
Who takes the WIDA ACCESS?

All students identified as English learners (ELs) who are enrolled in grades K–12 in Minnesota public schools take the WIDA ACCESS. Some students who have an Individualized Educational Program (IEP) and meet specific eligibility requirements may take the WIDA Alternate ACCESS.



Why do students take the WIDA ACCESS?

The WIDA ACCESS allows students to show how their English skills are developing at school. Teachers use the results to understand how to support each student's language growth. The results also help show when a student has reached a high enough level of English proficiency to no longer need EL support services. Schools use the results to see how well they are meeting the needs of EL learners. Families can use the results to understand how their student is progressing and how to support them at home.



When does the WIDA ACCESS happen?

Students take the WIDA ACCESS every year until they reach a high enough level of English proficiency to no longer need EL support services. The test is usually given between late January and late March.



How do students take the WIDA ACCESS?

Most students will take the WIDA ACCESS online. Kindergarten students take the test individually with a teacher. Some students can take the WIDA ACCESS on paper based on their needs, including those with an IEP or 504 plan.