

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 LEA Updates

WHAT'S NEW?

WIDA has made a number of revisions to the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 webpage over the past month. The [ACCESS 2.0 Preparation Resources page](#) has been updated so that educators (Technology Coordinators, Test Coordinators, and Test Administrators) can easily filter by role for all currently available and upcoming materials.

AS WE WIND DOWN THE SCHOOL YEAR, WIDA WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THIS YEAR'S ACCESS FOR ELLS 2.0 FIELD TEST.

UPCOMING RELEASES

May 2015:

Overview of ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Pre-Recorded Webinar including detailed information about each of the four domains

May 2015:

Accommodations and Accessibility Guidelines. Includes guidelines for both the online and paper-based tests

WIDA developed a survey to collect educator input on the ACCESS for ELLs Score Report. Please share your opinions. The survey will be available until May 31, 2015. [Take the survey now.](#)

WEBSITE UPDATES

- Posting the detailed checklists for [Technology Coordinators](#), [Test Coordinators](#), and [Test Administrators](#)
- Posting the recording and questions from the April 24th [ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Overview and Question and Answer Webinar](#)
- Updating the [Technology webpage](#) to include updated information regarding headset specifications and posting a new Technology FAQs and a PDF about system requirements
- Posted the recording of the May 1st [Technology Coordinator webinar](#)

WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION

As a reminder, all information about the new test is available on the WIDA website (under ACCESS for ELLs 2.0) using the following link: www.wida.us/access_2.0

New information is being added regularly, so check back often.

TRAINING PLANS

WIDA will be offering a number of informational webinars throughout fall 2015, as well as releasing training materials for Test Coordinators and Test Administrators preparing for the operational test.

Over this summer, WIDA will be revising the Training Course so that Test Coordinators and Test Administrators are able to go to just one place for the checklists, web-based modules, and Test Administration Manuals that will help them prepare for ACCESS for ELLs 2.0. These materials will require a WIDA login, as is currently the case for the ACCESS for ELLs Training Course.

Also this summer, WIDA and operational test partner Data Recognition Corporation will be adapting and enhancing the portal that will become the new WIDA Assessment Management System (WIDA-AMS). Technology Coordinators will use WIDA-AMS to access their checklist, all web-based modules, and system downloads for the online test. As a result, Technology Coordinators will not be required to log into the WIDA website.

STARTING JUNE 1, 2015 DATA
RECOGNITION CORPORATION
(DRC) CUSTOMER SERVICE
WILL EXTEND ITS HOURS
FROM 6:00AM–6:00PM CST
MONDAY–FRIDAY.

For more detailed information on training materials and preparation resources, WIDA encourages educators to review the [ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Preparation Resources webpage](#).

The 2015 Field Test modules are another resource to help designated staff get a better understanding of procedures for the online test.

FIELD TEST UPDATES

Nearly 20,000 English Language Learners participated in this year's field test, which ended April 10th. In addition to the end-of-test survey students completed, WIDA is collecting feedback from district participants and WIDA member state representatives. This feedback will be used to adapt training materials and procedures for the operational test, so please let us know if you have suggestions.

TECHNOLOGY CORNER

Please keep in mind that a headset with microphone is required to administer the online ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Speaking test. As noted in the [Headset Specifications document](#), WIDA recommends group administering the Speaking test to no more than 5-7 students in one room. Thus, individual Test Administrators will only need that number of headsets in order to test one group of students at a time.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What are the benefits of online testing?

Key benefits of the online test include:

- More dynamic and interactive test for students
- The ability to test multiple grades and proficiency levels at the same time
- Group administration of the Speaking test
- Test Administrator will not need to score Speaking (or any of the other three domains)

For more information, visit the WIDA ACCESS 2.0 webpage: www.WIDA.us/access_2.0