



# WDE Assessment Updates

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## **WIDA MODEL Now Online**

WIDA is offering the WIDA MODEL Online Grades 6-12 as the newest offering in the WIDA MODEL Assessment Suite. It offers:

- On-demand assessment capabilities
- Instant score reporting
- Listening, writing and reading with group administration, speaking 1:1
- Score tracking from year-to-year in the online interface

Note: This release of the assessment is a digitized version of the paper-based WIDA MODEL kit with an additional third writing prompt. WIDA MODEL paper assessments Grades K-12 remain available and are not being discontinued.

Learn more here:

[https://www.wceps.org/store/wida/ProductDetails?ProductID=208&CategoryID=17&utm\\_source=may\\_customer&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=may\\_customer](https://www.wceps.org/store/wida/ProductDetails?ProductID=208&CategoryID=17&utm_source=may_customer&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=may_customer)

## **Assessment Literacy & Formative Assessment/Resource Development Training**

The Wyoming Department of Education is providing five regional two-day professional development opportunities for teachers on assessment literacy and formative assessment resource development. The training will be presented by Jan Hoegh, Associate Vice President of Marzano Research.

- Laramie: July 21-22
- Casper: July 23-24
- Thermopolis: July 28-29
- Rock Springs: July 30-31
- Gillette: August 4-5

To register for the free workshop, please click here: <https://goo.gl/41n0PM>  
For any questions, please contact Shelly Andrews at: [shelly.andrews@wyo.gov](mailto:shelly.andrews@wyo.gov) or 307-777-3781.

## **Technical Specifications for the 9th and 10th Grade 2015-2016 State Assessment**

As we finish the 2014-2015 school year, we begin preparing for the 2015-2016 school year. As many of you already know, ACT Explore and ACT Plan will no longer be available for statewide administration. Beginning this upcoming 2015-2016 school year, ACT Aspire will be used to assess students in grades 9 and 10. Below is the link to the technical specifications for ACT Aspire.

<http://www.discoveractaspire.org/assessments/technical-requirements/>

Please contact Jessica Steinbrenner at [Jessica.steinbrenner@wyo.gov](mailto:Jessica.steinbrenner@wyo.gov) or at 307-777-8568 with any questions.

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### **Register for Writing Workshops Now!**

The Wyoming Department of Education is pleased to partner with Educational Testing Services to plan and provide professional development for Wyoming educators to support standards-based writing instruction and assessment. Using the range-finding process, participants will gain a deeper understanding of quality student writing aligned to the state's adopted standards in ELA. Although we had previously announced four locations for the training, we have consolidated the sites to two:

June 15-16 (Monday/Tuesday)      Cody, WY - 1500 Heart Mountain Road (Park County Library—Grisley Hall), please park in the overflow parking area.

June 17-18 (Wednesday/Thursday)      Casper, WY - 2011 Fairgrounds Road (Agricultural Bldg.)

Sessions will begin at 9:00 AM each day and end by 5:00 PM on day one and 4:00 PM on day two. Lunch will be provided and 1 PTSB credit is available for the two day workshop. Participants are encouraged to attend in teams because of the collaborative nature of these sessions.

If you are interested in attending one of these two-day work-shops, please register here **no later than 5-29-15**: <http://goo.gl/forms/KkFwkfYNUi>

If you have questions about the sessions, please contact Jessica Steinbrenner at [Jessica.Steinbrenner@wyo.gov](mailto:Jessica.Steinbrenner@wyo.gov) or 307-777-8568

### **New ACT Research**

ACT has recently released new research studies; please find them here:

- [Unpacking Career Readiness.](#)
- [Condition of Future Educators.](#)
- [College Choice Report: Part 3.](#)
- [Why Scores on the ACT Test Are Scores You Can Trust.](#)

### **Assessment Webpages Updates**

If you visited the Assessment pages on the WDE website in the last few weeks, you will have noticed that there are several changes that have occurred. We've added some pages, removed some pages, and moved some information.

Instead of having the PAWS materials separated by grade, on their own separate pages, all of that material has been integrated into 1 PAWS page. We have also created a page called 'Cut Scores' and another called 'Performance Level Descriptors', both of which contain up-to-date information. You will find these pages listed toward the bottom of the State Assessment Topics sidebar. We have also removed the 'Online Test Management System' (TOMS) page, and placed those links on their respective assessment pages. What this means is, if you are looking for information on PAWS, you can go directly to the PAWS page. If you need information about Wy-ALT, go directly to the Wy-ALT page, etc.

Our hope is to make the web pages more easily navigable, and information easier to find. Please don't forget to update your bookmarks. If you have a problem finding any information, or would like to provide feedback, please contact Michelle Carroll at: [michelle.carroll@wyo.gov](mailto:michelle.carroll@wyo.gov), or 777-3618.

### **Three Checklists for ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 in 2015-16**

WIDA developed three checklists to provide specific information to support test preparation and administration for ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 in 2015–16. These checklists are for the following roles:

1. *Technology Coordinator - responsible for all technical and system set up for online testing*
2. *Test Coordinator - responsible for the overall coordination or test administration activities*
- C. *Test Administrator - responsible for administering ACCESS for ELLs 2.0*

They are posted to the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Preparation Resources page on the WIDA website. Here is the link.

<https://www.wida.us/assessment/access20-prep.aspx>

WIDA will update these documents as needed to ensure they maintain current web links to information contained within each checklist.

Please contact the Client Services Center at 866-276-7735 or email: [help@wida.us](mailto:help@wida.us).

### **Prepare for Online Reports**

The WDE will be releasing assessment data for confidential district review beginning in late June. In order to start the season off right, here are some helpful tips for accessing the data. (Note: *The data are not currently available.*)

These reports contain a great deal of sensitive student information. Please review your organization's rules and guidelines for how to use and safeguard confidential information. If your team would like additional training, or just have questions on student privacy, contact Leslie Zimmerschied at [leslie.zimmerschied@wyo.gov](mailto:leslie.zimmerschied@wyo.gov). Everyone needs to take the necessary steps to ensure student data is protected.

The reports will be posted to the [Assessment Confidential](#) module of the Data Reporting tab. To navigate to the reports, go to the Wyoming Education Fusion Portal homepage at <http://fusion.edu.wyoming.gov> and sign in. Click on the Data Reporting icon at the top of the screen. Then click on the Assessment Confidential link on the left. Assessment Confidential is a secured site and only authorized users will be able to access the reports. Authorized users are Superintendents, Business Managers, WISE Coordinators, Assessment Coordinators and approved users with the Assessment Confidential role.

Assigning users to the Assessment confidential role is a district decision and must be done by a local Fusion administrator. If you need to find a Fusion Administrator in your district, [follow this link](#). A short video with [instructions to reset Fusion passwords](#) is also available.

Again, data are not posted yet. Districts will be notified when the reports are posted via a Memorandum from the Superintendent. This information is being sent now to help prepare for the review window.

### **Performance Levels on Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) and PAWS**

Late in 2014, staff on the WDE data team analyzed spring 2014 MAP and PAWS data, completing an equipercentile linking to identify RIT score ranges that correspond to PAWS scale score ranges for Advanced, Proficient, Basic, and Below Basic. These can be used as guidance for districts interested in using MAP RIT scores to predict performance on the PAWS. With the elimination of the WDE 626 data collection, WDE will use the proficient cuts in reading (including 161 for kindergarten) to determine school by school attainment of the 85% goal established in statute (21-3-401). Tables are below. For reference, they have also been posted to the Assessment webpage, along with statewide means and standard deviations.

**Table 1. Linking Results, MAP to PAWS, Mathematics**

| Grade | PAWS Scale Score Ranges |         |            |          | MAP RIT Ranges |         |            |          |
|-------|-------------------------|---------|------------|----------|----------------|---------|------------|----------|
|       | Below Basic             | Basic   | Proficient | Advanced | Below Basic    | Basic   | Proficient | Advanced |
| 1     |                         |         |            |          | <174           | 174-186 | 187-200    | 201+     |
| 2     |                         |         |            |          | <184           | 184-194 | 195-206    | 207+     |
| 3     | 375-549                 | 550-598 | 599-659    | 660-850  | <194           | 194-205 | 206-218    | 219+     |
| 4     | 400-583                 | 584-636 | 637-696    | 697-875  | <201           | 201-217 | 218-232    | 233+     |
| 5     | 425-608                 | 609-651 | 652-726    | 727-900  | <210           | 210-223 | 224-242    | 243+     |
| 6     | 450-628                 | 629-676 | 677-742    | 743-925  | <214           | 214-228 | 229-243    | 244+     |
| 7     | 475-652                 | 653-696 | 697-752    | 753-950  | <219           | 219-233 | 234-247    | 248+     |
| 8     | 500-663                 | 664-706 | 707-762    | 763-925  | <221           | 221-236 | 237-253    | 254+     |

**Table 2. Linking Results, MAP to PAWS, Reading**

| Grade | PAWS Scale Score Ranges |         |            |          | MAP RIT Ranges |         |            |          |
|-------|-------------------------|---------|------------|----------|----------------|---------|------------|----------|
|       | Below Basic             | Basic   | Proficient | Advanced | Below Basic    | Basic   | Proficient | Advanced |
| 1     |                         |         |            |          | <171           | 171-179 | 180-194    | 195+     |
| 2     |                         |         |            |          | <180           | 180-190 | 191-203    | 204+     |
| 3     | 375-552                 | 553-589 | 590-640    | 641-800  | <191           | 191-199 | 200-212    | 213+     |
| 4     | 400-565                 | 566-605 | 606-659    | 660-825  | <196           | 196-205 | 206-219    | 220+     |
| 5     | 425-577                 | 578-619 | 620-667    | 668-850  | <203           | 203-212 | 213-225    | 226+     |
| 6     | 450-588                 | 589-629 | 630-680    | 681-875  | <207           | 207-217 | 218-228    | 229+     |
| 7     | 475-605                 | 606-641 | 642-692    | 693-900  | <211           | 211-219 | 220-232    | 233+     |
| 8     | 500-615                 | 616-655 | 656-710    | 711-925  | <214           | 214-223 | 224-237    | 238+     |

Questions on the linking can be directed to Deb Lindsey at [deb.lindsey@wyo.gov](mailto:deb.lindsey@wyo.gov).  
 Questions about the early literacy requirements can be directed to Lachelle Brant at [lachelle.brant1@wyo.gov](mailto:lachelle.brant1@wyo.gov)

## **ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Transition News**

Please refer to the WIDA website for a listing of updated webinars and resources. This information is located under the assessment tab. Click on the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 drop-down menu and go to Preparation Resources.

Below are a few highlights:

### **May Preview:**

- Accommodations guidelines and supporting materials available for LEAs (end of May)

### **General Information:**

1. The Kindergarten ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs are part of the new ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 system, but available only as a paper based test.
2. The new features of the online ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 simplify test administration and scoring.
  - A. *Online Speaking test can be administered to multiple students at the same time which reduces amount of time educators/students are away from the classroom.*
  - B. *Centralized scoring for all four domains; no need to score student responses on site*
  - C. *For students who can keyboard responses, there is no need for any paper-based material*
3. WIDA is here to help throughout the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 transition period with revised training, website resources, and Client Services Center support.

Call the Client Services Center at 866-276-7735 or email: [help@wida.us](mailto:help@wida.us).

### **Important Upcoming Dates**

**July (early)** — PAWS confidential release

**July (late)** — PAWS public data release

**-Word of the Week-**

**Summative Assessment**

**Assessing students' skills for the purpose of determining whether instruction has been effective.**