WDE Assessment Updates

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NEW: Information on States' Assessment Systems

New documents have been created by the US Chamber of Commerce to help educators communicate with families and the broad community on issues related to higher standards and related assessments. State by state information can be found here: http://www.businessforcore.org/interactive-map/ and info specific to Wyoming can be found here: http://www.businessforcore.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/WY-for-Web.pdf

Text in the Wyoming primer is up-to-date and references the statutorily required Assessment Task Force. It may be useful as you prepare for this summer's data releases.

NEW: WIDA Has New Resources for Districts

WIDA is pleased to announce the availability of several new resources for Districts. In order to provide comprehensive information about allowable accommodations for the online and paper-based ACCESS for ELLs 2.0, we have posted to the WIDA website new ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 accessibility and accommodations reference documents. The direct links to the new documents, which are posted to the ACCESS 2.0 Preparation Resources webpage, are listed below.

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0: Accessibility and Accommodations Guidelines:
https://www.wida.us/assessment/WIDA_AccessAccGuidelines_5-28-15.pdf

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0: Accessibility and Accommodations Descriptions (including tables of specific accessibility tools and accommodations):
https://www.wida.us/assessment/WIDA_AccessAccDescriptions_5-28-15.pdf

These documents were created to provide recommended guidelines on the accessibility tools available to all students and allowable accommodations for ELLs with IEP or 504 Plans during the administration of the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 assessment. Please encourage district staff to discuss these guidelines with IEP teams.

Webinar Posted to the Website for LEAs and SEAs

In addition, WIDA has posted a pre-recorded *Overview of ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Webinar* to the WIDA website. Under the Assessment tab go to ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 and click on Preparation Resources. This twenty minute resource includes more detailed information and sample screen shots for each of the domains than was included in the recent ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 live webinar. Users may select individual chapters of the webinar to review or revisit those specific topics.

Overview of ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Webinar (pre-recorded):
https://www.wida.us/assessment/ACCESS%202.0/ACCESS2.0OverviewWebinar052115/presentation.html

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 or at
307-777-8568 with any questions.

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 or
307-777-3781.

WIDA MODEL Now Online

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

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.

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.

-Word of the Week-

Standard-Setting Study

A formal study conducted by a testing organization to determine standards for a testing program, which are manifested as a cut score.

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.

Important Upcoming Dates

July (early) — PAWS confidential release
July (late) — PAWS public data release