



Wyoming Department of Education

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MEMORANDUM NO. 2014-110

TO: School District Superintendents
District Test Coordinators
School Principals
Title III Directors

FROM: Robin Holbrook, English Learners (EL) Content and Assessment Consultant
Standards & Accountability Division

DATE: September 23, 2014

SUBJECT: WIDA ACCESS 2.0 Field Test Recruitment

FIELD TESTING FOR NEW WIDA ONLINE ASSESSMENT

Time Sensitive

CHEYENNE - During the 2015-16 school year, WIDA will be transitioning to ACCESS 2.0, the new online assessment. This year, Wyoming has the opportunity to participate in the development and testing of the new assessment by taking part in the Field Test. All four language domains (Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking) will be available for Field Testing. To ensure a psychometrically valid test, WIDA's goal is to collect data from 21,400 students across the 36 member states of the WIDA consortium. Wyoming school districts can benefit by participating in this important effort.

Free headsets, required for the Field Test and operational assessment, and a free copy of the ACCESS for ELLs Growth Report will be offered, courtesy of WIDA, for participating in the Field Test. This is a great way for districts needing headsets for the operational test to obtain them at no charge.

Participation in the Field Test will allow Wyoming districts to become familiar with the new online technology and testing procedures as well as be able to share input on the assessment with

WIDA as they finalize the assessments, professional development and training, and administration procedures. Detailed information is available here: www.wida.us/2.0/FT

To help prepare educators for the transition to the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 online assessment, WIDA has scheduled the following two webinars:

***September 19th**

Topic: ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Operational Test Q & A Webinar

Time: 3:00pm CST

Weblink: <https://meetings.webex.com/collabs/#!/meetings/detail?uuid=M3A92DDLNI0SJ3L2C9ASEISCKX-ADER&rnd=294484.48468>

Audio Connection: 1-650-479-3207

Meeting Number: 190 048 358

Purpose: to provide a brief overview of the online ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 operational test and provide an opportunity for district staff to ask questions. The online test will become operational in the 2015-16 school year.

Note: WIDA encourages participants to watch the new ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Overview Webinar Recording (<http://assetsproject.org/implementation/operational.aspx#testPrep>) prior to the September 19th Q & A webinar.

September 26th

Topic: ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Field Test Webinar

Time: 3:00pm CST

Weblink: <https://meetings.webex.com/collabs/#!/meetings/detail?uuid=M2KTZA464VMC56UOQPYO6XFL5S-ADER&rnd=733430.62233>

Audio Connection: 1-650-479-3207

Meeting Number: 194 517 845

Purpose: to provide information about participating in the 2015 ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Field Test, which will take place between December 2014 and April 2015.

*Both webinars will also be recorded and posted to the WIDA/ASSETS Project website (<http://www.wida.us/assessment/ACCESS20.aspx>).

For any questions or for more information contact Meredith Alt, ASSETS Project Manager at WIDA, at mlalt@wisc.edu. If your district is interested in participating in the Field Test or if you have any questions, please contact Alex Bauer at: 608-265-0601 or asbauer@wisc.edu or Robin Holbrook at: 307-777-5217 or robin.holbrook@wyo.gov.