

ACCESS for ELLs® Annual Assessment

Overview of ACCESS for ELLs®: <http://www.wida.us/assessment/ACCESS/>

Information about test features, cost, purpose & use, sample items, test development, and technical reports.

Important ACCESS For ELLs® Dates in 2012: <http://www.wida.us/membership/states/VT/index.aspx>

Participants in the annual assessment: Local education agencies (LEAs) are required to annually monitor students' progress in acquiring academic English with the **ACCESS for ELLs®** assessment. All ELLs enrolled in K-12 schools throughout the state must participate until they have met the State's exit criteria for English language proficiency. This includes ELLs with disabilities, as well as those who have declined participation in a language instruction educational program, more specifically:

- All ELLs who took the 2011 Kindergarten ACCESS for ELLs®.
- All ELLs who have enrolled in Vermont schools since the administration of the 2011 ACCESS for ELLs®.
- All ELLs who took the 2011 ACCESS for ELLs®, but did not meet Vermont's definition of proficiency in English and exit criteria: an overall composite proficiency level of 5.0 or higher on the Tier B or C ACCESS for ELLs®, plus a minimum proficiency level of 4.0 or higher on both the reading and writing domains.
- All ELLs who were enrolled in Vermont K-12 schools in 2010-2011, but did not participate in the 2011 ACCESS for ELLs® assessment.

The guidance on who must take the **2012 ACCESS for ELLs®** comes from federal law and regulations. (For further details on Vermont's "definition of proficiency" and exit criteria, go to:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_esl.html#amao

Preparation for ACCESS For ELLs®: <http://www.wida.us/assessment/ACCESS/#prep>

This section defines **general roles** in test preparation for the State Test Coordinator, District Test Coordinator, and Test Administrator.

The Vermont DOE orders all test materials and Pre-ID labels, based on pre-verification of student demographic data and tier selections by LEAs. *Some* of the instructions for District/School Test Coordinator Preparation (seen at the above WIDA website link and also in the Test Administration Manual & Training Toolkits) are written for states where LEAs order test booklets and Pre-ID labels by logging onto the MetriTech website.

The Vermont DOE posts **Special Instructions** for ordering test materials, handling pre-ID labels, completing test booklets for students without pre-ID labels, and ordering additional test booklets, as needed. MetriTech also inserts these special instructions into **ACCESS For ELLs®** assessment materials shipped to districts prior to testing. Look for a brightly-colored sheet, Vermont Special Instructions, inside your packet of assessment materials. Since the process in Vermont differs from what's written in the WIDA website materials, please pay extra attention to this particular set of instructions.

The rest of the information under the heading "**District/School Test Coordinator Preparation**"—i.e., assigning students to tiers (see *new* Tier Placement Protocol/Tutorial), test scheduling, handling and returning test booklets—*is* still applicable in Vermont.

Test Administrator Preparation: <http://www.wida.us/assessment/ACCESS/#prep>

Training requirements and annual updates for **Vermont Test Administrators** can be read at VT's WIDA Web Page, **Assessment Materials & Training:** <http://www.wida.us/membership/states/VT/index.aspx>

2012 ACCESS for ELLs® On-Line Test Administrator Training Course:

To access the online training course, test administration manuals, quizzes, training toolkit (PowerPoint Presentations & materials), e-mail james.mccobb@state.vt.us to request a valid user name and password.

Forgot your user name and password? Contact the **WIDA Help Desk** (help@wida.us or 1-866-276-7735) for assistance. Even if you have changed districts or positions since you last logged in, you can edit your email address and other personal information to reflect that change.

ACCESS for ELLs® Training Resources: <http://www.wida.us/assessment/ACCESS/#prep>

The **Training Toolkit** PowerPoint presentations, Coaching Guide, and supporting documents are updated annually. These resources are meant to supplement, not replace, the online test administration certification process. Please read the User Agreement as you are bound to all terms and conditions set forth in the agreement with your use of the materials and resources.

ACCESS FOR ELLs® Administration (Overview) <http://www.wida.us/assessment/ACCESS/#admin>

This link provides–

- training reminders;
- features of Grades 1-12 test administration for Listening, Reading, and Writing;
- features of Grades 1-12 test administration for Speaking;
- features of Kindergarten test administration;
- WIDA guidelines for appropriate accommodations for ELLs Students with Disabilities.

ACCESS FOR ELLs® Scores and Reports, <http://www.wida.us/assessment/ACCESS/#scores>

Quick overview of the ways that student results are reported, uses of scores, types of reports provided, content of the *Interpretive Guide to Score Reports*, translations of letters and score reports, Training Toolkit PowerPoint presentation on score interpretation.

Good luck with your training! If you have any questions or concerns about the content or technical aspects of the training course, please contact the WIDA Help Desk at 1-866-276-7735 or email help@wida.us.

If you have Vermont-specific questions or issues, you can contact:

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