



Missouri ELL Screening Process

2017-2018

Version 2

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Version History

Version	Changes
1	Published 8/2/17
2	Added clarifying language to Kindergarten Screener chart on Page 9 – Published 8/8/17

It is the policy of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, or disability in its programs or employment practices as required by Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Inquiries related to Department programs and to the location of services, activities, and facilities that are accessible by persons with disabilities may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Office of the General Counsel, Coordinator–Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI/Title IX/504/ADA/Age Act), 6th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, P.O. Box 480, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480; telephone number (573) 526-4757 or TTY (800) 735-2966, fax (573) 522-4883, email civilrights@dese.mo.gov.

Contact Information

Contact	Phone	E-Mail
Drew Linkon – DESE – Assistant Director of Assessment	573-751-8285	drew.linkon@dese.mo.gov
Contact Drew for Questions Regarding:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Questions • W-APT Screener Usage • WIDA Website User Accounts 		

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Contact DESE for Questions Regarding:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum • Instruction • Programming • Entrance and Exit Criteria 		

Contact	Phone	E-Mail
WIDA Client Services Help Desk	866-276-7735	help@wida.us
Contact WIDA for Questions Regarding:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WIDA Online Screener Questions • WIDA Online Screener Training • WIDA W-APT Screener Questions • WIDA Website User Accounts 		

Contact	Phone	E-Mail
Data Recognition Corp. (DRC)	855-787-9615	wida@datarecognitioncorp.com
Contact DRC for Questions Regarding:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WIDA Assessment Management System (WIDA AMS) • DRC Testing Site Manager (TSM) • DRC INSIGHT (online test software) • WIDA AMS/Online Screener Technical Issues 		

Websites to Know

DESE ELL Assessment - <http://dese.mo.gov/college-career-readiness/assessment/access-ells>

WIDA - <https://www.wida.us/>

WIDA Screener - <https://www.wida.us/assessment/Screener/>

WIDA Technology - <https://www.wida.us/accesstech>

Missouri's WIDA Page - <https://www.wida.us/membership/states/Missouri.aspx>

WIDA AMS - <https://www.wida-ams.us/>

Missouri ELL Listserv - <http://lists.mo.gov/mailman/listinfo/english-language-learner>

Missouri Update on ELL Screening Process

As a part of federal requirements, districts are required to identify incoming students who qualify as English language learners (ELLs). Since the 2010-2011 academic year, Missouri districts have screening assessment provided by WIDA. Beginning in the 2017-2018, the WIDA screener is now online. This replaces the paper W-APT for grades 1-12. The Kindergarten screener remains unchanged.

When to Screen

Upon enrollment, Missouri LEAs are required to give a home language survey or questions on an enrollment form. The questions are:

- What was the student’s first language?
- Which language(s) does the student use (speak) at home and with others?
- Which language(s) does the student hear at home and understand?

If the answer to any of these questions notes a language other than English is either spoken or understood, or if an LEA feels that a child might have an English language learning need due to unreported exposure to another language, the student is *potentially* an English learner and the district must take active steps to determine if the student qualifies for language instruction educational program (LIEP). Every potential EL identified by the LUS is required to be screened.

LEAs have 30 calendar days from the beginning of the school year to administer the screening assessment. If a student moves in after the initial 30 days, the LEA has 10 school days upon enrollment to administer the screening assessment. If your LEA receives a new student from another LEA or state that is part of the consortium AND the student has a WIDA Screener or ACCESS for ELLs score report, **they will not need to be re-screened.** Simply add their previous score report to the student cumulative folder.

Missouri LEAs may not provide screening services for private school students. Having access to the WIDA provided screener is paid for by the state and thus may not be used to provide direct services for private school students.

Which screener is appropriate

Please use the following chart to determine which Screener should be used. For first semester students, WIDA recommends that students should NOT be screened at a grade level where they have yet to receive instruction.

Because most 1st semester Kindergarten students cannot read or write you will screen them on the listening and speaking modalities only, using the Kindergarten W-APT. They will then be tested on all four modalities using the ACCESS for ELLs assessment. 2nd Semester Kindergarten and 1st Semester 1st Grade students will take all four modalities of the Kindergarten Screener.

For First Semester Students													
Grade Level	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Test To Be Used	K	1	2-3	4-5	6-8	9-12							
For Second Semester Students													
Grade Level	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Test To Be Used	K	1	2-3	4-5	6-8	9-12							

Online Screener

The new WIDA Online Screener offers some advantages over the W-APT including:

- 100% new test content with full color images
- Test content aligned with the WIDA ELD Standards, 2012 Edition
- Test content that corresponds to College and Career Readiness Standards
- Test content with the look and feel of ACCESS for ELLs 2.0
- Media-delivered Listening and Speaking domain tests
- Group administration options for all domains



WIDA Online Screener (Grades 1-12)

The WIDA Online Screener serves as an on-demand tool that provides highly reliable ELL identification information within a relatively short test administration. Students may be tested and scores reported within 24 hours in most cases.

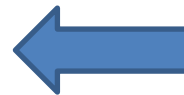
As with ACCESS for ELLs 2.0, the WIDA Online Screener will be available through the DRC INSIGHT test platform and test sessions will be set up in WIDA AMS. Users will need relevant permissions within WIDA AMS to set up and administer test sessions and to score students' responses.

WIDA Online Screener Training

Individual test administrators must be trained in its administration and have agreed to maintain the security of test questions.

Test administrators are required to go through training if they have not previously done so. Districts then set their own rules on how often test examiners should go through training. DESE recommends that examiners look through the training each year as a refresher, even if they are not required to re-train.

To participate in training, log into the WIDA website (www.wida.us), go to your My Account & Secure Portal page, look under "Screener Test Materials & Training" and click on the button that says WIDA Screener Online.



Your district testing coordinator or EL coordinator will be tracking electronically who has completed the screener training.

Beyond training, the only requirement to give the WIDA Online Screener is that the test administrator must be a district employee that, at a minimum, meets the [requirements of a paraprofessional under Title I](#). **Substitute teachers may not give the W-APT unless they are under contract with the district.**

W-APT Use Exception

WIDA is phasing out the paper based W-APT screener.

However, Missouri (among other states) has been given permission for districts to continue to use the W-APT for true newcomers and true beginners.

As the WIDA Online Screener does not contain a traditional “exit hatch,” true beginners, at any grade level, may take the W-APT to prevent an unnecessary, prolonged testing experience. For example, a student who recently arrived to the country and shows signs of serious frustration may stop immediately and take the W-APT instead.

If your district needs access to the W-APT, the district testing coordinator or EL coordinator needs to contact DESE Assessment.

Please see Appendix A of this document for more information on the W-APT.

WIDA Online Screener Test Administration

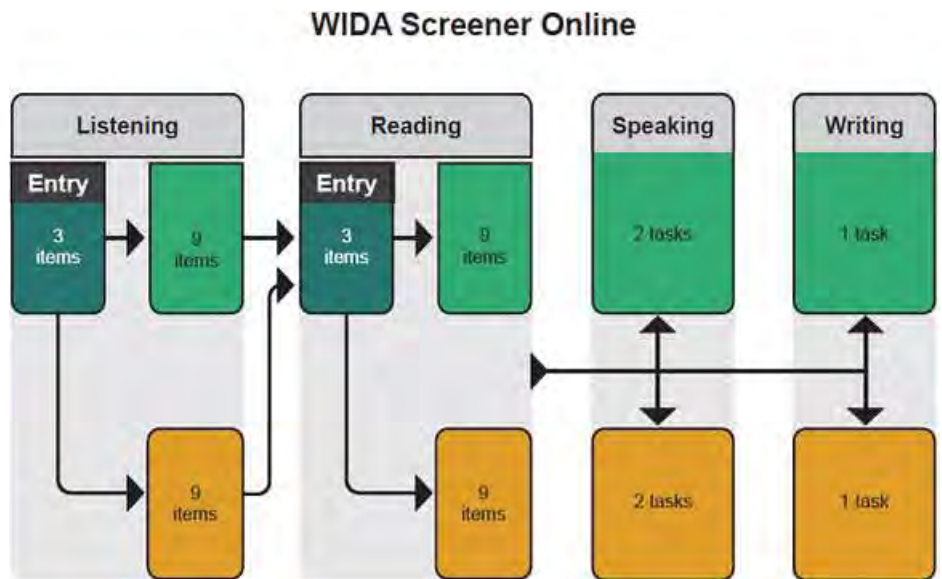
The grade spans available will match the new ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 grade spans: 1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8, 9-12

With the Online Screener, all test domains may be done in group administration. Note that the test is untimed, so students may take as much time as needed.

The Online Screener is for all grade levels except kindergarten and is administered in the following order: Listening, Reading, Speaking, and Writing.

In grades 1-3, the district will locally print the writing items for the student. In grades 4-12, for students that need paper, the student will see the items on the screen and the district will provide the student with blank paper.

The student will take 3 entry questions, which will determine if they receive an easier set or tougher set of questions for the rest of that modality. Scores in listening and reading will determine which set of items the student receives in speaking and writing.



The Screener is not timed, meaning that students can take as long as needed to complete each section of the test. The test is designed to take between 70-90 minutes, though some students may take longer to complete the assessment. Test time does not include test setup, practice time, reviewing test directions, getting students logged in, etc.

WIDA Online Screener Scoring

The system will automatically score the Listening and Reading items of the student. Student responses for Speaking and Writing will be available through WIDA AMS approximately two hours after the completion of testing. The Speaking and Writing responses will be scored locally. The local rater can listen to an audio file of the student's speaking response and read an image file of the student's writing response. After Speaking and Writing responses are scored, the scores are entered into the WIDA Screener Score Calculator on the WIDA AMS site.

Students who complete all four domains of WIDA Screener Online will receive Proficiency Level scores in each of the four domains (Speaking, Listening, Reading, Writing) and three composite scores. The three composite scores are:

- Overall (based on student performance in all four domains)
- Oral (based on student performance in Speaking and Listening)
- Literacy (based on student performance in Reading and Writing)

The individual domain Proficiency Level scores are reported as integer scores, so no decimals will be reported. The composite scores will be reported as integers and also with .5 interval scores (for example, scores of 1, 1.5, 2, 2.5, etc.). Scale scores are not reported.

The Student IS ELIGIBLE for ELD services if:	The Student is NOT ELIGIBLE for Services if:
Has an overall composite proficiency level 4.5 or below.	Has an overall composite proficiency level of a 5.0 or higher.

Parent/Legal Guardian Notification

Notifications shall be provided in English and in a language that the parents can understand, to the maximum extent practicable.

Notifications must include:

- Eligibility for ELD services
- Student's level of proficiency and how it was assessed
- Method of delivery of instruction for ELD
- How program will help the child learn English and meet age appropriate academic achievement standards for grade promotion and graduation
- Specific requirements for exiting the program
- Information pertaining to parental rights that includes written guidance detailing:
 - The right that parents have to have the child immediately removed from Title III supplemental programs upon their request
 - Assisting parents in selecting among various programs or methods of instruction, if more than one program or method is offered
- Notification of services must be sent to parents on an annual basis

Note that this is a notification of the students' ELP level and how the district will meet the student's ELD needs, not a consent for the child to receive services. Parents have the right to choose whether or not their child receives Title III Supplemental ELD services.

WIDA Online Screener Technology

In order to administer the WIDA Screener Online, student devices will need to be equipped with DRC's INSIGHT browser. The INSIGHT browser will communicate with DRC's servers and/or the Testing Site Manager (TSM) which is installed on a server or computer at the testing location.

- Student data is managed using the WIDA Assessment Management System (WIDA AMS). This includes generating test tickets pre-test and scoring the test post-administration.
- Test content is delivered through the DRC INSIGHT Online Assessment browser, operated by WIDA's partner Data Recognition Corporation (DRC).
- Each testing site will need a Testing Site Manager (TSM) installed on a server or computer. The TSM will send and receive test content and responses between the student workstation and DRC's servers.
- Because of the way the responses are sent, INSIGHT must maintain connectivity to the Internet or the TSM throughout the test. INSIGHT can be used on wireless networks but states and districts will need to be aware of overall Internet usage to ensure that testing is not affected.
- Headsets with a Microphone are required for testing.

These components can be downloaded from [WIDA-AMS](#) under General Information and then Technology Downloads and installed according to their respective supporting documentation.

For more information on INSIGHT and the TSM, please consult the Technology User Guide which is also available on WIDA-AMS under General Information, and then Training Materials. Additionally, please look at the Technology page on the WIDA site - <https://www.wida.us/assessment/ACCESS20.aspx#tech>.

TSM Server Availability

A TSM server needs to be available throughout the school year, in case a new student arrives that needs to be screened. In order to do so without taking up the same amount of resources as is needed during ACCESS or State testing, DRC now provides the ability create a single machine that acts as both the TSM server and the testing machine.

There are two quick reference guides available on the WIDA site, one for WINDOWS based PCs and one for MAC. The Quick Reference Guide walks a new user through the three parts of installing and configuring the Testing Site Manager (TSM) and DRC INSIGHT on a single machine for online testing with ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 or Screener.

The system requires a minimum of 2GB of RAM, a minimum of a 2x dual-core i5 processor at 2.4 GHz and at least 20GB of disk space.

The guides can be found on the technology page - <https://www.wida.us/accesstech> – under Technology Resources> Windows Quick Reference and Mac Quick Reference

Kindergarten Screener

The Kindergarten W-APT is organized as a single, individually-administered, adaptive test. It is used to identify students who may be candidates for EL services.

Because most 1st semester Kindergarten students cannot read or write you will screen them on the listening and speaking modalities only. They will then be tested on all four modalities using the ACCESS for ELLs assessment.

However, beginning this year, **1st semester Kindergarteners may take the reading and writing portion of the W-APT prior to the ACCESS window if the test administrator feels the student can be successful.** If the student meets the criteria to not be eligible when they take the other two modalities in October, November or December, they can be classified as NLP in Core Data (not an EL) and they will NOT have to take the ACCESS test.

2nd Semester Kindergarten and 1st Semester 1st Grade students will take all four modalities of the Kindergarten Screener.

The Kindergarten W-APT is not able to assign scores across the full range of WIDA ELP levels 1-6. Instead, scores for Speaking and Listening are marked as showing low, mid, high, or exceptional proficiency. Scoring details can be found in the W-APT Test Administration Manual and on the scoring sheets. Kindergarten W-APT scores do not directly convert to a proficiency level (1-6). The assessment is diagnostic, and the scores inform teachers what skills the students have in English.

Grade Level	The Student IS ELIGIBLE for ELD services if:	The Student is NOT ELIGIBLE for Services if:
1 st Semester Kindergarten	Has a combined score of 28 or lower on listening and speaking on the W-APT. Student should be identified as LEP_NRC in MOSIS and will take the ACCESS 2.0 assessment. PLEASE NOTE: Core Data Code LEP_RCV is only for students receiving supplemental Title III services. In an effort to make the data cleaner, districts are asked to code these students as LEP_NRC, unless they are receiving supplemental Title III services.	Have a combined score of 29 or higher on listening and speaking Student should be identified as LEP_NRC in MOSIS and will take the ACCESS 2.0 assessment so that a determination based on all four modalities can be made. Note: All first semester kindergarten students identified as potential ELs can receive support until earning a passing score in all four language domains.
2 nd Semester Kindergarten 1 st Semester 1 st Grade	Has a combined score of 28 or lower on listening or speaking OR Has a score of 10 or lower on reading OR Has a score of 11 or lower on writing. Student should be identified as LEP_NRC (or LEP_RCV if receiving supplemental Title III services) in MOSIS and will take the ACCESS 2.0 assessment.	Has a combined score of 29 or higher on listening and speaking AND Has a score of 11 or higher on reading; AND Has a score of 12 or higher on writing. Student should be identified as NLP in MOSIS.

About the W-APT

W-APT test items are written from the model performance indicators of WIDA's five English Language Proficiency (ELP) standards:

- Social & Instructional Language
- Language of Language Arts
- Language of Mathematics
- Language of Science
- Language of Social Studies

Test forms are divided into grade-level clusters:

- Grades 1-2
- Grades 3-5
- Grades 6-8
- Grades 9-12

The W-APT was designed to be used as:

- One piece of criteria to determine eligibility for language support services
- An indicator of a student's language proficiency level (1 through 6) on the WIDA continuum
- An aid to determining appropriate levels and amounts of instructional services

Appendix A: W-APT

W-APT stands for the WIDA-ACCESS Placement Test. This assessment tool, known as a "screener," is used by educators to measure the English language proficiency of students who have recently arrived in the U.S. or in a particular LEA. It can help to determine whether or not a child is in need of English language instructional services.

Each form of the test assesses the four language domains of Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing.

The W-APT is designed to be individually administered and adaptive, meaning that parts of the test may be discontinued as soon as the student reaches his or her performance "ceiling."

Using the W-APT

WIDA will be pulling the W-APT off of their site on August 31, 2017. If you need access to it after that, contact DESE Assessment (573-751-8285 or assessment@dese.mo.gov).

Remember that the W-APT is a secure test. Once tests are downloaded and printed, they are to be kept as secure as other state assessments, and are administered following standard procedures.

You are **required to**, as part of your training, review the Test Administration Manual for [Grades 1-12 W-APT](#).

W-APT Scoring

The W-APT is scored completely by the test administrator. No part of the W-APT is sent away for scoring.

When scoring the Speaking section of the W-APT test administrators determine whether a student's response approaches, meets, or exceeds expectations based on a given rubric.

Scoring for the Writing test is also based on a rubric. Scored writing samples are available to help raters get accustomed to using the rubric.

An answer key on the scoring sheet is provided for the multiple choice Listening and Reading items. The W-APT scoring sheet guides test administrators in assigning an overall or composite English language proficiency level for all four components of the test.