

North Carolina State Specific Guidance

WIDA ACCESS & WIDA Alternate ACCESS Testing

*Office of Accountability and Testing
&
Office of Academic Standards*

November 19, 2025



North Carolina
State Specific Guidance for
WIDA[™] ASSESSMENTS



November 2025

 North Carolina Department of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Wendy Wooten
Office of Accountability & Testing
Testing Policy and Operations



Presentation Outline

Test Publisher and Vendor Partner Resources

WIDA and DRC commonly used resources (training courses, web documents, WIDAAMS, e.g.,)

New in 2025–26

Changes, updates, and activities impacting this year's testing cycle

Before ACCESS Testing

Certification requirements, WIDA training courses, activities and information to assist in planning and preparing for the opening of the test window

During ACCESS Testing

Activities that are specific to test administrations and tasks that occur during the test window

After ACCESS Testing

Events and tasks that must be addressed after the test window closes:
Data Validation, Score Report Delivery, Exiting students

How to Direct Questions & Upcoming Office Hours

Whom to contact when questions arise and planning/accessing upcoming office hours



Learning the Language

- ASL – American Sign Language
- DRC – Data Recognition Corporation
- EL – English Learner
- IEP – Individualized Education Program
- IP – Internet Protocol
- ML – Multilingual Learner
- NCDPI – North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
- NCSIS – North Carolina Student Information System
- OTISS – Online Testing Irregularity Submission System
- PSU – Public School Unit
- RAC – Regional Accountability Coordinator
- SBE – State Board of Education
- SEA – State Education Agency
- SMTR – Secure Material Tracking Report
- TA – Test Administrator
- TC – Test Coordinator
- TMA – Test Monitoring Application
- WIDA AMS – WIDA Assessment Management System



Test Publisher & Vendor Partner Web Links

[WIDA Homepage](#)



[WIDA AMS](#)



NEW FOR 2025–26



Assessment Name Updates & Revisions

- ACCESS for ELLs is now **WIDA ACCESS**
- During 2025–26, a revised ACCESS test at grades 1–12 and redesigned Kindergarten ACCESS will be administered to students.
- Grade level clusters for WIDA ACCESS Paper and Online now match: **Grade 1, Grades 2–3, Grades 4–5, Grades 6–8, Grades 9–12**
- The WIDA ACCESS for Kindergarten test has been redesigned to incorporate the WIDA English Language Development Standards Framework, 2020 Edition.



2025–26 ACCESS Test Window

- January 12, 2026–March 13, 2026
- Testing spans an 8-week window
- WIDA AMS Test Setup is available beginning December 10
- Schedule tests early in the window



Accommodation Updates

Available this year:

- ACCESS Braille Speaking domain (Speaking Scoring Scale Grades 1–12) found in Appendix B, *WIDA Test Administrator Manual*
- Low Vision Script for WIDA ACCESS for Kindergarten
- ACCESS Online TA Script as Translated ASL videos



Streaming Audio-ACCESS Paper

- Available in WIDA AMS
- Schools will still receive CDs this year with paper material shipments
- Refer to WIDA AMS Online Help for more information on this option
- Implemented due to device limitations



Standard Setting July 2026

- In July 2026, WIDA will host a standard setting event for the WIDA ACCESS for Kindergarten and WIDA ACCESS assessments
- Redesigned and revised assessments require new standards to be established
- These meetings will include:
 - Classroom educators
 - State Education Agency (SEA) staff
 - WIDA, DRC, and Center for Applied Linguistics (CAL) staff
- Scores and score reports **will not** be delayed for 2025–26



WIDA Alternate Screener

- 2025–26 is the first year of implementation for the WIDA Alternate Screener
- Refer to the [ML/Title III Virtual Repository](#) for more information
- The Alternate Screener is administered by grade bands: K–2, 3–5, and 6–12. All domains must be administered to Kindergarten regardless of the semester administered.



Entrance Criteria Updates

WIDA Screener for Kindergarten

- 1st Semester–Oral Language Composite below 4.5
- 2nd Semester–Overall Composite below 4.5

WIDA Screener

Grade 1-2nd Semester and
Grades 2–12

- Overall Composite below 4.5

WIDA Alternate Screener

- Composite score <3



Exit Criteria Updates

- WIDA ACCESS—overall composite score 4.5 or above
- WIDA Alternate ACCESS—Performance Level (PL) 2 or higher



Less Than 4 Domain Score Calculations

- Previously known as “Alternate Composite Score Calculation” and scores calculated based only on 3 domains that were able to be accessed
- New process expands to encompass WIDA ACCESS and WIDA Alternate ACCESS tests for 2025–26
- Includes students who are able to access 2 or 3 domains for the application of the score
- Individual Score Reports (ISRs) will be generated along with an overall composite score in these instances



PREPARATIONS BEFORE ACCESS TESTING



Test Administrator Certification



- All test administrators are required to complete annual certification.
- Documentation (for each test administration certification) must be provided to local leadership prior to administrations.
- Test administrators must:
 - Complete the WIDA training course(s) for each assessment administered; certificates are generated in the [WIDA Secure Portal](#) upon a user's successful completion of all components
 - Complete the North Carolina *Testing Security Protocol and Procedures for School Personnel Training* (using this [video](#) or publication)
 - Complete a *Confidentiality and Test Security Agreement* (district or charter school test coordinator provides form found in the [North Carolina Test Coordinator's Policies and Procedures Handbook](#), Appendix D)

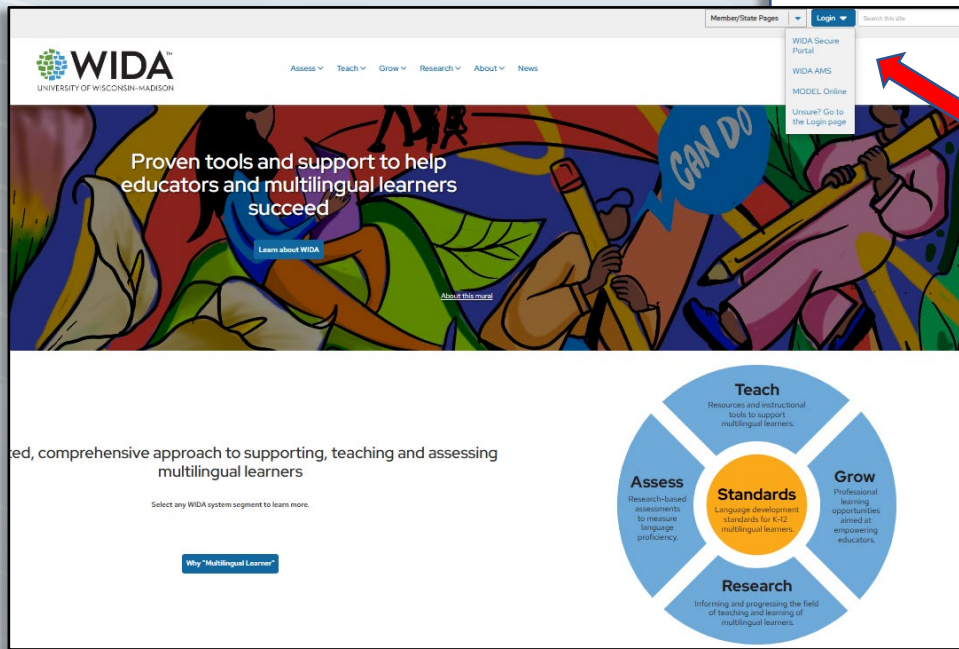
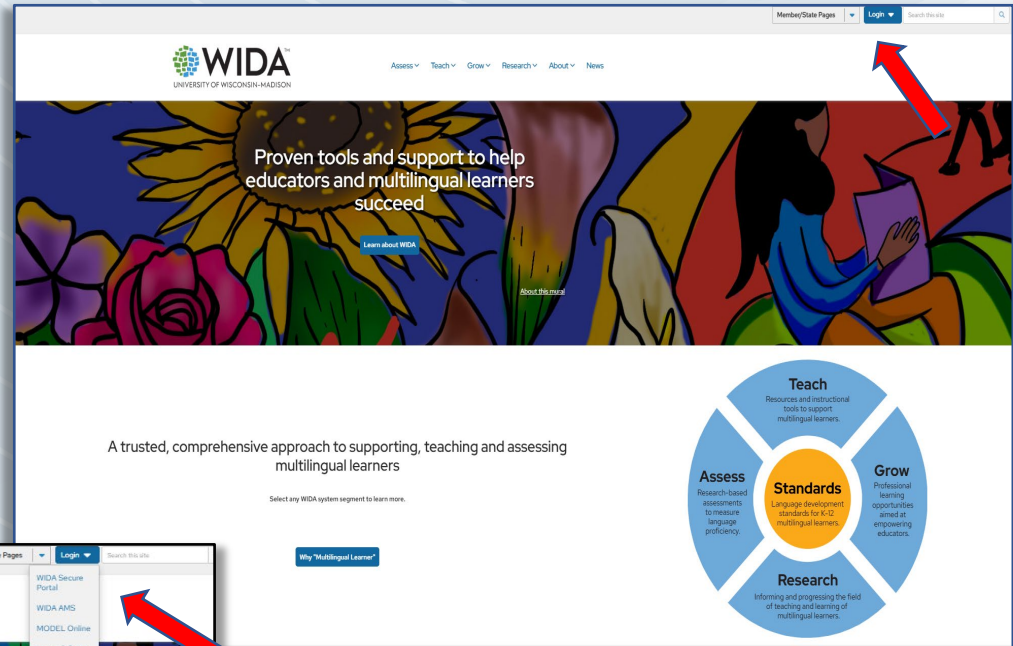


Support Staff Certification

- Additional PSU staff who support testing should complete training and be familiar with all required testing resources. *These individuals may act as back-up test administrators in emergency situations.*
- All individuals who support testing should complete North Carolina *Testing Security Protocol and Procedures for School Personnel Training* (using this [video](#) or publication) and complete a *Confidentiality and Test Security Agreement* (district or charter school test coordinator provides form found in the [North Carolina Test Coordinator's Policies and Procedures Handbook](#), Appendix D).



WIDA Secure Portal & WIDA AMS




<https://wida.wisc.edu/>



Training Courses & Resources


- Located in the WIDA Secure Portal
- Courses available include:
 - WIDA ACCESS for Kindergarten
 - WIDA ACCESS (Online)
 - WIDA ACCESS (Paper)
 - WIDA Alternate ACCESS




 **WIDA** Secure Portal

[Assessment Training](#) [Professional Learning](#) [Webinars](#) [Resources](#) [My Certifications](#)


Assessment Training
Get trained on WIDA Assessments


Professional Learning
High-quality professional learning, right where you are


Webinars
Live and recorded webinars on a variety of topics


ASSESSMENT

WIDA ACCESS Online: Administration

The purpose of this course is to help test administrators and coordinators successfully prepare for and administer the WIDA ACCESS Online assessment.

[Learn More & Enroll](#) [Course Resources](#)



Test Preparation Resources

Resource Library Recursos en español WIDA Store

Members/States Login Search this Site

WIDA™

Assess Teach Grow About Memberships and Programs

North Carolina

Memberships and Programs < WIDA Consortium < North Carolina

WIDA™ UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Assess Teach Grow Research About News Resources

North Carolina

About < WIDA Consortium < North Carolina

Member of the WIDA Consortium since 2008.

Assessments

North Carolina uses WIDA Screener for Kindergarten and WIDA Screener (for grades 1-12) to identify English language learners (ELLs). WIDA ACCESS is given to all ELLs during the annual testing window, which typically lasts from late January through mid-March.

Testing Dates

Testing Dates	Event
12/10/25 - 3/13/26	WIDA AMS Test Setup Available for Registrations
1/5/26	Districts Receive Test Materials
1/12/26 - 3/13/26	Test Window
1/5/26 - 3/6/26	Additional Test Material Ordering Window in WIDA AMS
3/20/26 - 3/20/26	Deadline for Shipping Completed Test Materials to DRC (Postmark date)
5/11/26	Districts Receive ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS Reports and Data - Posted in WIDA AMS
5/29/26 - 6/1/26	Districts Receive Printed ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS Reports
7/7/26	Updated ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS Data - Posted in WIDA AMS for SEA and Districts

Requirements and Resources

See below for state-specific information and resources related to ELL assessment, including your state's WIDA ACCESS Checklist, where you can find each step in the ACCESS testing process from beginning to end.

Contacts

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

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WIDA Client Services Center
Contact us for questions about training materials or test administration procedures, classroom resources, or for problems with your WIDA Secure Portal account.
help@wida.wisc.edu
(866) 276-7735

Logging In

Requirements and Resources

See below for state-specific information and resources related to ELL assessment, including your state's WIDA ACCESS Checklist, where you can find each step in the ACCESS testing process from beginning to end.

[WIDA ACCESS Checklist](#) [Identification and Placement Guidance](#)

Standards and Instructional Support

[NCDPI ML/Title III Website](#)
[ELD Standards Resource Hub](#)

Professional Learning

[24-25 WIDA Workshops for Educators](#)

The NCDPI ML/Title III Team is dedicated to growing the success of multilingual learners (MLs) by sustaining statewide implementation of the ELD Standards, ensuring program compliance, and coordinating efforts, resources, and professional learning to build stakeholder capacity.

WIDA Roles and Responsibilities

District Test Coordinator/School Test Coordinator

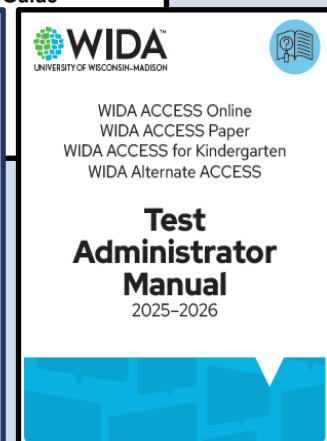
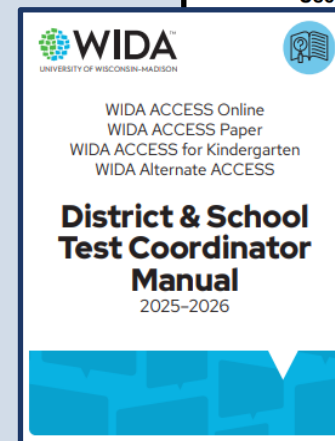
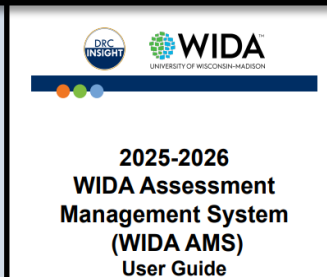
- Responsible for overall logistics of all test administrations at the district and/or school level

Test Administrator

- Responsible for presenting the test to students and monitoring testing

District Technology Coordinator/School Technology Coordinator

- Responsible for successful installation, deployment, and configuration of the online testing software
- Assists in troubleshooting and solving technology issue during the testing window



Pre-ID File

How the file is used:

- Provided to DRC annually in November
- Used to generate Pre-ID labels, place students in registrations, and order paper materials

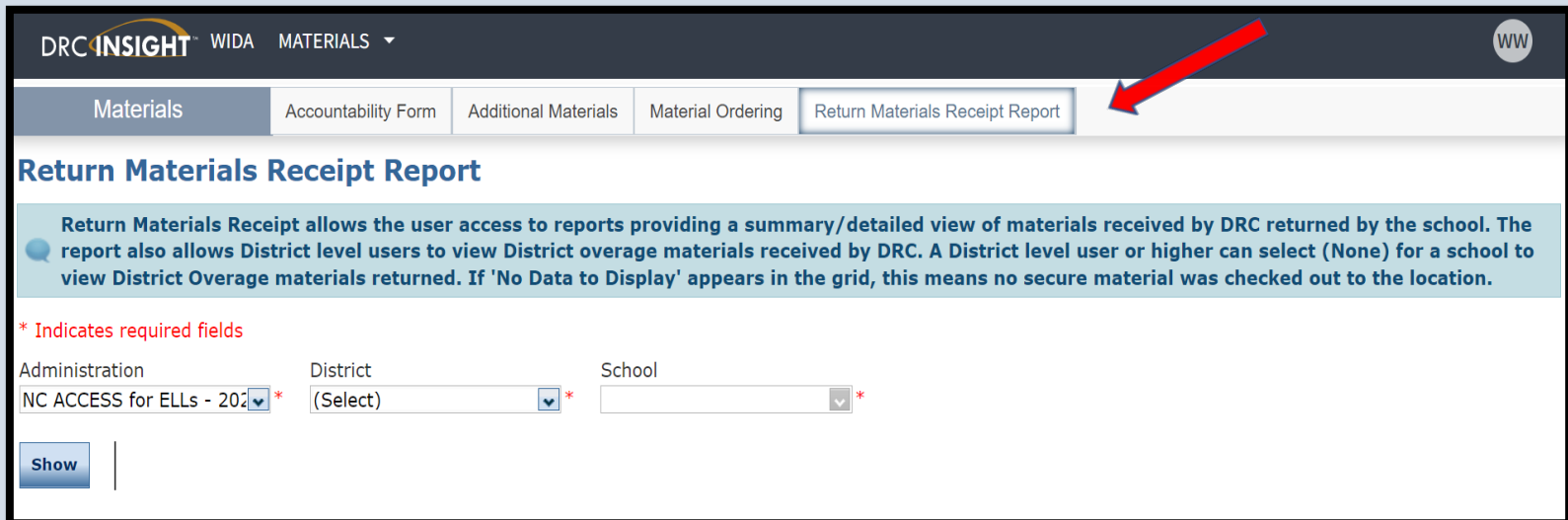
Reminders:

- WIDA Alternate ACCESS test takers must have a **Tier T** designation in the NCSIS
- On January 9, 2026, a second file will be uploaded by the NCDPI. New EL students enrolled in schools after January 9 will need to be entered into WIDA AMS manually.



Initial Materials Shipments

- All initial paper materials are generated from the state Pre-ID file
- These materials begin arriving in early January
- A complete list of materials comes with shipments including barcodes; verify materials and barcodes immediately upon receipt
- Promptly report discrepancies to DRC Customer Service
- PSUs should establish a local procedure for tracking all secure materials from receipt to return



The screenshot shows the DRC INSIGHT web application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the DRC INSIGHT logo, the text 'WIDA MATERIALS', and a dropdown arrow. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with tabs: 'Materials', 'Accountability Form', 'Additional Materials', 'Material Ordering', and 'Return Materials Receipt Report'. A red arrow points to the 'Return Materials Receipt Report' tab. Below the tabs, the title 'Return Materials Receipt Report' is displayed. A blue informational box contains text about the report's functionality. Below this, a red asterisk indicates required fields. The form includes three dropdown menus: 'Administration' (set to 'NC ACCESS for ELLs - 202'), 'District' (set to '(Select)'), and 'School'. Each dropdown has a red asterisk next to it. A 'Show' button is located at the bottom left of the form. A speaker icon is visible in the bottom right corner of the slide.

DRC INSIGHT™ WIDA MATERIALS ▼

Materials Accountability Form Additional Materials Material Ordering Return Materials Receipt Report

Return Materials Receipt Report

Return Materials Receipt allows the user access to reports providing a summary/detailed view of materials received by DRC returned by the school. The report also allows District level users to view District overage materials received by DRC. A District level user or higher can select (None) for a school to view District Overage materials returned. If 'No Data to Display' appears in the grid, this means no secure material was checked out to the location.

* Indicates required fields

Administration District School

NC ACCESS for ELLs - 202* (Select)*

Show

Do I Have to Administer WIDA ACCESS and WIDA Alternate ACCESS Tests?

- **SBE policy ACCT-021** states, all students identified as ELs “shall participate in the state assessment program adopted by the SBE” using either the standard test administration or the standard test administration with accommodations beginning with their first year in a U.S. school. This includes ACCESS or WIDA Alternate ACCESS testing.
- **In the first year**, the requirement is for participation and for reporting (e.g., NC School Report Card), not the accountability model;
- **for year two**, ELs’ test scores will be included in the growth analysis for the accountability model; and
- **for year three** and beyond, ELs’ test scores will be included in growth and the achievement indicator of the accountability model.



Testing Eligible Students

- Test Window: January 12–March 1, 2026
- Students enrolled and identified as EL between **January 12 and March 6, 2026**, must have the appropriate ACCESS test administered
- Enrollment data is collected on the first and last day of the test window; students who withdraw during the test window will not count against school participation



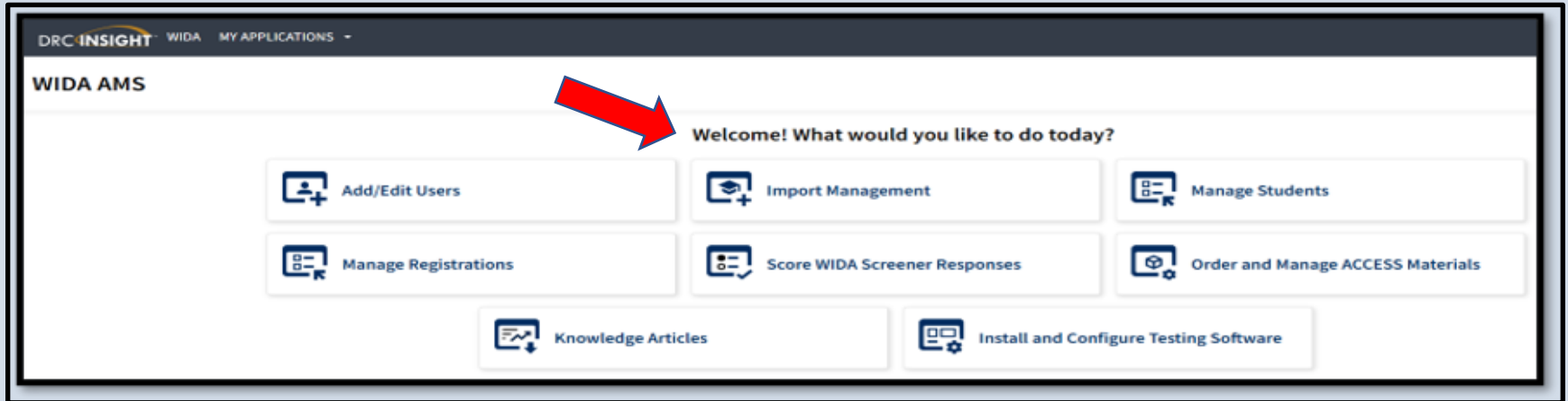
Expect ACCESS Test Report

- The Expect ACCESS Test report is housed in Infinite Campus
 - More information can be found in ML/Title III's [ML Data in NCSIS](#) slides

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4
Look for Reporting Option on the left-side menu	Look for Data Validation Report option under the Data Validation Menu	Scroll for the Expect ACCES Test in the Group Menu	Go to the bottom and click on Generate now. You do not need to complete any other fields.



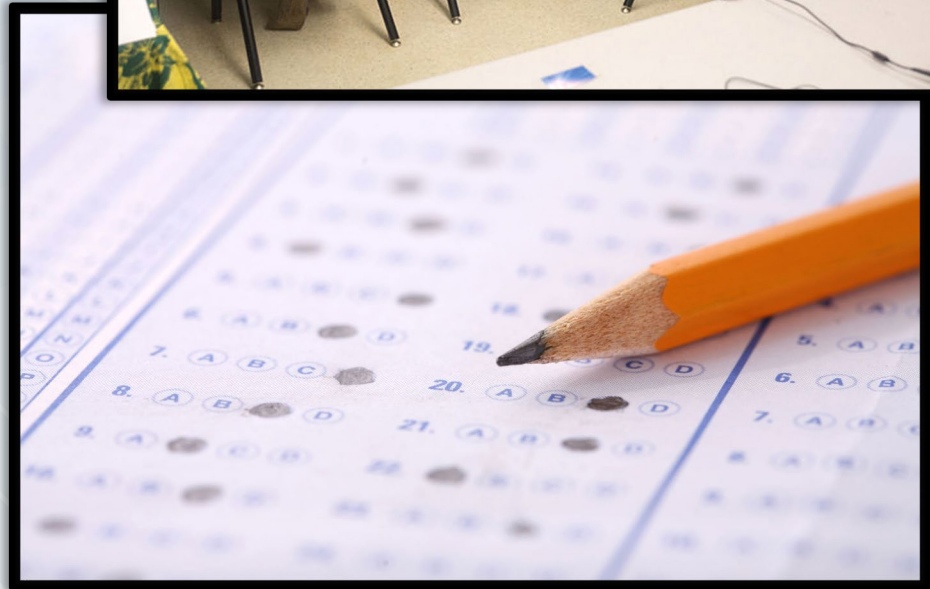
Preparing for Testing in WIDA AMS



- Some of the testing tasks completed in this platform include:
 - Printing Test Tickets
 - Accessing score reports
 - Creating registrations
 - Managing central office services
 - Tracking and accounting for test materials
 - Marking *Do Not Score* codes
- [WIDA AMS User Guide](#)



DURING ACCESS TESTING



Testing Overview

- Each test assesses the four language domains: Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking
- Listening and Reading domains present students with items that require them to make selections from limited items
- Speaking and Writing domains present students with open-ended tasks and they generate unique responses
- As mentioned at the beginning of the presentation, WIDA ACCESS Online and Paper grade bands now match: **Grade 1, Grades 2–3, Grades 4–5, Grades 6–8, Grades 9–12**
- WIDA ACCESS for Kindergarten and WIDA Alternate ACCESS provide students multiple opportunities to respond to each test item and multiple points for test administrators to stop testing when a student reaches the extent of his/her current language abilities



WIDA ACCESS for Kindergarten

- Paper-based
- Administered individually
- Designed to take 40–55 minutes (on average)
- Test administrators should prepare for administrations and be familiar with the expectations for scoring student responses (rubric examples in Appendix A, *WIDA Test Administrator Manual*)

Material
Test Administrator Script
Score Sheet
Storybook
Response Booklet
Cards



Testing Mode & Expectations

The testing mode for WIDA ACCESS (grades 1–12) is online. *WIDA ACCESS (**Writing Grades 1–3**) is administered in the Paper mode.

Exceptions to the online mode requirement include:

- Approvals from the Office of Accountability and Testing for students who have had limited experience with technology
- Students with documented disabilities in a current IEP or Section 504 Plan that dictate a paper format for accessibility
- Students testing online in grades 4–12 who may need the Writing domain **only** administered in a paper format



WIDA ACCESS (Online)

- Computer or tablet with DRC INSIGHT secure test browser installed
- Headset with working microphone (Speaking) and at least headphones for the remaining domains
- Bluetooth headsets and headphones are not permitted
- WIDA recommends administering Listening followed by Reading
- Test tickets are used to log into each domain test (secure material)



Material
Student Test Roster
Student Test Ticket
Test Monitoring Application (TMA) Code
Test Administrator Script <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grade 1• Grades 2–3• Grades 4–12
Writing Test Booklet <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grade 1, Tier A• Grade 1, Tier B/C• Grades 2–3, Tier A• Grades 2–3, Tier B/C
Writing Response Booklet <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grades 4–5, Tier A• Grades 4–5, Tier B/C• Grades 6–8, Tier A• Grades 6–8, Tier B/C• Grades 9–12, Tier A• Grades 9–12, Tier B/C



ACCESS Online Tier Report in WIDA AMS

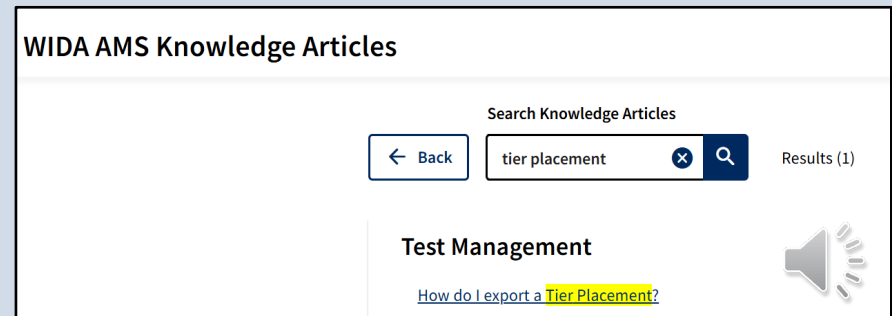
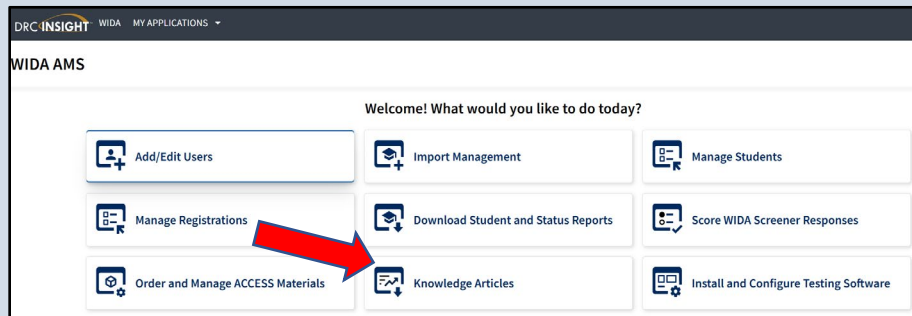
WIDA ACCESS Online **only**: A tier report is used after Listening and Reading are administered to determine paper Writing tier placement

Tier Placement

- Writing: A, B/C (2 options)
- Grades 1–3 receive appropriate paper Writing booklets based on tier placement

Pre-A speaking tiers require a 1:1 testing session

For additional details on exporting a Tier Report, go to [DRC's Knowledge Base articles](#), *How do I export a Tier Placement*.



WIDA Alternate ACCESS

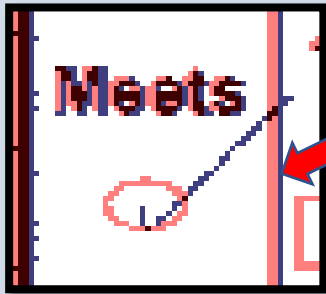
- Designed only for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities (and are eligible to participate in the NCEXTEND1 assessments)
- Participation is indicated in a student's current IEP
- Administered to students in a one-on-one setting in four test sessions (1 for each domain); average of 30 minutes per domain
- Designed to provide flexibility
- Test booklets can be adapted (***Student Response Booklets cannot be adapted***)
- Test administrators should prepare for administrations and be familiar with the expectations for scoring student responses (Proficiency Level Descriptors are found in Appendix C, *WIDA Test Administrator Manual*)

Material
Test Administrator Script
Test Booklet
Student Response Booklet

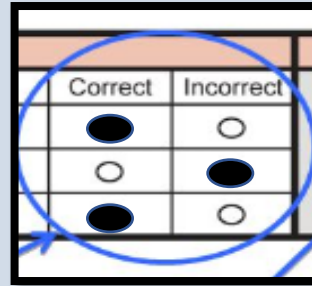
WIDA Alternate ACCESS Grade-Level Clusters			
Grades K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12



Important Reminders-Bubbling



This check mark will not be scored



Correctly bubbled answers will receive scores

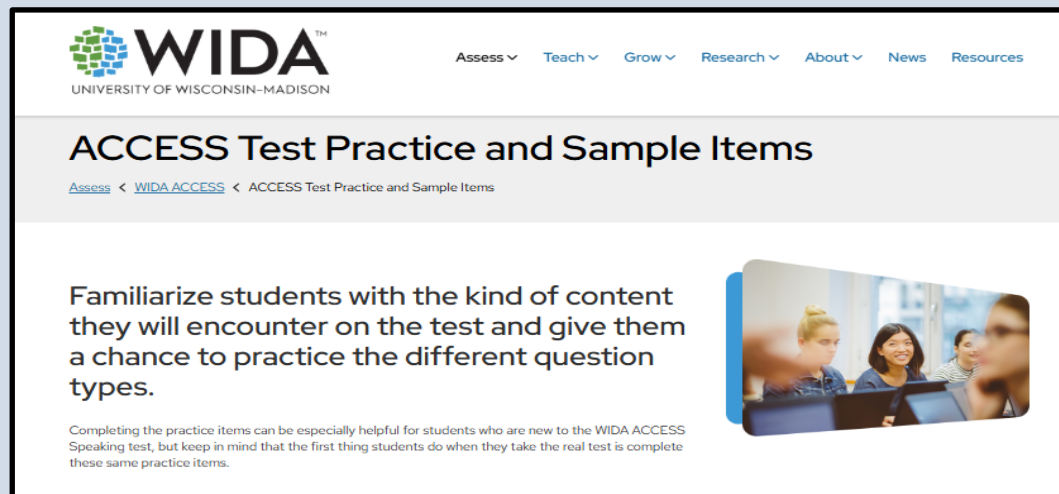
Correctly bubble in answers and student demographic information on paper tests booklets.

- ☐ **Use only #2 pencil:** If any other pencil or ink is used, test books **will not** be scored.
- ☐ **Use two or more sets of eyes:** Who is on your team to review what is bubbled on each student's booklet?
- ☐ **Use the student information system:** Booklets must match exactly what is in NCSIS (use preferred name).
- ☐ **Bubble booklets prior to giving them to students**
- ☐ **Check first and last names are in the correct boxes**
- ☐ **Ensure no student is “born” in the current year**



Additional Reminders

- Train test administrators to verify test ticket information matches each student prior to beginning a test session
- WIDA's recommendations for the number of students in test sessions (*WIDA Test Administrator Manual*) if you have questions or concerns, please work with your Regional Accountability Coordinator
- Students should complete the [test practice items](#) on a day **prior to** beginning test sessions



The screenshot shows the WIDA website header with the logo and navigation links: Assess, Teach, Grow, Research, About, News, and Resources. Below the header is the title "ACCESS Test Practice and Sample Items" with a breadcrumb trail: Assess < WIDA ACCESS < ACCESS Test Practice and Sample Items. The main content area features a paragraph: "Familiarize students with the kind of content they will encounter on the test and give them a chance to practice the different question types." To the right of this text is a photograph of three students looking at a tablet. Below the paragraph is a note: "Completing the practice items can be especially helpful for students who are new to the WIDA ACCESS Speaking test, but keep in mind that the first thing students do when they take the real test is complete these same practice items."



Accommodation Resources

1

Accommodations Checklists

Checklists for tracking the accommodations a student receives on ACCESS and Screener assessments.

Note: These resources are housed in the main WIDA website. The "View Resource" link below will open in a new tab.

[Resource Details](#) [View Resource](#) 

2

Alternate ACCESS Accommodations Checklist

Accommodations Checklists

Checklist for IEP teams to prepare for administration of WIDA Alternate ACCESS.

[Resource Details](#)

[View](#) 

[Download Now](#) 

Released June 2023

ACCESS Paper Accommodations Checklist

Accommodations Checklists

A checklist for tracking the accommodations a student receives for WIDA ACCESS Paper.

[Resource Details](#)

[View](#) 

[Download Now](#) 

Released June 2023

ACCESS Online Accommodations Checklist

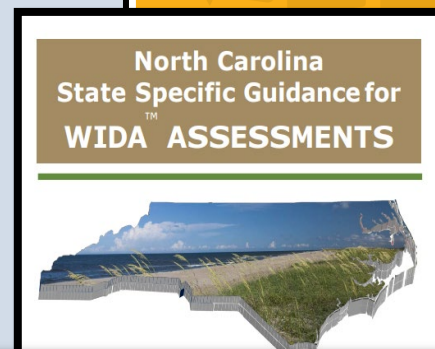
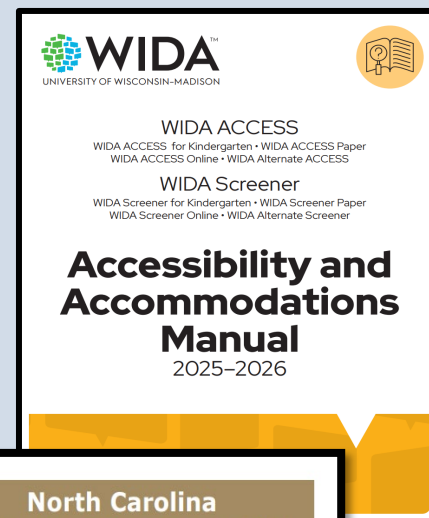
Accommodations Checklists

A checklist for tracking the accommodations a student receives on

[Resource Details](#)

[View](#) 

[Download Now](#) 



Accommodations Checklists are found in the *WIDA Accessibility & Accommodations Manual* and detailed in Appendix B, *North Carolina State Specific Guidance for WIDA Assessments*



Minimum Attemptedness Criteria

WIDA ACCESS for Kindergarten

Domain	Minimum Attemptedness Criteria
All domains	A student response is recorded for one scored item. Score reports reflect the scores marked by test administrators in the Score Sheets. No student responses are evaluated by DRC.

WIDA ACCESS Paper

Domain	Minimum Attemptedness Criteria
Listening	A student response is recorded for one scored item.
Reading	A student response is recorded for one scored item.
Speaking	One task has been scored on the score sheet.
Writing	A mark is made in the response space for a scored item in the booklet.

WIDA ACCESS Online

Domain	Minimum Attemptedness Criteria
Listening	A student response is recorded for one scored item.
Reading	A student response is recorded for one scored item.
Speaking	The Record button was clicked and audio captured for one task.
Writing	A visible keystroke (not a space or a line return) was captured. or A mark is made in the response space for a scored (not practice) item in the booklet.

WIDA Alternate ACCESS

Domain	Minimum Attemptedness Criteria
All domains	A student response or non-response is recorded for one scored item. Score reports reflect the scores marked by test administrators in test booklets. No student responses are evaluated by DRC.



*If there is **NOT** a *Do Not Score* code marked for a student, the information in the tables above will apply.

Do Not Score Codes

Code	Do Not Score Circumstance
ABS	The student was absent and did not take a particular domain test.
INV	A particular domain test was invalid according to state or district policy. For example, this code might be used due to student illness or inappropriate testing practices.
DEC	The student declined to take or complete a particular domain test. ACCESS for ELLs is a required annual assessment, and students cannot opt out. Use this code only after several unsuccessful attempts to engage the student in the assessment.
SPD	The student's IEP or 504 team has determined that the student should not participate in a particular domain test due to the student's special education needs.

- Applying a *Do Not Score Code* indicates a student should not receive a domain score.
- Use of these codes causes a designation of “NA” to be reported on the *Individual Student Report (ISR)* and the *State Student Response (SSR)* files.



Submitting an Incomplete Domain Test

- Only used in rare circumstances; when a test session needs to be ended, and a student cannot complete the domain
- A student who does not start a domain (no questions answered) is considered non-attempted
- Students do not receive a domain proficiency level and will not receive an overall composite score if the domain is non-attempted or if the session is ended using the *Submit Incomplete Domain Process*
- District/charter school TCs should work with the RAC if you have questions about this process



Transcribing Student Responses



Individuals who provide transcription must:

- be trained locally for the test administration and complete *Testing Security Protocol and Procedures for School Personnel* training ([video](#) or publication) and sign a *Confidentiality and Test Security Agreement*,
- sign WIDA's non-disclosure and user agreement,
- be proficient in written English, and
- be able to decode the student's handwriting.



Active Monitoring



What is it?

- Ensuring a trained test administrator is present in the testing room for the entire test session(s).
- Checking student work, during testing, to ensure students are completing their own work without assistance.
- Reducing and eliminating the opportunity for instances of plagiarism, one log in instances for test sessions.
- Preventing students from using internet-connected devices such as: cell phones, smartwatches, or Bluetooth headsets to answer any of the test questions.
- It is a local decision to use the Test Monitoring Application (TMA) to observe student test sessions.



Student Plagiarism

- An irregularity that arises when the test publisher finds a high degree of match between a student's response (Speaking/Writing) and online content.
- A vendor company works with DRC to apply a security monitoring program, screening student responses for these matches.
- The test publisher provides the student's response and the matching web address for the web content when an instance of plagiarism is flagged.
- Monitor student log ins and collect access codes once used.
- These instances are usually reported after the test window has closed, due to the time necessary to match student responses to online content.
- Incidents of student plagiarism require a full OTISS investigation supplied through the district or charter school test coordinator and must be submitted within 5 days of receiving the flagged plagiarism report.
- The RAC will supply the district or charter school TC with the file (through secure transmission) to complete an investigation.



Student Alerts

- An irregularity that arises when the scoring vendor raters read or listen to a student response that is of concern (student talks of harming self or others)
- The scoring vendor returns these instances to NCDPI
- Files are shared securely with the RAC
- The RAC will supply the district or charter school TC these file (through secure transmission)
- Once the student alert has been provided to the district or charter school TC, an OTISS irregularity must be submitted (within 5 days)
- Most student alerts do not require a full investigation
- If an investigation is necessary, the RAC will notify the district or charter school TC



Proctors

Proctor use is a local decision.

If utilized, proctors:

- must be informed of duties and trained using the *North Carolina Proctor's Training [video](#)* and provided a copy of the *[North Carolina Proctor's Guide](#)* to review.
- are considered a best testing practice, particularly for larger testing groups.



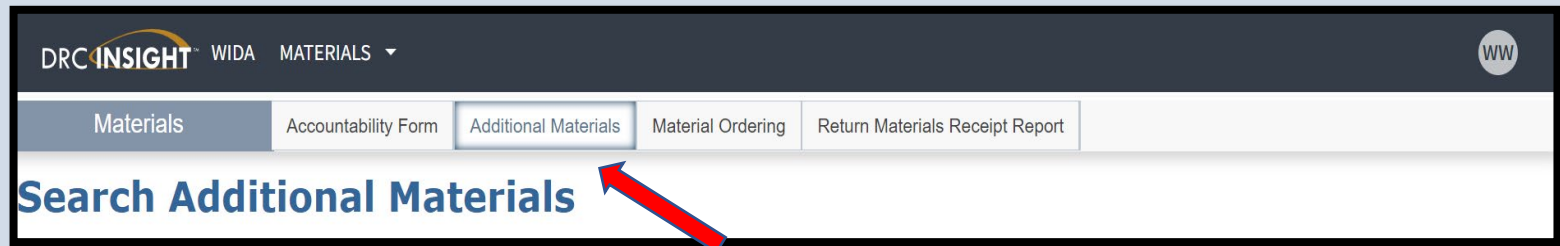
Remote Testing

- WIDA does not endorse or recognize test scores from WIDA assessments that have been obtained through remote administration.
- IP addresses are monitored for the purpose of security and maintaining school-based administrations of these tests.



Ordering Additional Materials

- Any requests for additional materials must be provided to the district or charter school TC
- District or charter school TC sends an email to the RAC explaining the need and quantities of materials
- After RAC approval, additional material order placed in WIDA AMS by district or charter school TC
- DRC provides the NCDPI with a daily list of additional material orders to approve (daily)
- RACs confirm this list of additional material orders from DRC and approval provided by the NCDPI for expedited shipped



The screenshot shows the DRC INSIGHT WIDA MATERIALS interface. The top navigation bar includes the DRC INSIGHT logo, WIDA, and MATERIALS with a dropdown arrow. A user profile icon with the initials 'WW' is in the top right. Below the navigation bar is a row of tabs: Materials, Accountability Form, Additional Materials, Material Ordering, and Return Materials Receipt Report. The 'Additional Materials' tab is selected and highlighted with a red arrow. Below the tabs is a search bar with the text 'Search Additional Materials'.



AFTER ACCESS TESTING



Completing Student Data

- Paper materials must contain accurate information and must match a student's NCSIS demographics for school, preferred first and last name, birthdate, grade level, and State Student ID Number (see *North Carolina State Specific Guidance for WIDA Assessments* for complete directions)
- North Carolina does not collect gender in student demographic information
- Use **only No. 2** pencils when bubbling paper materials; INK will not be scored.
- Designate trained staff members to check all bubbled booklets before boxing/shipping materials for scoring

Complete for District/School Labels Only	Complete for Pre-ID and District/School Labels, If Applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• District Name• School Name• State Name Abbreviation• Birth Date• Grade Level• State Student ID Number	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do Not Score This Section for This Student (if applicable)



Less Than 4 Domain Score Calculation

- Students must have a documented disability in a current IEP or Section 504 Plan that prevents participation in one or two domains of the WIDA ACCESS or WIDA Alternate ACCESS tests
- Schools must follow the Domain Exemption Guidance (see *North Carolina State Specific Guidance for WIDA Assessments*)
- Schools must accurately code the SPD code for these instances to receive this special calculation (see *North Carolina State Specific Guidance for WIDA Assessments*)

SPD (Deferred Special Education/504) indicates an IEP team or Section 504 committee determined the student is unable to participate in one or more of the domains of this test; if so, fill in the appropriate bubble(s). This code also applies to why a response was not provided by the student, including the following reasons:

- student has physical disabilities, such as a visual impairment or hearing impairment preventing the student from being able to access one or more domain(s)

If any of these bubbles are filled in, the test books must be returned with the other test books to be scored.



Returning Paper Materials

- Return materials deadline is March 20, 2026
- Materials that are not returned on or before this deadline will not be scored and reported on time
- Materials should be returned in the recommended order
- Materials may be returned throughout the testing window; PSUs do not need to complete all tests prior to beginning return shipments
- A local system of tracking all materials must be established, accounting for materials checked out, checked in, and then returned to the vendor



Materials Late Returns

- When PSUs do not meet the deadline for material return (3/20/26), WIDA offers an opportunity for the materials to be processed and scored in a late return window
- Printed ISRs are not provided for test materials returned during the late return window (only electronic ISRs will be available)

Testing Dates	
12/10/25 - 3/13/26	WIDA AMS Test Setup Available for Registrations
1/5/26	Districts Receive Test Materials
1/12/26 - 3/13/26	Test Window
1/5/26 - 3/6/26	Additional Test Material Ordering Window in WIDA AMS
3/20/26 - 3/20/26	Deadline for Shipping Completed Test Materials to DRC (Postmark date)
5/11/26	Districts Receive ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS Reports and Data - Posted in WIDA AMS
5/29/26 - 6/1/26	Districts Receive Printed ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS Reports
7/7/26	Updated ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS Data - Posted in WIDA AMS for SEA and Districts



Accounting For Secure Materials

Security Checklists and WIDA AMS resources

- The *Security Checklist* (shipped with materials) lists every barcode associated with each test material assigned to a PSU
- Develop a local procedure for secure storage and check in/out
- Utilize the Secure Material Tracking Report (SMTR)

DRC INSIGHT WIDA MATERIALS

Materials Accountability Form Additional Materials Material Ordering Return Materials Receipt Report

Accountability Form

The Accountability Form allows the user to enter the quantity of paper test materials returned to DRC as well as to record reasons if a be returned. The form is pre-populated with quantities and materials from the initial shipment only. Materials ordered after your initial shipment (i.e. additional materials) will not be reflected on the Accountability Form. Please refer to the Return Material Receipt Report inventory of all materials shipped to the district and schools.

* Indicates required fields

Administration District School
NC ACCESS for ELLs - 2022-2023* (All) (All)

Show

DRC INSIGHT WIDA MATERIALS

Materials Accountability Form Additional Materials Material Ordering Return Materials Receipt Report

Return Materials Receipt Report

Return Materials Receipt allows the user access to reports providing a summary/detailed view of materials received by DRC returned by the school. The report also allows District level users to view District overage materials received by DRC. A District level user or higher can select (None) for a school to view District Overage materials returned. If 'No Data to Display' appears in the grid, this means no secure material was checked out to the location.

* Indicates required fields

Administration District School
(Select) * * *

Show

Missing Material Reports

- DRC begins sending **Missing Materials Reports** 4–5 weeks after the state testing window closes
- These reports are shared with RACs (to facilitate the return of outstanding materials)
- Secure materials that are not returned by the close of the testing cycle, must be accounted for using an accountability form in WIDA AMS and must also have an OTISS irregularity filed for “Missing Materials”



Data Validation

Data Validation window is April 7–16, 2026 and is managed at the state level.

During the data validation window, district test coordinators will work with NCDPI to manage:

- Do Not Score Codes
- Less Than 4 Domain Score Calculations
- Accommodation changes in a student record
- Any other data validation issues detected by the state in the PSU's data



Score Reports Availability

May 11, 2026	<p>Electronic Score Reports available in WIDA AMS</p> <p>Directions for printing score reports are available in the <u>WIDA AMS User Guide</u></p>
May 29–June 1, 2026	<p>PSUs receive Score Reports – paper copies</p> <p>DRC ships 1 printed ISR to the designated ship-to-site address for every student taking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• WIDA ACCESS for Kindergarten• WIDA ACCESS (Paper)• WIDA ACCESS (Online)• WIDA Alternate ACCESS




Requirements for Score Reports

- As required by [16 NCAC 06D.0307](#)
 - LEAs shall report scores resulting from the administration of districtwide and state-mandated tests to students and parents or guardians along with available score interpretation information within thirty (30) days from generation of the score at the LEA level or receipt of the score and interpretive documentation from the NCDPI.
- Parent letters and resources are in the WIDA Secure Portal
- Score reports can be provided in different languages (WIDA AMS)
- If a Braille score report is needed for a parent, contact Wendy Wooten wendy.wooten@dpi.nc.gov to make this request.

ACCESS for ELLs Parent Letters

These letters, in 47 languages, are meant to accompany score reports for parents and guardians.

Note: These resources are housed in the main WIDA website in a new tab.

[Resource Details](#) [View Resource](#) 

ACCESS for ELLs Parent Score Report Guides

Send these flyers home with students along with the ACCESS for ELLs Individual Student Report. The flyer explains each piece of score information included in the report. Use this guide to help parents understand what scores mean and how they are used.

Note: These resources are housed in the main WIDA website. The "View Resource" link below will open in a new tab.

[Resource Details](#) [View Resource](#) 



Post Reporting Scoring Appeals

Scoring appeals reported to the NCDPI after scores have been received in PSUs:

- The state's vendor-determined number of data corrections will be dispersed across the State Board of Education (SBE) regions
- Only valid appeals will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis
- Discrepant scoring appeals or *Less Than Four Domain Score Calculations* will not be investigated



Questions & Resources



How to Direct Questions

Test Administration Questions

School-level staff



District-level staff



Regional staff
(Regional Accountability Office)



NCDPI consultants

Student Data Questions

Student identifications and
data in NCSIS or WIDAAMS



susan.walz@dpi.nc.gov



Office Hours

January

- Friday, 1/9 12:00–1:00
- Tuesday, 1/20 12:00–1:00
- Friday, 1/30 12:00–1:00

February

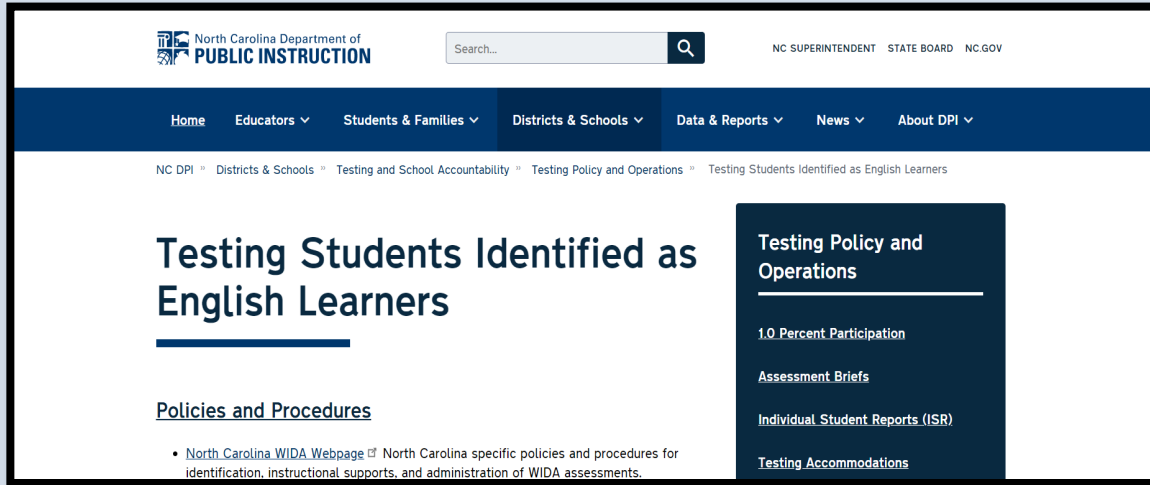
- Friday, 2/20 12:00–1:00



[Office Hours Link](#) – No registration is required



NCDPI Resources



The screenshot shows the NCDPI website with the header "North Carolina Department of PUBLIC INSTRUCTION". The navigation bar includes links for Home, Educators, Students & Families, Districts & Schools, Data & Reports, News, and About DPI. The breadcrumb trail reads: NC DPI » Districts & Schools » Testing and School Accountability » Testing Policy and Operations » Testing Students Identified as English Learners. The main heading is "Testing Students Identified as English Learners". Below it is a link for "Policies and Procedures" with a bullet point: "North Carolina WIDA Webpage" which states: "North Carolina specific policies and procedures for identification, instructional supports, and administration of WIDA assessments." A sidebar on the right lists: "Testing Policy and Operations", "1.0 Percent Participation", "Assessment Briefs", "Individual Student Reports (ISR)", and "Testing Accommodations".

[NCDPI: Testing Students Identified as English Learners](#)



The screenshot shows the NCDPI website with the header "North Carolina Department of PUBLIC INSTRUCTION". The navigation bar includes links for Home, Educators, Students & Families, Districts & Schools, Data & Reports, News, and About DPI. The breadcrumb trail reads: NC DPI » Districts & Schools » Classroom Resources » Academic Standards » Programs and Initiatives » ML/Title III. The main heading is "ML/Title III". Below it is a note: "Please note: The terms on this page may alternate between 'English Learner' (EL) and 'Multilingual Learner' (ML). As of March 21, 2022, NCDPI shifted to using 'English Learner' for policy and legislation purposes and 'Multilingual Learner' for all other purposes. See this letter for more details." Below the note is the text "NCDPI Multilingual Learner/Title III Team". A sidebar on the right lists: "Programs and Initiatives", "Character Education", "Dual Language Immersion", "Global Education", "NC Council on the Holocaust", and "NC Healthy Schools".

[NCDPI: ML/Title III](#)



Prepare for Local ACCESS Training Sessions



This presentation is:

- designed to assist public school units in preparations for ACCESS testing and planning local training
- not designed to be “all inclusive” for the preparation activities for ACCESS testing
- a place to launch conversations for addressing the many tasks that ACCESS testing requires



The Offices of Accountability and Testing & Academic Standards would like to thank you for joining today!



Clipart/Graphic Citations:

- PowerPoint (stock images)
- WIDA graphics

