

WIDA Alternate ACCESS Eligibility Criteria

The WIDA Alternate ACCESS is for students in grades K–12 who are identified as English Learners (ELs) and have significant cognitive disabilities that prevent participation in the ACCESS for ELLs test. The WIDA Alternate ACCESS is available for ELs who have a current Individualized Education Program (IEP), are instructed using the North Carolina Extended Content Standards (i.e., reading, mathematics, science), and are eligible to participate in the NCEXTEND1 alternate assessment when enrolled in the appropriate grades (i.e., Grade 3-8, 10 and 11).

Note: When ELs are enrolled beyond grade 12 and are receiving instruction on the North Carolina Extended Content Standards, they are required to take the WIDA Alternate ACCESS annually until either exiting EL status or no longer enrolled in school.