

Parent Notification Letter
Annual English Language Proficiency Test

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

All students identified as multilingual learners (MLs) are assessed annually to monitor their progress and proficiency in English as required by the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA). In Virginia, all divisions use the WIDA ACCESS for ELLs for this purpose.

The WIDA ACCESS for ELLs is aligned with the WIDA English Language Development standards and assesses English in the four language domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The assessment will:

- Determine students' English language proficiency level and eligibility for ESOL services and testing accommodations.
- Help students and families understand students' current level of English language proficiency along a developmental continuum.
- Provide teachers with information they can use to plan for and support student learning.
- Determine whether MLs have met English language proficiency criteria and exit ESOL services.

All MLs, including those who have opted out of ESOL services, participate annually in the ELP assessment until they reach English language proficiency criteria (ELP level 6). Alternate assessment formats are available for certain students with disabilities.

If you have questions about the annual ELP assessment, please contact the school's test coordinator for more information.