WIDA Screener (Grades 1-12)
Quick Guide

Assessing English Language Proficiency

Proper identification of Multilingual Learners (MLs) helps ensure district, school, and public charter school's English language acquisition program is best designed to meet the needs of its students. To develop comprehensive English language acquisition and academic programs for multilingual learners, districts, schools, and public charter schools must first have accurate knowledge of student's English Language Proficiency (ELP).

The WIDA Screener for second semester first graders through grade 12 students is designed to provide an initial measure of a student's academic ELP. This assessment assists educators in identifying students who are candidates for Language Instruction Educational Programs (LIEPs). It also helps parents and education teams make decisions about students' need for language instruction.

Features of WIDA Screener for Grades 1-12

❖ Paper or online test available during student enrollment

❖ Estimated test administration time is 80-85 minutes

❖ Screener Paper is scored locally by trained raters. Listening and Speaking domains are media-delivered

❖ The Screener Online test platform automatically scores the Listening and Reading domains during administration. A trained local rater scores the Speaking and Writing domains

For Test Administrators:

- Obtain a WIDA Secure Portal Account

- Read the WIDA Screener (grades 1-12) Test Administrator Manual (TAM)

- Read the Accessibility & Accommodations Manual

- Complete Online Training Courses

- Take Certification Quizzes prior to administering or scoring

Accessibility & Accommodations

Follow guidelines on how to best support students taking WIDA Screener found in the Accessibility and Accommodations Manual (wida.wisc.edu/sites/default/files/resource/Accessibility-Accommodations-Manual.pdf). This manual helps educators understand and use the test administration considerations, universal tools, and accommodations to produce valid assessment results for students.

Test Administrator's Training Requirements

Test Administrators (TAs) are required to complete the appropriate training courses. Training modules can be found by logging into the WIDA Secure Portal (wida.wisc.edu/login). In the portal, select Assessment Training then, find the WIDA Screener (1-12): choose online or paper Administration and Scoring courses and click on Course Details. TAs currently certified to administer and score ACCESS Paper Speaking test are not required to take Speaking Certification (ACCESS and Screener grades 1-12 use the same speaking certification quizzes). Annual recertification decisions are made locally. WIDA and the Colorado Department of Education recommends an annual refresher and review of scoring procedures each school year.

Additional Resources

CO Standardized Identification FAQ (www.cde.state.co.us/cde_english/elstandardizedidentificationandfaqs) and ELP Assessments Webpage (www.cde.state.co.us/cde_english/english-language-proficiency-assessment) Screener FAQs (www.cde.state.co.us/cde_english/widascreenerfaqs).

Grade Level Administration

Grade	K	1st		2nd		3rd		4th		5th		6th		7th		8th		9th		10th		11th		12th	
Semester	All	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd
Grade Cluster Form	Screener for Kindergarten	Screener for Kindergarten	1 Test	2-3 Test				4-5 Test				6-8 Test						9-12 Test							

Test Administration

Given at student enrollment, anytime during the school year, WIDA Screener (1-12) is an English language proficiency assessment that measures language development in the domains of listening, speaking, writing, and reading. It measures the student's ability to comprehend and communicate in English. Cut points guide educators in making NEP, LEP and Primary Home Language Other Than English (PHLOTE) determinations. WIDA Screener (1-12) scores **and** a body of evidence should always be used when making initial identification and programming decisions.

> **First Grade Second Semester through Grade 12**
>
> NEP: 1.0 – 2.4 (Overall)
>
> LEP: 2.5 - 3.9 (Overall)
>
> PHLOTE: > 4.0 (Overall & Literacy)

Score Calculator & Score Reports

Proficiency level scores for WIDA Screener are reported for each of the four domains and includes three composite scores, Oral Language, Literacy, and Overall, are also reported. The Overall score is the most useful score to use when making identification decisions, because it takes the student's performance on all four domains into account.

For the Speaking and Writing tests in both delivery modes, educators assess student performance using the WIDA Screener Scoring Scales locally. Students taking WIDA Screener Online have their Speaking and Writing scores entered into the WIDA Assessment Management System (AMS). This platform calculates the Speaking and Writing raw and composite scores and allows educators to generate and download the score report. For students taking WIDA Screener Paper, educators enter all four raw domain scores into the WIDA Screener Paper Score Calculator (wida.wisc.edu/assess/screener/paper/calculator), which calculates the domain and composite scores and allows educators to generate and download the score report. For more explanation about scores, proficiency levels, and how they can be used, refer to the WIDA Screener Interpretive Guide (wida.wisc.edu/sites/default/files/resource/WIDA-Screener-Interpretive-Guide.pdf).

Explore the Family Engagement (wida.wisc.edu/teach/learners/engagement) webpage to view resources or for ideas on how to share information about language testing and test scores with families.

Secure & Save Reports

Districts, schools, and charter schools are strongly encouraged to review and comply with student data retention security and privacy policies (www.cde.state.co.us/cdereval/districtguidanceoninformationsecurityandprivacypolicies). The School District Records Management Manual (archives.colorado.gov/records-management/school-district-records-management) in the Colorado State Archives outlines procedures to securely store paper test kits and safely save and transfer student records/score reports and other relevant documentation used to identify multilingual learners.

As provided under SB21-268 and beginning with fiscal year 2021-2022, the English Language Learner funding factor will be included in the calculated total program funding for each district. Compliance audits including a review of documentation requires district, school, and public charter schools to retain WIDA Screener (1-12) score reports following guidance found in the English Language Learner Count Audit Resource Guide (www.cde.state.co.us/cdefinance/auditunit_ell_count).