

Alternate ACCESS for English language learners (ELLs): The Basics

What is it?

Alternate ACCESS for English language learners (ELLs) is intended for students with significant cognitive disabilities. The assessment measures a student's current level of English language proficiency as aligned with WIDA English language development standards.



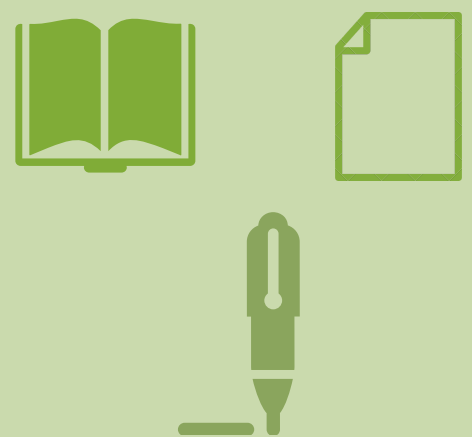
Who qualifies?

Student English learners in grades 1–12 who have significant cognitive needs and require intensive, individualized instruction should take the Alternate ACCESS in place of the corresponding WIDA ACCESS for ELLs.



How is it designed?

Alternate ACCESS for ELLs is administered on paper in large print, and measures students' understanding and use of academic English in all four language domains: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Accommodations are available.



When is it administered?

Alternate ACCESS for ELLs is administered annually over the course of an 8-week period in mid-winter. Check [here](#) for a continually updated assessments calendar.



Want to learn more about Alternate ACCESS for ELLs?

[Click here](#)

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