

WIDA ACCESS:

Utah's English Language Proficiency Test



This handout explains the WIDA ACCESS test. It will help you understand why your child takes the test, how the scores are used, and how you can support your child at home.

What Is WIDA ACCESS?

WIDA ACCESS is a test that measures how well students are learning English. It is given once a year to students in grades K–12 who are identified as English learners (ELs).

The test looks at four areas of English:



Listening



Speaking



Reading



Writing

Why Does My Child Take This Test

Your child was identified as an English learner. All English learners take this test each year. The test shows how much progress your child is making in English.

How Are WIDA ACCESS Scores Used?

WIDA ACCESS scores show how your child is learning English. Teachers, schools, and families use this information in different ways:



Teachers

Use scores and schoolwork to plan lessons, see progress, and know when a student is ready to leave English support.



Schools

Use scores to decide what English language services to provide the student and to meet state and federal requirements.



Families

Can use scores to see how their child is growing in English and to ask questions about how to support learning at home.

Test Scores and Reports

Your child's Individual Student Report shows how they are doing in each of the four skill areas and also combines them into broader categories. These include:

- » Oral Language
- » Literacy
- » Comprehension
- » Overall English

This report gives families and teachers a complete picture of your child's English development.

How to Get Ready for Test Day

Your child does not need to study for WIDA ACCESS. The best way to prepare is with healthy routines. Make sure your child gets good sleep the night before and eats breakfast on test day. A few encouraging words from you can also help your child feel calm and ready to do their best.

Questions You Can Ask Your Child's Teachers

When will my child take the test?

When will I get my child's scores?

How are goals for my child's English tracked at school?

How do test scores help my child make progress in English?

How can I support my child's language learning at home?

Learn More



More information on WIDA and resources in multiple languages available at:

tinyurl.com/WIDA-Guides