



## NH ACCESS for ELLs® Testing Window Now Open Through June 11, 2021.

All active English learners in New Hampshire are required to test, including any new student who enrolls on or before May 1, 2021. It is the expectation of the DOE that districts will communicate the importance of annual testing with families, as well as the district's plan for mitigating risk during in-person testing.

### Guidance

[Assessment Best Practices During COVID](#)

[Maintaining Student Data During COVID](#)



### Other WIDA Updates:



The new WIDA Kindergarten Screener will be released on March 30, 2021. The test training and materials will be available through the WIDA Secure Portal for any Test Administrator who currently has K-WAPT or WIDA Screener permissions.

[Get Familiar with the Test](#)

### Key Test Features:

- Engaging story and activity-centered test experience.
- Responsive test design that lets students stop when they reach the extent of their current language skills.
- Local scoring of student responses means score reports can be generated immediately after testing.
- Effective identification tool when used as either a two-domain (Listening and Speaking) or four-domain (Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing) test.

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## *This month's Frequently Asked Questions:*

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*Do WIDA test administrators have to use the new WIDA® Kindergarten Screener as soon as it is released? Can we still use K-WPAT & MODEL?*

Full implementation of the new WIDA® Kindergarten Screener will begin with the 2021-22 academic year. After July 1, 2021, the K-WPAT will no longer be available in the WIDA Secure Portal or approved for use in NH. The WIDA MODEL will also still be approved for use as an initial screener.

The new K Screener will be available for preview and preparation beginning March 31<sup>st</sup> with Test Administrator trainings scheduled in April and May (see PD calendar on pg. 4 for more information).

An accurate and complete list of state-approved assessments for English language proficiency (ELP) is maintained on the [NH state page on the WIDA website](#). The page is updated annually and whenever changes are made relevant to NH's ELP standards or assessments.

*If a student enrolls now, what information must be included in the WIDA DRC system when that student is added to generate a test ticket?*

The NHDOE sends a student roster file to WIDA DRC in late December. DRC uses that file to populate the test roster. Any student who registers after that file has been uploaded will need to be manually added to the DRC site in order to generate a test ticket for that student. You can find details about the process for entering a new student on the [WIDA DRC website](#) > user guides.

The following fields must be completed when you are entering a new student in the WIDA DRC system: Student Name, School District Code, School Code, Grade of Student, Student SSID Number, State, District. **Student's SASID numbers should not be entered on WIDA DRC site.** This is a critical step in ensuring the student's score report is generated correctly. This information is available on [NH state page of WIDA website](#) > [ACCESS for ELLs Online Checklist](#).

Yes! NH WIDA Test Administrators (TAs) are required to complete the online training through the WIDA Secure Portal for any assessment they are assigned to administer.

Information about these requirements is listed on the [NH State page of the WIDA website](#) > Test Preparation and Training AND in [the NHDOE Office of Academics and Assessment Policy & Procedures manual](#).

The credentials of TAs is periodically monitored through by the NHDOE through annual assessment monitoring.

*Do teachers have to complete the WIDA Test Administrator training every year?*

In February the State EL Advisory Committee began discussions to determine the qualifying criteria for students being screened for EL eligibility with the new WIDA Kindergarten Screener. Wendy Perron, DOE EL Consultant, shared an update provided by WIDA at the SEA Quarterly meeting in late February. WIDA does not make recommendations to states to establish qualifying scores, but the WIDA Test Development team did publish key findings for SEAs to support SEA decision making. The SELAC Committee will pick up this discussion at the next monthly meeting.

The New Hampshire Department of Education is committed to a transparent and comprehensive process for the review, revision and adoption of the state's English language proficiency (ELP) standards and assessments. When updates and changes are made to the state assessments the DOE opens a period of Public Comment to gather feedback from the public, key stakeholders and educators. Any comments made during this period will be brought back to the State EL Advisory Committee for consideration before a final decision is made. Please [use this form to submit comments](#) you may have regarding the adoption of the WIDA Kindergarten Screener and determination of the qualifying criteria and relevant procedures. The **public comment period will be open from March 15 –30, 2021.**



SELAC also talked more about a plan to roll out the new WIDA 2020 Standards. Oscar Carvalho Neto, NH EL teacher, SELAC member and NH Representative for NNETESOL, has also been talking with the NNETESOL Board to think of collaborative ways we can work together to support NH educator's with implementation of the standards during the 2021-22 academic year. More to come on this over the next few months! In the meantime, you have any ideas for the roll-out, please contact: Oscar <carvalhonetoo@newmarket.k12.nh.us> or Wendy Perron <wendy.perron@doe.nh.gov>

## RESOURCES & HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FIELD



Governor Sununu has approved \$1 Million in funding to help support English learners experiencing education related challenges due to COVID-19. The money is part of the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER). The grant will offer subawards to community-based organizations working to support the academic success of English learners through porch-visits, virtual and in-person tutoring, technical support sessions and troubleshooting other potential barriers to student success. The funding will extend through September 2022.

Please reach out to Wendy Perron for more information. Specific information about the organizations in receipt of this award will be provided in the April newsletter.



# T3 Updates

**Program Monitoring:** Title III program monitoring has begun. Risk assessments are complete and those districts or charter schools who have been identified for English Learner and Title III program monitoring have been notified. Due to restrictions related to COVID-19, program monitoring will happen remotely.

The following districts or charter schools have been identified for EL Title III Program Monitoring for the 2019-20 Grant Year:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goffstown School District</li> <li>Hanover School District</li> <li>Hooksett School District</li> <li>Manchester School District</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mill Falls Charter School</li> <li>Oyster River School District</li> <li>Rochester School District</li> <li>Winnisquam Regional School District</li> </ul>

**Reminder—Funds Drawdown:** There is less than 5 months of spending left on the 2019-20 Title III grants. Please work to spend down your grants over the next few months. If any of your activities have changed due to COVID-19 restrictions, please reach out to Wendy Perron to revise your grant.

**2021-2022 Title III Funding:** Any district serving English learners is eligible to receive Title III funds. In 2020-21, the per pupil allocation was approximately \$175. A \$10,000 minimum is required for a district to qualify as a single entity. This means a district would need 56 EL students to qualify as a single sub-grantee. If your district has between 1-55 EL students, your students are still eligible to receive that funding through a multi-district consortium. If you would like more information, please contact Wendy Perron.

**2019-20 Title III, Immigrant Children & Youth Grant:** The NHDOE reserves approximately five percent of its Title III, Part A grant to support Immigrant and Youth activities. Local Education Agencies (LEAs) that have seen a significant increase in immigrant children and youth may apply for the Immigrant Children and Youth Discretionary Grant. Qualifying LEAs must have demonstrated a significant increase in their Immigrant and Youth population. For Immigrant and Youth eligibility, a significant increase is defined as at least a 25 percent increase in the current year for the number of Immigrant and Youth over the average of the previous two years. The following LEAs were identified for this additional funding:

- Mascoma Valley SAU Office
- Littleton SAU Office
- Windham SAU Office



# PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Date	Time	Title
3/16/2021	3:30-4:30	<b>Low-Incidence Communities of Practice (CoP) Monthly Meeting</b> <a href="#">Meeting link</a>
		
3/18/2021	3:30-5:00	<b>Statewide EL Educators Community of Practice (CoP) Monthly Convene</b> <a href="#">Review Agenda</a> <a href="#">Registration Link</a>
		
4/13/2021	3:30-5:00	<b>Session 3 of 3-part series on “Challenges in Special Education for Culturally &amp; Linguistically Diverse Students.”</b> <a href="#">Review Agenda</a> <a href="#">Meeting Link</a>
		
3/22/21 & 4/5/2021	3:30-4:30	<b>DOE EL &amp; Title III Open Office Hour:</b> Drop-in anytime during the set hour to ask a question using <a href="#">this link</a> . There is no set agenda, just a chance to offer technical assistance to any NH school, district or educator. Sessions held every other Monday.
		
4/19/21 & 5/12/21	Live Webinar	<b>Live Webinar w/ WIDA Trainer: Kindergarten Screener</b>  <p> <b>April 19<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-5:00</b>  <b>May 12<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-10:30</b>  <b>*<a href="#">Please use this link to register for one of the sessions</a>*</b>  <b>(Register Early--participant limits on each session)</b> </p>
		
Now-8/31/21	Self-paced	<b>7 e-Workshops through WIDA Secure Portal:</b> (1) WIDA Writing Rubric; (2) Doing & Talking STEM; (3) Classroom Teachers: Engaging Multilingual Learners; (4) Developing Language for Learning in Mathematics; and (5) Leading for Equity: Classroom Walkthroughs; (6) 2020 ELD Standards Framework and (7) School Improvement Planning for Multilingual Learners  <div style="background-color: #e0f0ff; padding: 5px;"> <b>*Open to all NH Educators. To obtain a WIDA Secure Portal account, teachers must contact WIDA Client Services Center at <a href="mailto:help@wida.us">help@wida.us</a> or (866) 276-7735*</b> </div>
		

**Other Announcements:**



State Seal of Biliteracy Committee has been hard at work—

NH is on the [National Map!](#)

Check out the [new NH State Seal website](#)

Share information about this award  
with your school or district!

Please check out the resources available on the website and look for a  
press release very soon.

**If you have any questions or would like to request technical assistance, please contact:**

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