

WIDA Initial Material Order and Pre-ID Window Open

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has pre-identified, in the Secure Site, English learner (EL) students (grades K-12) for Spring 2017 WIDA ACCESS for ELLs testing using the Fall 2016 MSDS General Collection and Student Record Maintenance (SRM) files submitted through December 6, 2016.

This one-time pull is done for pre-identification purposes for students taking the summative WIDA ACCESS for ELLs. The Pre-ID Student Report is available to schools in the [Secure Site](http://www.michigan.gov/baa-secure) (www.michigan.gov/baa-secure). It will be the responsibility of the district and/or school to update the Pre-ID Student Report by un-assigning students who exit the district, and adding students who enroll or are newly identified as EL directly on the Secure Site.

All students identified by any district in an LEP program in MSDS are expected to take the WIDA ACCESS for ELLs or the Alternate ACCESS for ELLs.

The Initial Material Order screen to order WIDA Braille (contracted and uncontracted) and enlarged print is also available through **December 28, 2016**. All other material quantities will be based on pre-identification for those students taking a paper/pencil test. **It is IMPORTANT to make sure your pre-identification is accurate to ensure you receive the appropriate paper/pencil materials.** Detailed instructions for pre-identification and material orders is available on the [Secure Site Training web page](http://www.michigan.gov/secaresitetraining) (www.michigan.gov/secaresitetraining).

WIDA Test Exceptions

The window for WIDA Test Exceptions is open now and runs through **January 26, 2017** in the Secure Site. This window is a period of time in which educators may request a waiver from the Spring 2017 WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 or the Alternate ACCESS for ELLs for some students with specific disabilities. All test exceptions must be applied for on an annual basis and approvals do not carry over from year-to-year.

For more information on [WIDA Test Exceptions please refer to the WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Test Exceptions](#) and False LEP Guidance document found on the [MDE WIDA web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/wida). Directions for submitting WIDA Test Exceptions can be found on the [Secure Site Training web page](#) (www.mi.gov/secaresitetraining) under the **Quick Reference** section. For questions about how to submit WIDA Exceptions, please contact the Call Center at -1-877-560-8378 (select Option 3) or email baa@michigan.gov.

WIDA Guidance on Pre-ID, Initial Material Order, and Tier Selection

The assessment window for the WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 (Michigan's annual summative assessment for English Learners) opens **February 6, 2017** and ends **March 24, 2017**. In addition to this assessment, there also exists the opportunity for students with significant cognitive disabilities to take the WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs.

In preparation for both of these assessments, the Pre-ID Student Report is now available to schools in the [MDE Secure Site \(www.michigan.gov/baa-secure\)](http://www.michigan.gov/baa-secure). At this time districts must be prepared to do the following:

- identify tiers (A, B, or C) for students taking the paper/pencil assessment
- identify students who will be taking the Alternate ACCESS for ELLs (Tier T)
- identify whether or not a Grade 4-12 online test taker will need a paper/pencil book for the writing domain (available **only** for students identified as recent arrivals in U.S. schools 12 months or less, or for students with a need identified in their IEP/504 plan necessitating a paper/pencil booklet for the Writing domain)
- identify which students may need accommodations that are only available on the paper/pencil assessment

When attempting to determine if the A, B, or C tier is appropriate for students, educators should refer to guidance found in [Criteria for Tier Selection](https://www.wida.us/get.aspx?id=288) (https://www.wida.us/get.aspx?id=288).

Educators should refer to the 2017 WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Guidance document for procedures on determining if the Alternate ACCESS for ELLs is appropriate for certain students.

WIDA Training and Preparation

Because materials on the wida.us site as well as the Test Administrator Manual that will be shipped to schools are not Michigan specific, educators should review the [Michigan ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Checklist](http://www.wida.us/membership/checklists/MI-checklist.pdf) (www.wida.us/membership/checklists/MI-checklist.pdf) and follow the outlined tasks. A Michigan specific Test Administrator Manual will be available online in January.

Test Administrators and Coordinators who are administering the **online** WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 and were certified for the Spring 2016 WIDA ACCESS for ELLs assessment are not required to recertify. However, because WIDA is offering quizzes associated with the online trainings this year, even educators who were certified last year may find benefit in reviewing these resources.

Educators administering the Kindergarten and paper/pencil form of the WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 are **required** to recertify.

All **new** Test Administrators and Coordinators (for online testing and paper/pencil) must complete the online training modules available through the secure portal on wida.us and pass the associated quizzes with a score of at least 80%. Educators in both roles do not need to review the following chapters within each of the corresponding modules because they are **not** relevant to Michigan:

- Ordering Materials: **Module may be skipped**
- Test Scheduling: **Chapters 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 may be skipped**

As a reminder, please note that Michigan educators do **NOT** conduct these activities in the WIDA Assessment Management System (AMS):

- Pre-ID students for testing

- order initial materials
- add new students directly into AMS
- create new WIDA AMS users directly in AMS
- update student demographics
- conduct data validation

New WIDA Test Coordinator and Test Administrator Accounts

With the exception of Technology Coordinators and educators who administered the Spring 2016 WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0, **new** educators who are administering the Spring 2017 WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 will **not** have access to the online testing management site, the WIDA Assessment Management System (AMS), until the beginning of January. This does not impact training and preparation for the assessment as training modules can be completed through a separate online system on the [WIDA website \(www.wida.us\)](http://www.wida.us).

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