

OELP Monthly Meeting

May 2025



OKLAHOMA
Education



Happy Teachers' Appreciation Week!

The OELP recognizes all the wonderful work you do to support our English Learners not only this week but everyday.

OELP Updates

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FY26 Title III, Part A Consortium Application

- OTS will release the FY26 Title III, Part A Consortium Application on **April 28, 2025**.
- It will be available on the [Office of Title Services' webpage](#).
- OTS will accept applications via email through close of business on **June 30, 2025**.

Data Verification (DVR) Window In Accountability Reporting

- Tentative: **5/29/25 - 6/12/25**
- English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessment Data Verification Toolkit
This toolkit explains data validation in Accountability Reporting.
- Oklahoma does not recognize Absent or Declined. These are reported as DNA, and there is no need to submit a DVR.

Data Verification (DVR) Window In Accountability Reporting

Scenario	Sample Request and Supporting Documentation
Student withdrew during the testing window before they were scheduled to test (20 instructional days from the first day of the test window (January 6, 2025)).	Sample Request: Student withdrew on..., prior to the testing date as documented by the district testing calendar. Suggested Supporting Documentation: Testing calendar and withdrawal form signed by parent, notation in local SIS, records request from receiving school, etc.
Student has one or more domains with a SPED code and an overall composite score is missing.	Sample Request: Student was approved for a domain exemption(s). Please calculate an overall composite. Suggested Supporting Documentation: Please note that domain exemptions must have been submitted and approved prior to testing through an Assessment ELP or Accommodations DVR.

WIDA Alternate Screener Is Coming in 2025–26

- On **July 1, 2025**, WIDA is releasing its brand-new assessment, WIDA Alternate Screener. WIDA Alternate Screener is an approved assessment in our state and should be used to help identify if new students with the most significant cognitive disabilities in grades K–12 are English learners.
- Get familiar with the new assessment on the [WIDA Alternate Screener Is Coming in 2025-26](#) webpage.
- Students with the most significant cognitive disabilities documented in an IEP and participate in state alternate assessment are eligible for Alternate Screener.

Engaging Multilingual Learners in Social Studies Classrooms

- Teaching and learning social studies provide a unique opportunity for multilingual learners (MLs) to make connections between their global citizenship, academic learning and their roles across communities. Read the article on [engaging multilingual learners in social studies classrooms](#) to learn how inquiry, storytelling and multimodal resources can build bridges between language, culture and content learning, and encourage authentic engagement of MLs during social studies class.

WIDA Webinar Recording Available

- In the latest WIDA Webinar, **Strategies for Supporting Multilingual Newcomers**, presenters discussed the latest trends relating to our nation's multilingual newcomers and had attendees engage in research-backed approaches centering their learning and participate in goal setting for future programming with multilingual newcomers and their families in mind.
- Find recordings for this and all WIDA Webinars and the schedule for upcoming webinars on the [WIDA Webinars webpage](#).

EL Educator Spotlight

- OELP staff recognizes that we have educators doing amazing things to support our EL students throughout the state.
- We want to provide an opportunity to showcase these great strategies, resources, and success stories.
- If you would like to nominate yourself or another educator in your district to be spotlighted, please complete this [form](#).

EL Educator Spotlight

Tawny Bishop / Tulsa Public Schools / Peary Elementary

- Tawny has built strong relationships with her colleagues through co-teaching and is seen as a building leader and expert in English language development strategies.
- Tawny regularly collaborates with district leadership, her principal, and classroom teachers to implement differentiated instructional strategies that increase the academic achievement of multilingual learners.
- As a result, the percentage of multilingual learners meeting their growth targets on ACCESS has gone from 50-59% since she began in 2022.
- This type of growth speaks to the collaborative environment she has helped build at Peary.

Thank you, Tawny, for supporting Oklahoma's English Learners!

WIDA Updates

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WIDA Kindergarten ACCESS Training

Course Unavailable April 30–September 28

- Kindergarten ACCESS Field Test is completed, and WIDA can redesign the Kindergarten ACCESS training course so that it matches the new assessment, WIDA ACCESS for Kindergarten.
- The Kindergarten ACCESS for ELLs: Administration and Scoring training course will be unavailable from **April 30 through September 28, 2025**. Even though the course will be unavailable, you will still be able to access your existing certificates.
- The redesigned WIDA ACCESS for Kindergarten: Administration and Scoring training course will go live on **September 29, 2025**.
- **Recertification for Kindergarten ACCESS is required.**

WIDA ACCESS and WIDA Screener Speaking Scoring Training Course Changes

- In the 2025-2026 WIDA testing year, the WIDA ACCESS will be released, which will incorporate the WIDA ELD Standards Framework, 2020 Edition, and will have a new Speaking Scoring Rubric. WIDA Screener and ACCESS Braille will continue to use the Speaking Scoring Scale. Since speaking scoring will differ among tests, the training courses have been split up.

2025-2026 Speaking Scoring Courses:

Available July 1

Speaking for Grades 1-5: Scoring WIDA Screener and ACCESS Braille

Speaking for Grades 6-12: Scoring WIDA Screener and ACCESS Braille

Available September 1

Speaking for Grades 1-5: Scoring ACCESS Paper

Speaking for Grades 6-12: Scoring ACCESS Paper

WIDA ACCESS and WIDA Screener Recertifications

- Oklahoma requires recertification in WIDA ACCESS or Screener trainings every two years unless there are changes to the courses.

Recertification is required for:

- Speaking for Grades 1-5: Scoring WIDA Screener and ACCESS Braille
- Speaking for Grades 6-12: Scoring WIDA Screener and ACCESS Braille
- Speaking for Grades 1-5: Scoring ACCESS Paper
- Speaking for Grades 6-12: Scoring ACCESS Paper

WIDA Resources for Communicating About ACCESS Scores

- Resources for communicating with families: Use customizable [ACCESS for ELLs Parent Letters](#), available in the same 49 languages as the ACCESS for ELLs Individual Student Report (ISR), to share general information about ACCESS for ELLs, in addition to your state or local policy and test administration information. Include our [ACCESS for ELLs: Understanding your Child's Scores](#) or [WIDA Alternate ACCESS: Understanding Your Child's Scores](#) flyers to help parents understand the ISR.
- Resources for communicating with your colleagues: Use the [ACCESS for ELLs Interpretive Guide for Score Reports](#) and [WIDA Alternate ACCESS Interpretive Guide for Score Reports](#) to explain ACCESS scores to your fellow educators. In addition to providing an overview of the various types of score reports, these resources explain how scores are calculated, and how you can use proficiency level and scale scores to support your students' language growth.

WIDA Resources for Communicating about ACCESS Scores

- Visit the WIDA website to read about the [ACCESS scoring process](#) and how [ACCESS scores can support your planning and your students' learning](#).

Register for the 2025 WIDA Annual Conference

- [2025 WIDA Annual Conference](#) registration is open. The in-person event takes place **October 28-30, 2025**, in Seattle, Washington. A curated virtual track is also available on **October 27, 2025**.
- In honor of Teacher Appreciation Week, WIDA would like to say thank you to all teachers for their dedication, generosity and passion. In addition to the Teacher Appreciation Week registration rate, the first 300 educators to register for the 2025 WIDA Annual Conference during Teacher Appreciation Week (May 5-11) will receive a \$50 credit to the [WIDA Store](#).*

This offer is only valid for PreK-12 educators (consultants, higher education professionals and SEA representatives will not receive the credit) and does not include shipping. Recipients will receive their WIDA Store credit via email the week of **May 12, 2025.*

ACCESS Standard Setting 2026: Seeking Educator Panelists

- The ACCESS Standard Setting event takes place **July 27-31, 2026**, in Boston, Massachusetts. Each panelist will receive \$1,200 after participating in the event. WIDA will cover panelist travel and lodging expenses and will offer per diem for any meals outside of the event.
- Learn more about the event on the [ACCESS Standard Setting 2026](#) webpage.
- If necessary, let your school and/or district leadership know that you are applying to participate in the standard setting event.
- Apply to participate in the standard setting event by filling out the panelist survey under the **Submit your panelist application** section of the webpage.
- WIDA will begin to reach out to selected panelists in October 2025. If it doesn't work out this time, there will be other opportunities for you to participate in WIDA test development events!
- If you have questions about the event or about completing the survey, please contact the [WIDA Client Services Center](#).

OELP Calendar

Districts Receive Reports in WIDA AMS	5/22/25
Data Verification (DVR) Window	Tentative: 5/29/25 - 6/12/25
Districts Receive Printed Reports	6/9/25 - 6/10/25

Questions & Proposed Topics by Districts

LEA Questions and Topics for Discussion

- We have a group of students from Nepal. I would like to lead a professional development workshop for the school district about the culture and needs of these students. One student is a newcomer. These children have unique customs and diets that staff members should be aware of and respect. I wonder if anyone familiar with Nepal could help me. I have reached out to the parents without much success.
- Patricia Hansen / phansen@atoka.org
- [First Steps Himalaya](#)
- [Trek to Teach-Napali Culture](#)
- [Cultural Atlas-Napalese Culture](#)
- Nepal: The Essential Guide to Customs & Culture
- The Handbook of English Language Education in Nepal: Policies, Programs, and Prospects

LEA Questions and Topics for Discussion

- Regarding the ELP Band Exit guidance on the OELP website, are the grade level spans referring to the grade level at time of ACCESS assessment or the new school year's grade level?

At the time the student achieved the qualifying score on the ACCESS assessment

- When will 9-12 qualifying score sheets and ALT ACCESS band exit forms be due?

During the band exit window in August

- May we begin WIDA screening 25-26 new enrollments in June?

You can although parents/guardians are not required to bring their children in before school starts.

OELP Monthly Meeting

- This is our last Monthly Meeting for the 24-25 school year.
- Our next Monthly Meeting will be in **August 2025**.

Thank you for supporting Oklahoma's English Learners!

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