

WIDA Pre-ID: Tiers, Selecting Alternate ACCESS for ELLs, and IMOs

Tiers

WIDA uses three tiers (Tier A, Tier B, and Tier C) within each grade-level cluster for the WIDA ACCESS for ELLs. While the tiers overlap, each tier assesses a different range of language proficiency. Therefore, to ensure the best possible testing experience for each student and the most meaningful results, it is necessary to place each student into the tier that best matches his or her proficiency level. All students will be pre-assigned a tier designation by MDE based on W-APT scores or prior ELPA scores, if applicable. Students with no previous assessment history will be defaulted to Tier B. Though MDE will be pre-assigning a tier designation to students, teachers and administrators must review the pre-assigned tiers in the Secure Site on the Pre-Identified Students Report and update as necessary during the Pre-ID window. A student's tier can be updated directly on the Student Demographics page in the WIDA Tier field. Please review WIDA's tier definitions and criteria for tier selection on WIDA's website at:

http://www.wida.us/assessment/access/tier_criteria.aspx.

Alternate ACCESS for ELLs

Along with reviewing tier designation, you may also decide that a student needs to be assessed with the WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs. The Alternate ACCESS for ELLs is an individually administered paper and pencil test that is intended only for ELs in grades 1 – 12 who have, or function as if they have, significant cognitive disabilities severe enough to prevent meaningful participation in the WIDA ACCESS for ELLs assessment. The Alternate ACCESS for ELLs is administered during the same testing window as the general WIDA ACCESS for ELLs. IEP Teams must consider the following general participation criteria to decide whether the Alternate ACCESS for ELLs test would be an appropriate assessment for their student:

- 1. The student has been classified as EL.*
- 2. The student has, or functions as if they have, a cognitive disability and is eligible for special education services under IDEA.*
- 3. The student is working towards alternate achievement standards aligned with Michigan's academic standards, and is participating in Michigan's alternate accountability assessment, MI-Access.*

Please note, MDE ***does not*** automatically assign any students to the Alternate ACCESS for ELLs option (Tier T). To choose the Alternate ACCESS for ELLs option, select "T" in the WIDA Tier field on the Student Demographics page.

Initial Material Orders (IMOs)

IMOs for WIDA only need to be placed for students that need Enlarged Print or Braille. All other orders for WIDA ACCESS for ELLs and WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs will be placed automatically based on Pre-ID information. Once the Pre-ID window closes, all orders will need to be placed directly with MetriTech (WIDA's material vendor).