



Testing Policy for Recently Arrived, First Year English-Learner Students

Spring 2018 (Revised 1-2-18)

The Michigan Department of Education is able to provide certain exceptions to the state assessment policy for first year, English learner (EL) students. Students that are identified as Limited English Proficient (LEP) in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) and have been enrolled in U.S. schools (excluding Puerto Rico) for 12 months or less at the time of taking a state assessment may be eligible to receive a one-time exception from having to take the English language arts portion of state assessments. Specific exception information is provided below for each assessment.

Regardless of the length of time enrolled in a U.S. school (excluding Puerto Rico), it is expected that each EL student was administered the WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT) or WIDA Screener and that the W-APT/WIDA Screener score has been provided in the Secure Site. It is also expected that each EL student be administered the summative WIDA ACCESS for ELLs if the student was enrolled prior to the most recent WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0/WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs test administration period. The summative WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 or the WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs should be administered annually while the student is LEP eligible.

In order for a student to be eligible for an exception from the ELA portion of a state assessment, the student needs to have taken the WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT) with their scores provided in the Secure Site, and that the student has taken the most recent administration of the summative WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 or WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs if enrolled prior to the test administration window.

Below is additional information on the ELA exception for ELs for each state assessment.

M-STEP Assessments

- Exceptions may be requested for the ELA content area only.

- Students meeting the exception criteria need to have issues submitted for each student requested AFTER the M-STEP test administration window, during the Verification of Not Tested window in the Secure Site.

MI-Access Assessments

- Exceptions may be requested for the "ELA Accessing Print" and "ELA Expressing Ideas" portions parts of the MI-Access Functional Independence assessment.
- Exceptions may also be requested for the MI-Access Participation and Supported Independence assessments in the Secure Site.
- Students meeting the exception criteria need to have issues submitted for each student requested AFTER the MI-Access test administration window, during the Verification of Not Tested window in the Secure Site.

SAT Assessments

- Ensure that students are listed on the Pre-Id Student Report. Then, request approval for providing math-only materials for eligible students through the College Board's Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) Online System. The SSD Online will approve math-only requests for first-year EL students as a state allowed accommodation. To submit a request, the SSD Coordinator should go to the State Allowed Accommodations Dashboard in the College Board SSD Online system and enter a new request. When submitting, choose EL-Math Only from the state allowed accommodations list. The accommodation will be automatically approved and students will test with a lime-colored test book. This will ensure the eligible EL exception students are tested with materials that will still yield their required valid math score. The SSD Coordinator will only use the scripts for the

math test in the SSD Coordinator manual when administering.

- Students meeting the exception criteria need to have a "ELA Only - EL Exception" not tested issue submitted for each student requested AFTER the SAT administration window, during the Verification of Not Tested window in the Secure Site.
- If the ELA Only – EL Exception not tested issue is accepted, then the student will be counted as participating in the ELA assessment but they will be excluded from ELA results calculations for accountability. However, their math-only score will be included in the state's accountability systems.
- If the ELA Only – EL Exception not tested issue is rejected, then the student will be counted as NOT participating in the ELA assessment and will be counted as NOT proficient in the ELA results calculations for accountability. However, their math-only score will be included in the state's accountability systems.
- Students that received a state allowed accommodation (do not take the ELA portions) will not receive a college-reportable SAT score.

For questions pertaining to the SSD system please call the College Board Michigan Educator Hotline at 1-866-870-3127.

ACT WorkKeys

- Schools/students meeting the exception criteria may elect not to participate in the "Reading for Information" and "Locating Information" portions of the WorkKeys assessment.
- It is not necessary to report issues during the Verification of Not Tested window for EL students that meet the exception criteria.
- Students that do not take the ELA portions of the WorkKeys will not receive a National Career Readiness Certificate-eligible score.

PSAT 8/9 & PSAT 10

- Ensure that students are listed on the Pre-Id Student Report. Then, request approval for providing math-only materials for eligible students through the College Board's Services

for Students with Disabilities (SSD) Online System. The SSD Online will approve math-only requests for first-year EL students as a state allowed accommodation. To submit a request, the SSD Coordinator should go to the State Allowed Accommodations Dashboard in the College Board SSD Online system and enter a new request. When submitting, choose EL-Math Only from the state allowed accommodations list. The accommodation will be automatically approved and students will test with a lime-colored test book. This will ensure the eligible EL exemption students are tested with materials that will still yield their required valid math score. The SSD Coordinator will only use the scripts for the math test in the SSD Coordinator manual when administering.

- For EL students that would otherwise have taken PSAT 8/9 or PSAT 10 and meet the exception criteria, it is not necessary to report issues during the Verification of Not Tested window as there will not be a Verification of Not Tested window for the PSAT 8/9 or PSAT 10.
- Students that do not take the ELA portions of the PSAT 8/9 or PSAT 10 will not receive a scholarship reportable ELA score.

For questions pertaining to the SSD system please call the College Board Michigan Educator Hotline at 1-866-870-3127.

WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 & WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs

An exception from this test is not available for EL students who have been enrolled in U.S. schools (excluding Puerto Rico) for 12 months or less as the intention of this assessment is to measure a student's language proficiency as described in the WIDA English Language Development (ELD) Standards Michigan utilizes for EL students.

W-APT & WIDA Screener

An exception from this test is not available for students who have been enrolled in U.S. schools (excluding Puerto Rico) for 12 months or less as the intention of this assessment is to screen incoming students for English language proficiency as well as identification and placement into EL programs/services.