WIDA Screener for Kindergarten
Quick Guide

Assessing English Language Proficiency

Accurate identification of Multilingual Learners (MLs) helps ensure Colorado districts and schools* provide a comprehensive English language acquisition program (s) best designed to meet the needs of its students. The WIDA Screener for Kindergarten is designed to provide an initial measure of a student's academic English Language Proficiency (ELP). Following Standardized Identification Procedures, this assessment is administered to potential MLs who are enrolled in kindergarten and first semester first graders, to assist educators in identifying students who are eligible for Language Instruction Educational Programs (LIEPs)**.

Screener for Kindergarten Features

➢ Individually administered paper-and-pencil flexible, on-demand test.

➢ Engaging story & 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 and score reports can be generated immediately after testing.

➢ Two-domain (Listening and Speaking) or four-domain (Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing) is dependent upon student's grade level. See pg. 2, Test Administration, for more information.

For Test Administrators:

- Obtain a WIDA Secure Portal Account from the District Assessment Coordinator

- Read the WIDA Screener for Kindergarten Test Administrator Manual (TAM)

- Read the Accessibility & Accommodations Manual

- Complete Online Training Courses

- Pass (80%) Certification Quizzes prior to administering or scoring the test

Accessibility & Accommodations

Follow guidelines on how to best support students taking WIDA Screener for Kindergarten found in the Accessibility and Accommodations Manual and the Blind/Visually Impaired and Deaf/Hard of Hearing Administration Guidance. These manuals help educators, and IEP/504 Plan Teams understand and use the test administration considerations, universal tools, and accommodations to produce valid assessment results for students.

Test Administrator's Training Requirements

Test Administrators (TAs) are required to complete the appropriate training courses prior to administrating and scoring. Training modules can be found by logging into the WIDA Secure Portal. In the portal, select Assessment Training. Then, find the WIDA Screener for Kindergarten: Administration and Scoring course and select Course Details. The Colorado Department of Education requires TAs fully re-certify every two years. If there is a district and/or school requirement to recertify yearly, educators administering or scoring Screener assessments must comply with local policy.

*In this document, the term "district and school" references any public local educational agency, the State Charter School Institute, as well as, public facility, online, and charter schools (Title 22, C.R.S. 22-1-101).
** New ML Enrollment guidance was released at the beginning of SY25-26, review this information starting on page 5 of the standardized identification procedure document prior to assessing students with current year ACCESS scores seen in CEDAR/COGNOS ML Historical data reports.

Kindergarten First Semester Administer Listening and Speaking Oral Language Scores	Kindergarten Second Semester Administer Listening Speaking Reading Writing Overall Scores	First Grade First Semester Administer Listening Speaking Reading Writing Overall Scores
NEP: 1.0, 1.5, 2.0	NEP: 1.0, 1.5, 2.0	NEP: 1.0, 1.5, 2.0
LEP: 2.5, 3.0, 3.5	LEP: 2.5, 3.0, 3.5	LEP: 2.5, 3.0, 3.5
PHLOTE: > 4.0	PHLOTE: > 4.0	PHLOTE: > 4.0

Test Administration

Given to students during enrollment, Screener for Kindergarten is an English language proficiency assessment that measures language development in the domains of listening, speaking, writing, and reading. It measures the student's ability to comprehend and communicate in English. Cut points guide educators in making NEP, LEP and Primary Home Language Other Than English (PHLOTE) determinations. Following the Colorado Standardized Identification procedures, Oral Language and Overall scores **and** a Body of Evidence (BOE) must be used when making initial identification and programming decisions.

Body of Evidence is student level data that demonstrates student's language proficiency. Educators who are responsible for collecting and evaluating local BOE must use cut scores/scoring rubrics that clearly show criteria for determining student's ELP level on various pieces of evidence. Examples of BOE include but are not limited to: responses provided during family interviews, student academic records, classroom observations, professional judgments from the SpEd, MTSS or other teams, previous student data available in CEDAR/COGNOS, and/or local or district and school assessments.

The estimated test administration time is 30 minutes (administering only listening and speaking domains). However, students who complete all items and tasks for each of the four language domains are likely to take approximately 45 minutes to test. Student and TA materials can be downloaded (print in color & double sided is recommended) at no cost from the WIDA Secure Portal or can be purchased through the WIDA Store.

Score Calculator

Tests are scored locally. Score sheets must be entered into the WIDA Screener for Kindergarten Score Calculator located on the main WIDA website. Add student scores to the online calculator to produce a printable, savable PDF score report. (This is a paper-based test, WIDA AMS will not be used).

WIDA Screener for Kindergarten is based on the 2012 Amplification of the WIDA ELD Standards. Visit the ELD Standards Framework page for more information. For more explanation about scores, proficiency levels, and how they can be used, refer to the WIDA Screener for Kindergarten Interpretive Guide. To view resources or ideas on how to share information about language testing and test scores with families, explore Family Engagement.

Secure & Save Reports

Districts and schools are strongly encouraged to review and comply with student data retention security and privacy policies. The School District Records Management Manual in the Colorado State Archives outlines procedures to securely store paper test kits and records/score reports and other relevant documentation used to identify multilingual learners.

As provided under SB21-268 and beginning with fiscal year 2021-2022, the English Language Learner funding factor will be included in the calculated total program funding for each district and school. Compliance audits including a review of documentation require districts and schools to retain Screener for Kindergarten score reports following guidance found in the English Language Learner Count Audit Resource Guide.