**Assessment and Testing**



The state of Minnesota forms part of the [**WIDA**](http://www.wida.us/index.aspx)(World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment) **Consortium**:

“The **WIDA Consortium** is a non-profit cooperative group whose purpose is to develop standards and assessments that meet and exceed the goals of No Child Left Behind (NCLB) and promote educational equity for English language learners (ELLs). Through standards, assessments, research, and professional development, WIDA provides meaningful tools and information to educators working with ELLs that are anchored in research-based practices for serving these diverse learners.”
(*WIDA.* <<http://www.wida.us/>> 2011)

In order to ensure that all English Learners in the Edgerton Public School District are making adequate progress in acquiring academic English and increasing English language proficiency, the school district uses resources developed by **WIDA**:

[**ACCESS for ELLs**](http://multilingual.mpls.k12.mn.us/uploads/access_for_ells.pdf)The ACCESS test is a secure English language proficiency test given annually to students in grades K-12 who have been identified as English Learners (ELs). Students are assessed in the four language domains of **Reading**, **Writing**, **Listening** and **Speaking**. The ACCESS test is only administered during the annual test window for the state of Minnesota. Based on the results of this assessment, the student will be assigned an English proficiency level. That level will be used to determine what EL Support services the student will receive at his/her school.

[**Alternate ACCESS for ELLs**](http://www.wida.us/assessment/alternateaccess.aspx)The Alternate ACCESS for ELLs is a secure English language proficiency test given annually to students in grades 1-12 who have been identified as ELs and have significant cognitive disabilities that limit their participation in the standard ACCESS test. Students are assessed in the four language domains of **Reading**, **Writing**, **Listening** and **Speaking**. The ACCESS test is only administered during the annual test window for the state of Minnesota. Based on the results of this assessment, the student will be assigned an English proficiency level. That level will be used to determine what EL Support services the student will receive at his/her school.

**K-**[**WAPT**](http://multilingual.mpls.k12.mn.us/uploads/wapt.pdf)The K-WAPT is an English proficiency placement test given that may be administered to incoming kindergarten students who have a home language other than English. This test is meant to assist with identification and placement of ELs. If the results of this placement test show that the student needs English language support, he/she will be recommended for language support by a licensed ESL teacher.

**WIDA 1-12 Screener**

The WIDA Screener is an assessment designed to provide an initial measure of a student’s English language proficiency in Grades 1–12. The purpose of this assessment is to help educators make decisions and identify whether a student is a candidate for English language support services.

[**WIDA M**](http://www.wida.us/assessment/MODEL/)**ODEL**
The WIDA MODEL (Measure of Developing English Language) is another assessment that can be used by educators as an identification test for ELs new to the district. The WIDA MODEL can also be used as a progress monitoring test that can be administered at any time during the school year, depending on the needs of the district, school, teacher, or student.

\*To learn more about MN state standards and guidelines regarding the education and assessment of English Learners, visit the Minnesota Department of Education's [English Learner page](http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/SchSup/EngLearnSup/EngLearnEducGuide/index.html).