

MD Assessment, Accessibility, & Accommodations Policy Manual for Students with Disabilities (SWD) Section 4B Crosswalk to ACCESS for ELLs (ACCESS)

MARYLAND GUIDANCE: ACCESS for ELLs is an online assessment for English learners (ELs) in grades 1 through 12 (with an option for students in grades 4-12 to take a paper-based Writing test). However, ELs in Kindergarten and ELs who are eligible to take the Alternate ACCESS for ELLs will continue to take the paper-based assessments. Additionally, ELs with disabilities may take the paper-based ACCESS for ELLs if indicated in their IEP or 504 Plan.

The Accessibility and Accommodations Manual and other resources related to accessibility and accommodations can be found on the WIDA website at <https://wida.wisc.edu/assess/accessibility>.

ACCESS for ELLs is an English language proficiency test; as such, it is a tool used to assess the construct of ELs' receptive (listening and reading) and productive (speaking and writing) skills in English. Because it focuses on language rather than on content-area knowledge and skills, some accessibility features and accommodations that might be appropriate for the classroom or content-area tests should not be used with ACCESS for ELLs as they would invalidate the construct being measured. This would result in students taking a test that is no longer measuring just their English language proficiency, making any interpretation or inferences from the scores invalid.

See IDEA (1997 and 2004) 34 CFR § 300.160 (b)(2)(i) and 34 CFR § 300.160 (b)(2)(ii) as excerpted below:

- (2) The State's (or, in the case of a district-wide assessment, the LEA's) guidelines must—
 - (i) Identify only those accommodations for each assessment that do not invalidate the score; and
 - (ii) Instruct IEP Teams to select, for each assessment, only those accommodations that do not invalidate the score.

NOTE: ACCESS for ELLs accommodations are available **ONLY for ELs with disabilities when they are listed in an approved IEP and 504 Plan.** The following accessibility features on Maryland state content assessments are accommodations on ACCESS for ELLs that are allowed **ONLY for ELs with disabilities.**

- 1t: Writing Tools
- 2c: Separate or Alternate Location

Not applicable for ACCESS for ELLs

- 1r: Text-to-Speech for the Mathematics and Science Assessments and Government (A student's SR/PNP for mathematics may specify text only or text and graphics inclusion orders. Text only inclusion order provides selected sections.)
- 1s: Human Reader or Human Signer for the Mathematics, Science and Government Assessment

KEY: COMPUTER-BASED TESTING (CBT) – Indicates which category of support is available for the ACCESS Computer-Based Testing
PAPER-BASED TESTING (PBT) – Indicates which category of support is available for the ACCESS Paper-Based Testing
NOT APPLICABLE (N/A) – Indicates which category of support is NOT ALLOWED for the ACCESS Assessments

Maryland Assessment, Accessibility, & Accommodations Policy Manual (The Manual), Issue date 10/1/2017	ACCESS for ELLs Accessibility and Accommodations Supplement Issued in September 2018	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking
1t: Writing Tools	WD: Word Processor or Similar Keyboarding Device to Respond to Test Items	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	N/A
2c: Separate or Alternate Location	NS: Test may be Administered in a Non-School Setting	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT
3a: Assistive Technology (Non-screen reader) (also a response accommodation)	Note: Use of Assistive Technology in the form of Augmentative/Alternative Communication (AAC) devices to respond to items is not considered an accommodation for ACCESS for ELLs, Kindergarten ACCESS for ELLs, or Alternate ACCESS for ELLs for ELs with significant cognitive disabilities.	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT
3b: Screen Reader Version					
3c: Refreshable Braille Display	BR: Braille	PBT	PBT	PBT	N/A
3d: Hard Copy Braille Edition	Note: Must get an approval from MSDE EL/Title III Office to order & administer.				
3e: Tactile Graphics					
3f: Large Print Edition	LP: Large Print	PBT	PBT	PBT	PBT
3g: Paper Based Edition (Alternative Representation – Paper Test)	Order the paper-version of ACCESS for ELLs. Refer to 4t as well.	PBT	PBT	PBT	PBT
3h: Closed Captioning of Multi-Media Passages					
3i: Text-to-Speech for ELA/Literacy including items, response options and passages	IR: In-Person Human Reader	CBT PBT	N/A	CBT PBT	CBT PBT
	RP: Repeat In-Person Human Reader	CBT PBT	N/A	CBT PBT	CBT PBT
3j: ASL Video for ELA/Literacy including items, response options and passages					
3k: Human Reader/Human Signer for ELA/Literacy, including items, response options and passages	Note: The four accommodations listed below are not allowed to be provided through a Human Signer.				
	IR: In-Person Human Reader	CBT PBT	N/A	CBT PBT	CBT PBT
	RP: Repeat In-Person Human Reader	CBT PBT	N/A	CBT PBT	CBT PBT
3l: American Sign Language (ASL) Video for Mathematics					
3m: Human Signer for Test Directions	SD: Interpreter Signs <u>Test Directions</u> in American Sign Language	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT
3n: Human Reader/Text-to-Speech including manual control of audio and repeat item audio	MC: Manual Control of Item Audio * Note: Must be pre-selected in the WIDA AMS for CBT.	CBT* PBT	N/A	CBT	CBT PBT

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	RA: Repeat Item Audio *Note: Must be pre-selected in the WIDA AMS for CBT.	CBT* PBT	N/A	CBT	CTB PBT
3o: Notes and Outlines	Accessibility Features for All				
3p: Partner Assisted Scanning					
3q: Unique Presentation Accommodations	UA: Unique Accommodations Note: The UA code is designated by MSDE EL/Title III Office. The form is on the WIDA MD page under Accommodations Documentation for English Learners with Disabilities: https://wida.wisc.edu/memberships/consortium/md .	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT
4a: Assistive Technology	Note: Use of Assistive Technology in the form of Augmentative/Alternative Communication (AAC) devices to respond to items is not considered an accommodation for ACCESS for ELLs, Kindergarten ACCESS for ELLs, or Alternate ACCESS for ELLs for ELs with significant cognitive disabilities.	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT
4b: Braille Notetaker	BR: Braille				
4c: Braillewriter	Note: Must get an approval from MSDE EL/Title III Office to order and administer.	PBT	PBT	PBT	N/A
4d: Calculation Device and Mathematics Tools (on Calculator sections of the Mathematics Assessments)					
4e: Calculation Device and Mathematics Tools (on non-Calculator sections of the Mathematics Assessments)					
4f: ELA/Literacy Selected Response Speech-to-Text					
4g: ELA/Literacy Selected Response Human Scribe					
4h: ELA/Literacy Selected Response Human Signer					
4i: ELA/Literacy Selected Response Assistive Technology Device	Note: Use of Assistive Technology in the form of Augmentative/Alternative Communication (AAC) devices to respond to items is not considered an accommodation for ACCESS for ELLs, Kindergarten ACCESS for ELLs, or Alternate ACCESS for ELLs for ELs with significant cognitive disabilities.	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT
4j: Mathematics, Science and Government Response Speech-to-Text					
4k: Mathematics, Science and Government Response Human Scribe					
4l: Mathematics, Science and Government Response Human Signer					

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4m: Mathematics, Science and Government Response Assistive Technology Device					
4n: ELA/Literacy Constructed Response Speech-to-Text					
4o: ELA/Literacy Constructed Response Human Scribe					
4p: ELA/Literacy Constructed Response Human Signer					
4q: ELA/Literacy Constructed Response Assistive Technology Device	Note: Use of Assistive Technology in the form of Augmentative/Alternative Communication (AAC) devices to respond to items is not considered an accommodation for ACCESS for ELLs, Kindergarten ACCESS for ELLs, or Alternate ACCESS for ELLs for ELs with significant cognitive disabilities.	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT
4r: Monitor Test Response	Administrative Consideration for All				
4s: Word Prediction – External Device on the ELA/Literacy Assessment					
4t: Answers Recorded in Test Book	ACCESS for ELLs is an online assessment for ELs in grades 1-12 (with an option for ELs in grades 4-12 to take a paper-based Writing test). Kindergarten ACCESS for ELLs & Alternate ACCESS for ELLs are given on paper only. Note: ELs with disabilities who take the paper-based ACCESS for ELLs per their IEP or 504 Plan write answers in test book. Refer to 3g as well.				
4u: Recording Devices	RD: Student Responds Using a Recording Device, Which is Played Back and Transcribed by Student	N/A	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	N/A
4v: ACCESS for ELLs Scribe	SR: Scribed Response Note: Review Appendix D: Scribe Guidance in the <i>2018-19 Accessibility and Accommodations Supplement</i> , pages 33-34. https://wida.wisc.edu/sites/default/files/resource/ACCESS-Accessibility-Accommodations-Supplement.pdf	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	N/A
4w: Unique Response Accommodations	UA: Unique Accommodations Note: The UA code is designated by MSDE EL/Title III Office. The form is on the WIDA MD page under Accommodations Documentation for English Learners with Disabilities: https://wida.wisc.edu/memberships/consortium/md .	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT
5a: Extended Time	EM: Extended time of a test domain over multiple days	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT
	ES: Extended Speaking Test Response Time *Note: Must be pre-selected in the WIDA AMS for CBT.	N/A	N/A	N/A	CBT* PBT

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5b: Unique Timing and Scheduling Accommodations	UA: Unique Accommodations Note: The UA code is designated by MSDE EL/Title III Office. The form is on the WIDA MD page under Accommodations Documentation for English Learners with Disabilities: https://wida.wisc.edu/memberships/consortium/md .	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT	CBT PBT