

WIDA ACCESS

Understanding Your Child's Scores





WIDA ACCESS is an English language proficiency test that measures English language skills in the four language domains of Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. WIDA ACCESS is given to students in grades K–12 who are identified as English language learners.

How Are WIDA ACCESS Test Scores Used?

Testing helps teachers understand if students still benefit from English language support services. To track your child's learning, teachers review both their schoolwork and their WIDA ACCESS test scores. You can use test information to advocate for your child at school.

School districts use WIDA ACCESS scores to monitor student progress and meet federal and state accountability requirements.

What Are the Different Scores on My Child's WIDA ACCESS Individual Student Report?

Language Domain
Listening 
Speaking 
Reading 
Writing 
Oral Language 50% Listening + 50% Speaking
Literacy 50% Reading + 50% Writing
Comprehension 70% Reading + 30% Listening
Overall* 35% Reading + 35% Writing + 15% Listening + 15% Speaking

Example of how the score categories appear on the Individual Student Report.

The Individual Student Report shows your child's WIDA ACCESS scores in eight different categories.

Language Domain

Four of these categories are the language domains of **Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing**. Students use listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills to learn in their classes, share information, and discuss ideas.

Composite Scores

The four language domain scores are combined to create four additional score types:

- The **Oral Language** category is a combination of your child's Listening and Speaking scores.
- The **Literacy** category is a combination of your child's Reading and Writing scores.
- The **Comprehension** category is a combination of your child's Listening and Reading scores. It depends more on the Reading score than on the Listening score.
- The **Overall** category is a combination of all four language domain scores. It depends more on the Reading and Writing scores than on the Listening and Speaking scores.

Proficiency Level (Possible 1.0-6.0)						Scale Score (Possible 100-600) and Confidence Band See Interpretive Guide for Score Reports for definitions					
1	2	3	4	5	6	100	200	300	400	500	600
2.2						283					
2.5						271					
2.9						334					
4.7						389					

Example of how proficiency level scores and scale scores appear on the Individual Student Report.

Proficiency Level Scores and Scale Scores

For each of the eight categories on the Individual Student Report, there are two scores:

- **Proficiency level scores** place your child’s current skills within the six WIDA English language proficiency levels. (Proficiency levels are not related to a student’s grade level.) The bottom of the Individual Student Report describes the language skills typical of your child’s proficiency level.
- **Scale scores** are precise measures of how your child did on the test. Teachers use these scores to understand how much your child’s English language skills have grown since the last time your child took WIDA ACCESS.

Questions You Can Ask Your Child’s Teachers

- Is my child making progress in building English language skills?
- Besides scores from WIDA ACCESS, what other information do you use to measure progress?
- How do you decide when my child stops receiving English language support services?
- What can my child and I do at home to work on my child’s English skills?

