

What Is WIDA Alternate Screener?

WIDA Alternate Screener is a pencil-and-paper test that helps teachers identify if students with the most significant cognitive disabilities in grades K-12 are English learners. An English learner is a student who is formally identified as needing language supports to successfully engage with academic content in English.

Why Is My Child Taking WIDA Alternate Screener?

You took a survey and answered questions about the language you use at home. Based on your answers, your child's teachers think your child may be an English learner. Your child will take WIDA Alternate Screener to confirm if they are an English learner.

How Are WIDA Alternate Screener Results Used?

WIDA Alternate Screener test results are used by your child's teachers to help decide if your child is an English learner.

How Long Is the WIDA Alternate Screener Test?

The test itself should take less than 30 minutes to complete, although testing times may be different based on individual student needs. There are a total of nine questions spread across four language areas (Listening, Reading, Speaking, Writing).



Getting Ready for WIDA Alternate Screener

- Your child's teachers may ask you questions about your child's preferred methods of communication and language at home.
- Your child does not need to study for WIDA Alternate Screener.
- Talk with your child's teachers about when you will receive test results and how your child's school uses those results.

If Your Child Is an English Learner, Here Are Questions You Can Ask Their Teachers

- What will it look like for my child to receive both language services and special education services?
- How do you include children's languages and cultures at school?
- How can my family support our child's language development at home?
- When will my child stop receiving English language support?

