

2021-2022 Fact Sheet

ALTERNATE ACCESS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELLs)



The Alternate ACCESS for ELLs meets New Mexico's federal requirement to provide an annual assessment of academic English language proficiency for ELLs with the most significant cognitive disabilities as designated through their Individualized Education Plan (IEP).



Who takes Alternate ACCESS for ELLs in 2021-2022?

The Alternate ACCESS for ELLs assessment is administered to English learners with the most significant cognitive disabilities whose special education IEP designate it as the appropriate English language proficiency assessment. **This test should not be administered to students who have exited EL status.** For additional guidance, view the [Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Participation Criteria Decision Tree](#).



What does the test measure?

Alternate-ACCESS for ELLs measures a student's overall proficiency and his or her progress towards English language proficiency in four domains: Listening, Reading, Speaking, and Writing.



When is the test given?

The assessment is given during a 7-week window between January 18, 2022 – March 11, 2022. Access the [Online Interactive Calendar](#) for all New Mexico assessment administration dates.



How is the test administered?

- Alternate-ACCESS for ELLs is a large-print, paper-based test administered individually to a student.
- Each domain is administered separately with each domain taking up to 20 minutes to administer.
- Test time may vary depending on the student's grade and communication mode.



What are the Proficiency Levels

A1 Initiating	A2 Exploring	A3 Engaging	P1 Entering	P2 Emerging	P3 Developing (Writing only)
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Students must achieve an overall composite score \geq P1 to exit EL status.



Where can I access reports?

Access to reports can be found in the [WIDA AMS](#).

For additional information, visit the New Mexico Alt-ACCESS page at: <https://wida.wisc.edu/memberships/consortium/nm>