

Date: April 12, 2016

To: Local Education Agencies (LEAs)

From: WIDA Client Relations and Assessment Departments

RE: WIDA Screener Information

Beginning April 4, content for the WIDA Screener training course is available including information about logistics, scoring and reporting, accommodations, and materials and resources. The training course is located under the secure login on the WIDA website.

WIDA will release the full training course for the paper-based WIDA Screener by June 30, 2016, which is also the date to begin ordering the paper test materials. The paper-based WIDA Screener test materials will be ordered from WCEPS.

WIDA continues to develop the WIDA Online Screener in collaboration with DRC. More information about the release date will be shared later this spring.

Important information about the training components for the WIDA Screener:

1. All resources for scoring the Speaking and Writing responses are found within the Training Course. These training materials for the Speaking and Writing domains are relevant, regardless of whether your state will administer the paper-based or online WIDA Screener.
2. The Speaking domain tests on ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 and WIDA Screener are very similar, so if educators are certified to give the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Speaking test they do not need to retake the WIDA Screener Speaking training and quizzes.
3. The new writing training modules explain how to evaluate students' responses to WIDA Screener writing tasks. The writing tasks that appear on WIDA Screener are very similar to those of ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 and the Writing Scoring Scale used to evaluate WIDA Screener writing responses is the same as that used for ACCESS for ELLs 2.0.
4. Certificates for completing the Speaking and Writing quizzes are available within the Screener Training Course. Beginning April 1, the certificates will be slightly revised to contain information to show quizzes completed for both ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 and the WIDA Screener. The new look of the certificates will not impact any past quizzes completed by individuals. The certificates will continue to list all of the Speaking and Writing quizzes passed for ACCESS for ELLs and the WIDA Screener.

Please feel free to contact WIDA Client Services Center (help@wida.us or call 1-866-276-7735) if you have any questions about the WIDA Screener.