



**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents
Federal Program Directors
ESEA Title III MLP Coordinators
PowerSchool IT Contacts
District Test Coordinator - ELL
Report Card/Accountability Coordinators

FROM: Jewell Stanley
Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability

DATE: October 15, 2024

RE: Multilingual Learners Who Take WIDA Alternate ACCESS

During the 2023-24 school year, the updated version of WIDA Alternate ACCESS was administered to multilingual learners (MLs) who qualify for alternate assessments in grades K-12. Due to this update, WIDA performed a standards setting, and WIDA Alternate ACCESS was rescaled. The scale scores on Alternate ACCESS from the 2023-24 administration are not directly comparable to scale scores from the 2022-23 administration. Please see the [WIDA Alternate ACCESS Updates](#) webpage for additional information.

Districts have now received the updated WIDA Alternate ACCESS Individual Student Reports (ISRs) for multilingual learners who took WIDA Alternate ACCESS during the 2023-24 administration. The ISRs contain the new WIDA Alternate ACCESS proficiency levels.

WIDA Alternate ACCESS Proficiency Levels

Prior Proficiency Levels for WIDA Alternate ACCESS	New Proficiency Levels for WIDA Alternate ACCESS
A1	1 (Entering)
A2	2 (Emerging)
A3	3 (Developing)
P1	4 (Expanding)
P2	5 (Bridging)

October 15, 2024

The new proficiency (exit) criterion for WIDA Alternate ACCESS is a proficiency level 3 (Developing) or higher. At this time, districts should only update the “English Proficiency Level (PLs)” field to “M1 - 1st Year Monitor” in PowerSchool for students who met the new proficiency criterion listed above.

Additional updates to PowerSchool coding for students who scored a “1-Entering” and “2-Emerging” are on hold until the appropriate updates have been released (estimated December 2024). Further information will be provided to Title III/Multilingual Learner Program Coordinators and PowerSchool/IT Coordinators at that time.

Please use the most updated South Carolina Title III: Proficiency Codes for the Multilingual Learner Program matrix. The matrix can be found on the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) [ESEA, Title III Multilingual Learner and Immigrant Program](#) website under the PowerSchool drop-down menu. Updates to this matrix will be posted when the changes are released in PowerSchool.

These updates only apply to WIDA Alternate ACCESS.

For questions or additional information, please contact the SCDE Title III/Multilingual Learner Program office at TitleIIIMLP@ed.sc.gov.