

WIDA ACCESS and WIDA Alternate ACCESS Less Than 4 Domains (LT4D) Guidance

English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessments

Overview:

For students who are multilingual learners with a disability (MLWD), one or more of the domain(s) assessed on WIDA ACCESS or WIDA Alternate ACCESS may not be accessible, even with universal support and/or accommodations. As a reminder, an MLWD is required to make an earnest attempt at all domains. If the student cannot access a domain due to his or her disability, the individualized education program (IEP)/504 team may determine that the domain(s) assessed is not appropriate given the characteristics of the student's disability. The IEP/504 team may request that a student be exempt from one or two of the domain(s) assessed (Listening, Speaking, Reading, or Writing) on WIDA ACCESS or WIDA Alternate ACCESS. To make this request, the IEP/504 team should submit a WIDA ACCESS LT4D form along with IEP/504 documentation to the District Test Coordinator (DTC). The DTC will complete and sign the LT4D form(s) and submit to the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessment Program Manager for review and final determination.

Students who are deaf or hard of hearing may be unable to access the Speaking and Listening domains in WIDA ACCESS or WIDA Alternate ACCESS due to the nature of their disability. Students who are blind may be unable to access Speaking and Reading due to the nature of their disability. As a reminder, a scribe is an allowable accommodation if the student needs to dictate his or her responses, either verbally using an external speech-to-text device, an augmentative/assistive communication device (e.g., picture/word board), or by gesturing, pointing, or eye gaze. *WIDA recommends that students who use the Braille form should not participate in the Speaking domain. More information can be found in the WIDA Accessibility and Accommodations Manual in the [WIDA Secure Portal](#).*

An LT4D Request form must be submitted annually for students who may continue to be considered 'LT4D.' All requests must be submitted by close of business on **December 19, 2025**. Only requests for newly enrolled students will be accepted after this date. A committee will review submissions. Determination letters that allow or deny the request, including procedures for authorized requests, will be sent before the testing window opens.

For general questions related to the administration of ELP Assessments, contact Meghan Walters-Branham (mgwalters@ed.sc.gov). If you have questions or concerns about the administration of WIDA ACCESS, WIDA Alternate ACCESS, or WIDA ACCESS Kindergarten requests regarding LT4D, and accommodations and accessibility supports, contact Dann Publicover (dfpublicover@ed.sc.gov). For questions about MLWD, contact Sara Garrett (sgarrett@ed.sc.gov).

Less Than Four Domains Flowchart and Checklist

Student Name: _____

Review the *WIDA Accessibility and Accommodations Manual* in the [WIDA Secure Portal](#) and complete the [WIDA Accessibility and Accommodations checklist](#).

Can the test be administered with universal support, administrative considerations, and/or allowable accommodation? (Staff initial and date by selection)

- If the answer is “Yes,” then administer all domains
- If the answer is “No:”

The IEP should be reviewed by the case manager, the IEP team, and the LEA to determine if the student cannot access the domain due to the characteristics of the student’s disability. This does not include lack of exposure to effective instruction (academic and/or functional), level of academic/functional proficiency, and/or lack of exposure to or proficiency with the use of allowable accommodations.

Can the student access all domains? (Staff initial and date by selection)

- If the answer is “Yes,” then administer all domains.
- If the answer is “No:”

Submit the student’s IEP to the DTC to confirm that the student cannot access the domain(s) due to the characteristics of the student’s disability, even with allowable accommodations.

- The DTC will complete the LT4D Request for English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessment form (see below). You must receive written approval from the DTC **and** SCDE to administer less than four domains.

Submit request form for Less Than Four Domains for English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessment along with all required documentation to SCDE no later than December 19, 2025* (see below).

- SCDE provides approval - Administer eligible domains and follow directions on the approval letter regarding procedures to follow in WIDA AMS.
- SCDE does NOT provide approval- Administer all eligible domains of the assessment.
- Administer all eligible assessments. Failure to do so will result in no score for the assessment.

Review the student’s IEP to confirm accommodation is appropriate.

- Consult with related services (SLP, AT, etc.) to address the student’s language needs.
- Conduct an IEP meeting (as appropriate) to ensure language goals, supplementary aids and services, and accommodations target student deficits.

Less Than Four Domains (LT4D) Request for ELP Assessments

Submission Instructions

All submissions will be completed using a digital form at the following link:

https://scde.formstack.com/forms/access_lt4d_request

The section where the school representative name and district test coordinator name are inserted will serve as a digital signature.