



**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Test Coordinators
ELL District Test Coordinators
District Test Coordinators for Alternate Assessment

FROM: Elizabeth Jones, Director
Office of Assessment

DATE: October 26, 2016

RE: ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Accommodations Crosswalk

South Carolina will administer the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 assessment to all English Language Learners (ELLs), including those with disabilities. The Alternate ACCESS for ELLs will be administered to students who meet the eligibility criteria for alternate assessment. An Individualized Education Program (IEP) team must determine how a student with disabilities who is also an ELL will participate in the assessment. A student's IEP will determine which, if any, accommodations will be allowed.

There are resources pertaining to accessibility and accommodations on WIDA's Web site, <https://www.wida.us/Assessment/accessibility.aspx>. Teachers and IEP teams must consult the WIDA accessibility and accommodations Web page for information on the delivery of accommodations, specific administration directions, and subtests for accommodations that are available. South Carolina students may use any of the accommodations allowed by WIDA. Note that WIDA includes the use of a paper format as an administrative consideration available to all students. In South Carolina the paper format is available only to students who have that accommodation identified in their IEP. All other students must participate using the online format unless the State Board of Education has approved a waiver for their district.

The language used to identify an accommodation for ACCESS is not always consistent with the accommodations language used on statewide assessments. To help teams identify the correct accommodations a crosswalk of accommodations language is provided in the attached charts titled *Accommodations Crosswalk for ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS*. The test has multiple accommodations that provide oral administration support. Teams should review each of these accommodations closely to determine which accommodations provide the student with the

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appropriate level of support to access the assessment. It is possible for students to have different combinations of oral administration accommodations based on the individual students' needs.

For questions regarding accommodations on ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 please contact Anne Mruz at amruz@ed.sc.gov or 803-734-8034. Questions regarding Alternate ACCESS for ELLs can be directed to Jill Christmus at mchristmus@ed.sc.gov or 803-734-8048. If you have questions regarding ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 please contact Leslie Dawes at ldawes@ed.sc.gov or by telephone at 803-734-4944.

Attachment