



Illinois  
State Board of  
Education

# Multilingual Department

May 21, 2020

## Announcements

We have answered the most common questions our department has received regarding English Learners and English Learner services, funding, parents/community, licensing, and the Seal of Biliteracy during remote learning in the [English Learners and English Learner Services During Remote Learning FAQ document](#).

The [PreK-12 English Learner Provisional Identification and Placement Procedures During Remote Learning document](#), provides districts with step-by-step instructions for provisionally screening and placing English Learners via digital means when face-to-face screening is not possible, such as during the current COVID-19 emergency. Additionally, English, Spanish, Polish and Arabic versions of the parent/guardian interview and parent notification is also located at the link above.

### Illinois Advisory Council on Bilingual Education

The Illinois State Board of Education is seeking applications for members in the Illinois Advisory Council on Bilingual Education (IACBE). For more information on IACBE [click here](#). If you are interested in applying for consideration to IACBE please send a letter of interest with your CV/resume to [multilingual@isbe.net](mailto:multilingual@isbe.net) by June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

### Reports

The 2019-20 Bilingual Education Program Delivery Report (PDR) is now **available for completion in IWAS**. The districts that received \$5,000 or more in state Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) for EL services and/or federal Title III LIEP funds in FY 2020 **MUST** submit this report on IWAS **no later than July 31, 2020**. For more information, including a list of required districts to report, [click here](#).

## ISBE-Sponsored Workshops

### FREE UPCOMING SY20 WIDA WORKSHOPS AND WEBINARS

For more information and registration, click [here](#).

### Webinars

TOPIC	DATE	LOCATION
Classroom Educators: Engaging Newcomer Multilingual Learners	<b>Opens:</b> April 6, 2020 <b>Ends:</b> August 31, 2020 *Complete time is 2 hours	eWorkshop

## IRC-ISBE FREE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING!

The Illinois Resource Center (IRC) offers these free professional learning opportunities to Illinois educators with support from the Illinois State Board of Education the catalog of February – June 2020 IRC-ISBE Free Professional Learning Opportunities is [here](#)! As you plan for the coming school year, make sure to consider these dates. To access archived professional learning sessions [click here](#).

### WIDA Early Years

Early Childhood Professional Learning (ECPL) continues to provide Professional development during remote learning. Illinois educators continue to have access to the WIDA Early Years online learning modules that focus on young multilingual learners and their families. In addition to the modules, Tammy King, ECPL Program Coordinator and Lorena Mancilla, Director of WIDA Early Years have a session on May 27 on language-focused approaches to engage with families of multilingual learners. For more information on this webinar and how to access to the modules, click [here](#).

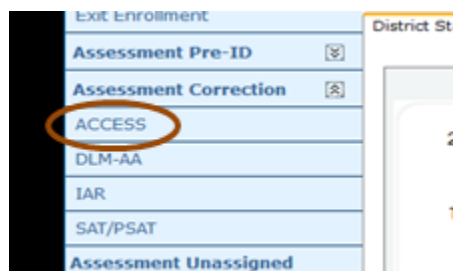
### EQUITABLE ACCESS TO EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE: FRAMING SERVICES FOR ENGLISH LEARNERS IN ILLINOIS

The Multilingual Department in conjunction with the Illinois Resource Center has developed a Technical Assistance (TA) website based on the six elements from *Equitable Access to Educational Excellence: Framing Services for English Learners in Illinois*. The TA website contains resources within each of these six areas and can be found [here](#).

## Screening and Testing

### ACCESS

#### NEW! ACCESS Corrections and Data Review



Preliminary results for the ACCESS for ELLs Assessment will be posted for review in the Student Information System (SIS) on May 7, 2020. This is our opportunity to find and correct any errors before final reports are printed and shipped to schools. The review period is May 7 to May 27, 2020.

Demographic corrections for ACCESS can be made in SIS now through August 14th, 2020. This is done in SIS>Assessment Corrections>ACCESS.

Assessment data corrections do not change a student's ongoing demographic data in their SIS record.

In addition, ACCESS Percentile Growth Reports for 2018-2019 (published by WIDA) are available in the WIDA Secure Portal Dashboard. WIDA Secure Portal accounts with district-level permission can access the Dashboard and these reports.

Direct any questions regarding the ACCESS Preliminary Data Review or the ACCESS Percentile Growth Reports to either Barry Pedersen – [bpederse@isbe.net](mailto:bpederse@isbe.net) or Trevor Cottle – [tcottle@isbe.net](mailto:tcottle@isbe.net)

#### NEW! WIDA AMS and 'Spring Cleaning'

Those district personnel that have experience with WIDA AMS, the screener and ACCESS management system, will want to view the recorded webinar regarding changes to the platform. Most of the changes are cosmetic, but the important item is that when the new look is rolled out on June 25, 2020 the existing data will be read-only. If there are existing students who have not had their assessments scored, they need to be completed

prior to June 25 or districts will be unable to complete the students screening. The webinar is in the WIDA Secure Portal in the [Download Library](#).

### **NEW!** Interested in Alternate ACCESS for ELLs?

WIDA will be revamping the [Alternate ACCESS for ELLs](#) assessment over the next four years. If you are interested in learning more information about this work, providing feedback on the current Alternate ACCESS for ELLs design, or being notified of opportunities for involvement in development activities, please respond to this [short survey](#).

## **OTHER OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES**

### **Call for Nominations: 2020-21 WIDA Fellows**

WIDA is announcing a call for nominations for the second class of WIDA Fellows. The WIDA Fellows program brings expert teachers and WIDA professional learning specialists together in a collaborative effort to enhance the development of WIDA professional learning products and services. In establishing these fellowships, WIDA formally acknowledges the invaluable role of exemplary teachers of bilingual and multilingual learners in advancing the field in collaboration with professional development and research partners. All nominees must be exemplary teachers of bilingual and/or multicultural learners.

To learn more about the WIDA Fellows program and/or nominate an educator, visit the [WIDA Fellows](#) page on the WIDA website. No self-nominations, please.

Please contact WIDA if you have questions.

WIDA Client Services

WIDA at the Wisconsin Center for Education Research

866-276-7735

[help@wida.us](mailto:help@wida.us)

### **Continuing Education Resources (#KEEPLARNING)**

The Illinois State Board of Education curated free resources to assist districts, teachers, and parents during this unprecedented time. The intent is to provide free or temporarily free learning resources for teachers and parents to support student learning while Illinois' schools are closed. These resources do not represent an endorsement or recommendation of curriculum or eLearning systems. The Multilingual Department added resources to assist our EL students, teachers, parents, and staff. We would also like to thank Eulalia Valdez, EL Director for Berkeley SD 87 and Suzy Dees, Director for Professional Learning for West 40 ISC #2 for the additional recommendation of resources. For more information, [click here](#).

### **Illinois Resource Center's (IRC) Remote Learning Resources**

Maggie Essig from the Illinois Resource Center has curated a document with additional resources for ELs during remote learning. You can find it [here](#).

### **WIDA Resources**

The [WIDA COVID-19](#) page on the WIDA website has been updated with a resources section. Resource topics include tips for parents and families, educator connection and collaboration, WIDA staff recommended resources, and mental health and staying well.

***Fifteenth Annual Statewide Summit for Bilingual Parents- In-Person:Cancelled***

More Information [Click Here](#)

***2020 WIDA Annual Conference Update- CANCELLED***

The health and safety of attendees, WIDA staff, and the communities we serve remain a top priority and WIDA has conducted frequent risk assessments as new information about the pandemic has become available. With heavy hearts, WIDA has made the difficult decision to cancel the in-person 2020 WIDA Annual Conference scheduled to take place in Denver, CO on October 26-29. WIDA knows that the WIDA Annual Conference is a valuable professional development opportunity for educators of English learners and although we will not be able to meet in-person to share best practices and network as planned, WIDA is currently exploring options to host the conference virtually. WIDA will continue to post updates on the [WIDA Annual Conference COVID-19 Updates](#) webpage.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate through this unfamiliar situation. And most importantly, thank you for your continued support of students and dedication to the field of multilingual education.