

A PARENT'S GUIDE TO ACCESS 2.0

(Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State to State)

Assessments provide valuable information for students, parents and educators on whether students have mastered grade level and content standards and are on track to graduate prepared for the 21st century. These assessment results are intended to provide one measure in a body of evidence of your child's academic progress.



WHAT IS ACCESS 2.0?

ACCESS 2.0 is an annual summative assessment that assesses social and academic English language development in the areas of Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking. It is a state required assessment that meets the federal requirements for monitoring English Learners. This is administered online and will replace the previous paper pencil version beginning in the spring of 2016. All students in grades K-12 who have been identified as English learners are required to take the assessment.

If your child is in grades 1-12, he/she will take 4 sections online:

- Listening – Your child will hear audio prompts and see visual prompts on the computer and respond to multiple choice questions.
- Reading – Your child will read passages on the computer with graphics and respond to multiple choice questions.
- Writing – Your child will hear audio prompts and see visual prompts on the computer and type their response. Students in grades 1-3 will write their response into a test booklet.
- Speaking – Your child will hear audio prompts and see visual prompts on the computer and record their spoken response into the computer using a headset equipped with a microphone.

If your child is in Kindergarten, he/she will take all four parts of the test using a paper and pencil test. A paper based test is available at all grade levels for any student who requires one, including the writing.



WHEN IS MY CHILD BEING TESTED?

This assessment will be administered between **January 11th and February 12th**. For specific test dates for your student, please check with your child's teacher. Students will spend approximately 2 hours and 45 minutes on the entire test.

January

S	M	T	W	TR	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February

S	M	T	W	TR	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



WHAT SCORE(S) WILL MY CHILD RECEIVE?

A parent score report will be sent home in May with specific information about your child's performance. You will receive a total of 8 scores for your child. The scores are reported in 6 proficiency levels.

1 – Entering	2 – Beginning	3 – Developing	4 – Expanding	5 – Bridging	6 - Reaching
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You will receive a separate score for Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking. From these, the following composite scores are derived:

- Oral Language – combines speaking (50%) and listening (50%)
- Literacy – reading (50%) and writing (50%)
- Comprehension – listening (30%) and reading (70%)
- Overall Score - listening (15%), speaking (15%), reading (35%), and writing (35%).



HOW WILL THESE SCORES BE USED?

ACCESS 2.0 scores will be used to inform teachers of the level of English language proficiency of each student. This will aid in determining the type of instruction that is most appropriate for students. It will also be used to determine when an English learner is ready to be placed in mainstream English classes. An Overall proficiency level of 5.0 or higher as well as a Literacy score of 5.0 or higher is required for students to be exited from English Language Acquisition services.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information about the standards assessed with this assessment, visit the following WIDA web page <https://www.wida.us/downloadLibrary.aspx> and view the Family Webinars under the standards heading.

We encourage you to be involved in your child's education. Please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher for ways you can help your child at home and availability of testing accommodations.

We also encourage you to go to <http://standards.dpsk12.org/standards-resources/> to find helpful information, including:

- A Parent's Guide to Technology
- Information for English Learners
- Colorado state resources

If you have questions or concerns about assessments, please contact your child's school directly or call Family Constituency Services at (720) 423-3054.