

# WIDA K Screener

## Administration

In keeping with the recommendations of WIDA and numerous early childhood education experts, the Oklahoma State Department of Education has adopted the following changes to the identification process using the WIDA Kindergarten Screener.

### Initial Administration

- **Kindergarten 1st semester:** Potential EL students are administered **only the oral language domain (Speaking and Listening) section** of the WIDA Screener for Kindergarten. An Oral Composite score of 5.0 for WIDA Screener for Kindergarten or higher is considered English Language Proficient/Not EL. A Composite/Overall score of 4.5 or below is considered Not English Language Proficient/EL.
- **Kindergarten 2nd semester through 1st semester 1st grade:** Potential EL students are administered **all four domains (Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing)** of the WIDA Screener for Kindergarten. A Composite/Overall score of 5.0 for WIDA Screener for Kindergarten or higher is considered English Language Proficient/Not EL. A Composite/Overall score of 4.5 or below is considered Not English Language Proficient/EL.

**Note:** First semester of kindergarten is considered from initial enrollment through December 31st of the student's kindergarten year and second semester is from January 1st onward. When testing only oral language domains of Speaking and Listening, an Oral Composite score is calculated using the [WIDA Screener for Kindergarten Score Calculator](#).

### Early Administration Recommendations

If you are administering the test to students preceding their initial enrollment in kindergarten, the earliest recommended testing window is from **mid-April to June**. Administration of the test earlier than mid-April may not support accurate decision-making about these young students' English language development. For testing between mid-April to June, **LEAs will administer the oral language domains (Speaking and Listening) section only**. Additionally, the following conditions should be considered to provide the best testing experience for students:

- Test in a space that is familiar to the student.
- The test administrators should be persons with whom the students are familiar.
- Allow for additional breaks, as needed.
- Allow for testing over multiple days, if needed.
- Encourage rescheduling of the test session if the students do not engage or become upset.



## Best Practices in Kindergarten Screener Administration

LEA staff should note that the performance of a kindergarten-aged student on the Kindergarten Screener may be heavily influenced by interpersonal factors unrelated to the focus of the assessment. A student in this age group may have extremely limited or no experience with formal assessment and may exhibit reservation and situational anxiety if placed in an unknown environment and/or with an unfamiliar adult administering the assessment. As such, LEAs are strongly encouraged to implement the following best practices prior to K Screener administration:

- Introduce and allow the student to explore the testing environment
- Ensure the student has experienced one or more positive interactions with the test administrator(s)
- Provide one or more structured classroom activities that align to the assessment's administrative format and process

## Potential EL Conflicts for Proficient Kindergartners

Due to paper-only format of the K Screener assessment, a participating student demonstrating English language proficiency will generate an EL conflict in the Accountability Reporting application when **all** the following conditions are met:

- The student was identified as an English Learner in their Pre-K year and assigned 2349/EL/Limited English Proficient or 1637/LEP/ELL Declined LEA EL Services in the local student information system.
- The student was administered the WIDA Screener for Kindergarten in their kindergarten year or first semester of first grade and achieved a Composite/Overall score of 5.0 or above.
- The student was assigned 1634/Fluent English (qualified as non-EL Bilingual) or 1633/Native English Speaker (not qualified as non-EL Bilingual) status in the local student information system. *Please review the [EL AND NON-EL BILINGUAL IDENTIFICATION PROCESS GUIDANCE](#) prior to coding.*

In these cases, the LEA will need to upload the student's K Screener scoring documentation through the [Kindergarten Screener Proficiency Score Smartsheet](#) in order to address the conflict. The conflict will remain until Accountability is able to update the scores. In cases where there are multiple student assessment scores, the LEA can attach an excel sheet at the bottom of the [Kindergarten Screener Proficiency Score Smartsheet](#).



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Concerns for Students Proficient on Oral Domains

Local school officials with concerns about kindergarten students who scored proficient on the initial K Screener administration, who have received a semester of formal instruction, and who are showing evidence of a language barrier thus impeding access to grade-level instruction and standards may consider rescreening potential EL students in the second semester of kindergarten in all four domains. An LEA wishing to rescreen a student who previously scored proficient on the oral domains of K Screener must complete the following:

- 1) Complete the [Kindergarten Reidentification Form](#) with relevant student data as justification for rescreening.
- 2) Have relevant LEA staff review the student data including an EL representative, classroom teacher, site administrator, special education representative (if applicable) and other relevant staff as appropriate and sign.
- 3) Rescreen the student with all four domains\* of either the WIDA Screener for Kindergarten or the WIDA MODEL.
- 4) Attach the [Kindergarten Reidentification Form](#) to the student's HLS, and keep a copy in the student's cumulative folder.

### Considerations:

- If a district determines that a student needs to be re-screened during the WIDA test administration, the student is determined **2349/English Learner** or **1637/LEP Declined Services**, and the rescreening takes place 10 days before the end of the WIDA testing window, the student will need to be manually uploaded into WIDA AMS, additional materials will need to be ordered during the additional materials order window if needed, and the student will need to be ACCESS tested.
- If a student is rescreened *after* the WIDA administration window and determined to be an English learner, the student will be coded **2349/English Learner** and assessed on the English Language Proficiency Assessment the following school year. A DVR and Reidentification form must be submitted during the Student Assessment ELP data validation window to clear the student assessment from Accountability Reporting.
- Additionally, if the student tests proficient, ensure that the student is coded either **1633/Native English Speaker** (not qualified as non-EL Bilingual) or **1634/Fluent English Proficient** (qualified as non-EL Bilingual) depending on additional factors outlined [EL AND NON-EL BILINGUAL IDENTIFICATION PROCESS GUIDANCE](#).

*\*To get an accurate reflection of a student's current levels when rescreening, the student must be screened on all four domains. Oral domain scores from the initial screener are not accepted.*

