

Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State to State for English Language Learners (ACCESS for ELLs®)

2020 Testing Dates

January 15 — February 18, 2020 (Elementary)

January 22 — February 25, 2020 (High School)

The assessment is administered once a year.

What is ACCESS for ELLs®? ACCESS for ELLs® is a standards-based, criterion referenced English language proficiency test designed to measure English language learners' social and academic proficiency in English. It assesses social and instructional English as well as the language associated with language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies within the school context across the four language domains.

Assessment Content Areas

Grade	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Listening	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reading	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Writing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Speaking	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

What is the purpose of this assessment?

The purpose of the assessment is to monitor student progress in English language proficiency (ELP) on a yearly basis and to serve as a criterion to aid in determining when ELs have attained full language proficiency. The assessment provides information that can be used to enhance instruction and learning for English Learners.

Who should be tested?

All eligible students in grades K-12 identified as English Language Learners (ELs) based on their Home Language Survey (HLS) and subsequent ELL screener scores.

How long does it take to complete the test?

This assessment is approximately 3 hours long.

How are results reported?

Results are reported at the student, school, and district levels. Parent reports are also available.

Student results are reported in three ways: as raw scores, scale scores, and English language proficiency (ELP) levels.

How are results used?

- Track student progress on an annual basis and inform classroom instruction.
- Establish when ELs have attained English language proficiency according to state criteria of an overall composite proficiency level of 4.8 .

Where can I find additional information about ACCESS?

CPS staff can find additional information on the CPS Knowledge Center ACCESS page here:

<https://sites.google.com/a/cps.edu/kc/assessment/access>

Parents can find additional information at

<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/EnglishLearnerIdentificationAssessment.aspx>

Visit cps.edu/assessment for information on Chicago Public Schools full assessment system.