

# Early Literacy Screening Guidance for Multilingual/English Learners

## Understanding English Language Development

English language development (ELD) means instruction designed specifically for multilingual/English learners to develop their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in English. Students upon entry to the K-12 school system begin by developing their understanding of English through English language pre-literacy skills braided with their home language pre-literacy skills (talking with family members, listening to caregivers and responding to questions, story time through oral storytelling and reading, make believe, and opportunities for drawing and painting).

## Understanding English Language Arts and Literacy Instruction

Instruction begins with students who have had exposure to the English language in their home, community, and had the opportunity to develop some pre-literacy skills from birth through entry into the K-12 school system.

## Dyslexia Advisory Council Guidance

The Dyslexia Advisory Council on February 22, 2021, endorsed the recommendations of the Dual Language Steering and Bilingual Education Advisory Committees to use the WIDA English Language Development assessments and proficiency levels (*see next page*) to determine when a multilingual/English learner will be administered the literacy screener in English.

- **Additional Guidance from the Dyslexia Advisory Council for the 2021-22 school year:** A student who has received English Language Development instruction since kindergarten and has not met the threshold recommendations of the Dual Language Advisory and Bilingual Steering Committees by late spring of 2nd grade -- the student may **(but is not required to)** be administered the literacy screener associated with the Early Screening of Dyslexia statute before the conclusion of 2nd grade.



***Minimum Level of English Proficiency on a WIDA Assessment  
before Multilingual/ELs are Screened for Weaknesses  
Associated with Dyslexia in English***

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>Speaking</b>	<b>Listening</b>
<b>K</b>	4	3.5	3.5	3.5
<b>1st</b>	4	4	4	4
<b>2nd</b>	4	4	4	4

***WIDA ASSESSMENTS***

- Proficiency levels = 1-6
- Each assessment provides scores in the four domains of English language development (reading, writing, speaking, and listening).

WIDA Screener for Kindergarten

WIDA Screener (Grades 1-12)

WIDA ACCESS for ELLs (K-12)

WIDA MODEL for Kindergarten

WIDA MODEL (Grades 1-12)

## **CEDARS Reporting Requirement – NEW Update**

For reporting purposes in the 2021-22 school year, students in grades K-2, who do not meet the criteria listed above on a WIDA assessment, do **not** have to be reported in CEDARS. Starting in the 2022-23 school year, there will be an additional option to report K-2 students who have not been screened but are not considered at risk because of their current status as multilingual/English learners.