



World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment  
Wisconsin Center for Education Research (WCER)  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
1025 West Johnson Street, MD #23  
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Dear WIDA SEA Members and District Educators:

By now, many of you have come across instructional materials, textbooks, teachers' supplements, etc., which make a claim that they are "correlated to the WIDA ELP Standards" or are "aligned to the WIDA ELP Standards." When you see these claims you may wonder if these materials have been evaluated by WIDA or if they will improve the performance of your students on the ACCESS for ELLs® test. You may also wonder what it means to be correlated to the WIDA ELP Standards.

WIDA has received inquiries from ELL educators that indicate there may be confusion about the relationship between WIDA and certain instructional materials. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that WIDA has not reviewed or endorsed any instructional materials nor has it reviewed or authorized any textbook or instructional materials correlations. Any claims of correlation to the WIDA ELP Standards are solely those of the publisher presenting the correlation document and not WIDA. One of WIDA's main concerns with these correlations is that they may present or use the WIDA ELP Standards in a manner that is inconsistent with how WIDA trains educators to implement the ELP Standards in classrooms. For now, you need to use your best judgment in evaluating these materials.

Currently, none of the correlations describe the process used to determine their results. Coming soon, WIDA will roll out a brand new "Instructional Materials Inventory (IMI)™" to WIDA ELP Standards correlation protocol. This protocol will enable a multi-criterion based evaluation between instructional material and the WIDA ELP Standards. WIDA will also distribute guidance for interpreting and using the results of the evaluation in your materials selection process. Our hope is to train and certify the people that perform WIDA correlation and then we will review their work to ensure that the protocol was followed. After all, when it says WIDA in the name of a correlation, you want to trust that it is of the same high quality and consistency of other WIDA products and services.

If you come across or have been presented materials for potential use or purchase that appear to imply a connection to or an endorsement by WIDA or the ACCESS for ELLs® test, then we would like to hear from you. We would also like to know if any of these perceived relationships have influenced your purchasing decisions. Please contact Jim Lyne at 608-265-2262 or [jwlyne@wisc.edu](mailto:jwlyne@wisc.edu) or contact the WIDA Help Desk to let us know. For more information on WIDA's upcoming correlation protocol, please check the WIDA website at [www.wida.us](http://www.wida.us) for updates.

Thank you for your attention on this matter. WIDA is very appreciative of the important role that teachers play in advancing our mission.

Jim Lyne  
WIDA Contract and Intellectual Property Administrator