Date: July 2, 2025

To: Local Educational Agency Leads, Directors of Approved Private Schools for Students

with Disabilities

Route To: Principals, School Counselors, Instructional Coaches, District Test Coordinators,

Assistant Superintendents of Curriculum and Instruction, Directors of Special

Services

From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner

Division of Educational Services

Jorden Schiff, Ed. D., Assistant Commissioner Division of Teaching and Learning Services

Deadline: 30 days to distribute Individual Student Reports (ISRs) to parents/guardians upon

receipt of information from the Department.

60 days for reporting results to local school boards of education upon receipt of

information from the Department.

# Spring 2025 ACCESS for ELLs and WIDA Alternate ACCESS Statewide Assessment Results and Exit Procedures for Multilingual Learners With a Disability

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) would like to thank all local educational agencies (LEAs) and approved private schools for students with disabilities (APSSDs) for making the Spring 2025 ACCESS for ELLs and WIDA Alternate ACCESS administration a success. Some of the primary purposes of our statewide assessment program are to identify areas of curricular strength along with opportunities for improvement in each of the tested content areas. LEAs are encouraged to review these results in conjunction with locally administered assessments to determine the optimum mechanism to support learning and mastery of our state's rigorous standards.

### **District Receipt of Individual Student Reports (ISRs)**

The chart below details when LEAs can expect to receive ISRs as well as the 30-day deadline to distribute ISRs to parents/guardians, and the 60-day deadline to report assessment results to local boards of education. All assessment results will be sent directly to LEA central offices.

| Assessment programs                     | ISRs received in<br>the LEA no later<br>than | 30 days after receipt of<br>results to distribute<br>results to parents <sup>1</sup> | 60 days after receipt of results to report to the local board of education <sup>2</sup> |
|---|--|--|---|
| ACCESS for ELLs & WIDA Alternate ACCESS | July 8, 2025                                 | August 8, 2025   | September 8, 2025   |

ISRs will be sent to both the sending **and** receiving LEAs for students who receive their instruction at a school other than their accountable school. Once LEAs receive their ISRs, a copy must be distributed to parents/guardians within 30 days. The NJDOE encourages LEAs to share the ISRs with students' families as soon as practicable to facilitate the timely distribution of student results. To support these communication efforts, resources to assist with the sharing of assessment results are linked in the district communication resources section of this broadcast.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Per N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.3(b): Chief school administrators shall provide educators, parents, and students with the results of annual assessments as required under N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.2(a), within 30 days of receipt of information from the Department.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Per N.J.A.C 6A:8-4.3(a): Chief school administrators shall report final results of annual assessments to district boards of education and members of the public at a public meeting within 60 days of receipt of information from the Department.

## **Reporting Requirement**

LEAs must report statewide assessment results to local school boards within 60 days of receipt of the ACCESS for ELLs and WIDA Alternate ACCESS results. The report must include aggregated and disaggregated subgroup data, comparative analyses, and appropriate intervention strategies.<sup>3</sup> To protect student confidentiality, a minimum of 10 students in a reporting group is required per suppression rules applied to student data.

#### **District Communication Resources**

Resources to assist with the sharing of ACCESS for ELLs and WIDA Alternate ACCESS results can be found on the NJ WIDA webpage under the section titled "Reporting Resources."

#### **Exit Procedures for Multilingual Learners with a Disability**

LEAs may not exit a multilingual learner (ML) from ML status unless the student has demonstrated proficiency on a valid and reliable assessment that includes the four domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. There is an exception for a multilingual learner whose disability makes it impossible for the student to be assessed in a particular domain because there is no appropriate accommodation for assessing the student in that domain. In that case, the multilingual learner can be exited from ML status based on the student's score on the remaining domains in which the student was assessed. An LEA may not adopt categorical rules for excluding multilingual learners with certain disabilities from being assessed in certain domains of the English language proficiency assessment.

#### **Key Steps/Actions**

- Visit the webpage, 'Exiting a Student from Multilingual Learner Status' and review the criteria under the 'Is the Multilingual Learner Eligible for a Composite Score?'.
- Identify any multilingual learner with a disability who did not receive a composite score because of a disability and whose test sessions have been marked for do not score-special education (DNS-SPD).
- Email ML@doe.nj.gov to request alternate composite scores calculated. Be sure to provide the district name, including county and district codes. **Do not include any personally identifiable information in the email.**

For questions regarding the release of Spring 2025 ACCESS for ELLs and WIDA Alternate ACCESS statewide assessment results, please contact the Office of Assessments at (609) 376-3960 or <a href="mailto:assessment@doe.nj.gov">assessment@doe.nj.gov</a>.

For questions regarding the exit procedure for multilingual learners with a disability, please contact the Office of Supplemental Educational Programs at (609) 376-9080 or ML@doe.nj.gov.

Members, State Board of Education
 NJDOE Staff
 Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
 Garden State Coalition of Schools
 NJ LEE Group

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 3}$  N.J.A.C. 6A:30: Evaluation of the Performance of School Districts Appendix A and B.