

**Delaware System of Student Assessments (DeSSA)
Administration for Multi-lingual Learners (MLLs)
2023-2024 School Year**

In order to ensure consistent policies across reporting systems, the Department of Education has established the following rules to assist with assessment administration for MLLs who take the DeSSA Assessments and the ACCESS 2.0 assessment.

Newly Enrolled MLLs

- Potential MLLs must take the Kindergarten Model/WIDA Screener within 25 days of their start date to determine eligibility.
- BEFORE the final 2 weeks of the ACCESS 2.0 testing window, the standard entrance procedure must be followed to determine eligibility. If the student is identified as an MLL, then the ACCESS 2.0 assessment will need to be administered in addition to the screener.
- DURING the final 2 weeks of the ACCESS 2.0 testing window, students must be administered the Screener to determine eligibility. The student, if identified, would take the ACCESS 2.0 assessment the following year.

Two Week Window

- MLLs whose actual start date is before the last two weeks of the testing window will participate in ACCESS 2.0.
- MLLs whose actual start date begins during the last two weeks of the ACCESS 2.0 testing window will not participate in ACCESS 2.0 that year. The DTC will need to submit an exemption and note the student's start date.

Accommodations

- Accommodations must be entered into WIDA AMS by January 1st each year.
- DOE-Approved Accommodations end date is January 1st. Requests should be submitted 10 days before the intended start date of testing.

Identified MLLs born in United States and MLL territories

- Such students can receive an exemption from the ELA Assessment the 1st year. DDOE defines recently arrived MLLs as an MLL whose enrollment in any public school in the United States has been less than 12 cumulative months.
- Such students participate in all DeSSA assessments following all the standard procedures beyond the cumulative 2nd year onward.

Off-site Testing and MLL-Specific Exclusion

- The sending LEA is responsible for administering the ACCESS 2.0 assessment UNLESS the receiving institution has the capacity and DDOE-approved* trained staff to administer the assessment.
- In case of an extenuating circumstance, the DTC must submit an exemption for the student documenting the reason the student did not take the assessment.
- ELA First Year Exclusion: DDOE defines recently arrived MLLs as an MLL whose enrollment in any public school in the United States has been less than 12 cumulative months. An identified first year MLL will be exempt from taking the ELA portion of the DeSSA assessments; they will be NOT be exempt from any other subject area.

Domain Exclusion

- If a student has a specific, documented reason why they are unable to participate in one or two domains on the WIDA assessment, they are able to receive a Domain Exclusion. Complete Appendix C-3 and submit to the DDOE Help Desk.

Valid Exemptions

For additional valid exemptions, please refer to the [DDOE Exemption Policy](#)

Transfers during testing windows

- All transfers are processed by submitting a DDOE Help Desk ticket.
- Paper Booklets: Both sending and receiving districts complete a transfer form with a Pre-ID label. All information must match exactly to correctly merge. Mail the completed form and test booklet to DRC per instructions.