



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

March 17, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey *EGM*
State Superintendent of Education

RE: New World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) Screener for Kindergarten

This correspondence is to provide information pertaining to the newly developed WIDA Screener for Kindergarten.

Currently, all public schools in Alabama identify potential English learner (EL) kindergarten students using the *Kindergarten WIDA-ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT)* or *WIDA MODEL for Kindergarten*. Beginning June 1, 2021, **all schools** will be required to use the WIDA Screener for Kindergarten. It is important that all kindergarten students are identified using the same assessment.

Test administrators must complete and pass the training modules in order to be qualified to administer this new screener. Training modules will be available beginning March 30, 2021, on the WIDA website at wida.wisc.edu. Educators are encouraged to begin the modules as soon as possible in order to be ready to administer the test beginning June 1, 2021. Educators who do not have login credentials to the WIDA website will need to contact their system test coordinator.

In addition to the training modules, educators will have an opportunity to attend one of three live webinars hosted by WIDA on April 8, 9, and 12, 2021. Details will be made available to system test coordinators and EL coordinators.

Additional training opportunities will be made available from the Student Assessment Section in the days ahead. Until then, educators are encouraged to visit the link at [WIDA Screener for Kindergarten | WIDA \(wisc.edu\)](http://WIDA Screener for Kindergarten | WIDA (wisc.edu)) to learn more about this new screener.

If you have any questions regarding the new screener and the training requirements, please contact Mrs. Susan Beard at (334) 694-4817 or via email at sbeard@alsde.edu.

EGM/MH/SB

cc: City and County System Test Coordinators
City and County EL Coordinators

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