

SECTION 5

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR ASSESSMENTS

In this section, you will find information on the following:

- Accommodations for English Language Learners
- Documenting Accommodations on ELLevation
- Frequently Asked Questions

SECTION 5

Accommodations

Accommodations for ELLs

ELLs are provided accommodations in the administration of statewide assessments consistent with the requirements of State Board of Education rule 6A-6.09091 and with the accommodations available for the FSA and EOC assessments <http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/assessments>.

Students who have exited the program (LF), and are being monitored, are not eligible to receive testing accommodations.

Districts are required to offer accommodations to ELLs who are currently receiving services in a program operated in accordance with an approved district ELL Plan. Permissible accommodations for these ELLs are listed below. The test may be administered with any one of these or a combination of accommodations that are determined to be appropriate for the particular needs of the ELL.

Flexible Setting. ELLs may be offered the opportunity to be tested in a separate room with the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) or heritage language teacher acting as test administrator. Parents/guardians must be informed of this option for students not of legal age and shall be given the opportunity to select the preferred method of test administration. [Flexible Setting Accommodation](#)

Flexible Scheduling/Additional Time. ELLs may take a session of the test during several brief periods within one school day; however, a session of the test must be completed within one school day. ELLs may be provided additional time up to the end of the school day for each test session. Each test session must be completed within one school day.

Assistance in Heritage Language. For specified portions of the tests, ELLs may be provided limited assistance by an ESOL or heritage language teacher using the student's heritage language. This should not be interpreted as permission to read aloud or provide oral presentation of test content in English or in the student's heritage language. Assistance in the student's heritage language is limited to answering specific questions about words or phrases that are confusing the student because of limited English proficiency. Questions must not be answered in a way that would assist the student or lead the student to infer correct/incorrect responses. **All student responses must be written in English.** Responses written in languages other than English will not be scored. During portions of state assessments that may be read aloud to students with

Approved Dictionary and Glossary. For testing, ELLs must have access to an English-to-heritage language translation dictionary and/or heritage language-to-English translation dictionary or glossaries or both, such as those made available to ELLs in an instructional setting. The dictionary or glossary must provide word-to-word translations only and must not contain definitions or other information. Electronic translation dictionaries or glossaries that provide word-to-word translations only without access to

the internet may be used. However, ELLs may have access to a complete dictionary for instructional purposes.

Training is provided on the procedures for administration of statewide assessments including appropriate accommodations for ELLs by the District Student Assessment & Research Department.

Testing accommodations consistent with those offered on the FSA are also offered to ELLs during the administration of state assessments.

Testing accommodations must be documented on ELLevation as part of the student's ELL Plan. These same accommodations must also be provided on a regular basis, during classroom instruction and documented as ESOL Instructional Strategies in the teacher's plan book.

Follow instructions in Section 12 for assigning accommodations on ELLevation. These accommodations will be part of the Student's ELL Plan.

Procedures for Notifying Parents

The flexible setting accommodation requires parent notification and the [Flexible Setting Accommodation](#) letter is available for this purpose in English, Haitian-Creole, Portuguese and Spanish. The Bilingual/ESOL Department provides information on required accommodations for assessment and instruction through trainings for ESOL Contacts, teachers, administrators, and support staff. District ESOL Instructional Facilitators visit schools and classrooms to assist in the implementation of this requirement.

Frequently Asked Questions

Section 5: Statewide Assessment and Accommodations

Q: Are testing accommodations for ELLs provided only for state assessments such as FSA?

A: No. These same accommodations must also be provided on a regular basis during classroom instruction and documented as ESOL Instructional Strategies in the teacher's plan book.

Q: How are accommodations documented for ELLS?

A: Testing accommodations must be documented on ELLevation and part of the students' ELL Plan. These same accommodations must also be provided during classroom instruction, and documented as ESOL Instructional Strategies in the teacher's lesson plans.

Q: Must parents be notified of provided testing accommodations?

A: The flexible setting accommodation requires parent notification. The "Testing: Flexible Setting Accommodation" letter is available for this purpose in English, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, and Spanish (Refer to Handbook Appendix). A copy of this letter must be kept in the ELL Folder.