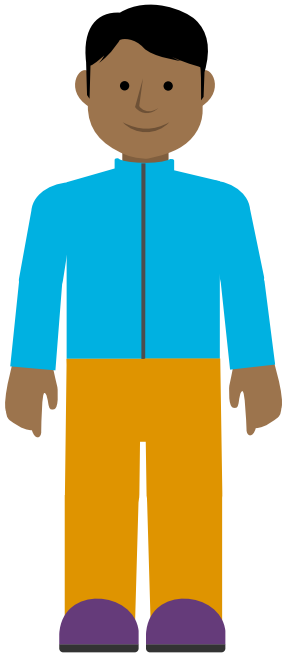
Using WIDA MODEL scores to predict performance on ACCESS for ELLs

Look up the WIDA MODEL **Overall Composite Scale score...**

...to find the ACCESS for ELLs **Overall Composite Proficiency Level score**

A student in 1st Grade receives a MODEL Overall Scale score of 233

233



If he took ACCESS for ELLs on the same day, his Overall Proficiency Level score would be approximately 2.0.

2.0

How are student test scores on WIDA MODEL related to scores on ACCESS for ELLs?

MODEL scores can predict scores on ACCESS for ELLs. WIDA research supports this claim.[1] The different designs of MODEL and ACCESS mean that you can't use an "apples to apples" approach when comparing test scores. WIDA recommends that you use students' Overall Composite Scale scores on MODEL to get an idea of their potential Overall Composite Proficiency Level (PL) scores on ACCESS.

On the other side of this flyer is a table where you can look up a student's Overall Composite Score on MODEL and estimate the score that they would be likely to receive on ACCESS for ELLs.

- The tables shows predicted scores, presented as a range, because all predictions include a degree of error,[2] and it's impossible to predict an exact score.
- Because we can't account for increases in student proficiency in the time between administrations of MODEL and ACCESS, the predictions are based on a student taking MODEL and ACCESS for ELLs on the same day. Take into account that the longer the time period between test administrations, the less reliable the prediction will be.
- The range of proficiency levels is limited in the table based on the available statistical data. The data do not find reliable predictions below PL 2.0 nor above PL 4.5.
- If a student's MODEL scale score is between two scores listed in the table, you can anticipate that the student's predicted ACCESS for ELLs PL is likely to be somewhere between the two corresponding predicted ACCESS PL ranges.

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[1] Wisconsin Center for Education Research. (2019). WIDA MODEL and ACCESS for ELLs: Examining the Relationship Between Student Scores on Two Assessments (WIDA Technical Report No. TR-2019-4). Madison, WI: WIDA at the Wisconsin Center for Education Research.

[2] Error here refers to the imprecision in the prediction model. All prediction models have some degree of imprecision or error. Understanding the scope of that error helps interpret scores.

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Predicted ACCESS for ELLs Proficiency Levels based on MODEL Scale Scores

This concordance table was published before the release of WIDA ACCESS in 2025-2026.

Grade	MODEL Scale Score	Predicted ACCESS Range PL 2.0	MODEL Scale Score	Predicted ACCESS Range PL 3.0	MODEL Scale Score	Predicted ACCESS Range PL 4.0	MODEL Scale Score	Predicted ACCESS Range PL 4.5
1	233	1.8-2.3	267	2.8-3.1	323	3.7-4.3	343	4.0-4.9
2	235	1.9-2.2	281	2.8-3.1	336	3.8-4.1	347	4.0-4.5
3	240	1.9-2.3	286	2.8-3.1	340	3.9-4.0	363	4.3-4.7
4	255	1.9-2.3	292	2.8-3.1	345	3.9-4.0	365	4.3-4.6
5	254	1.9-2.2	296	2.8-3.1	352	3.9-4.0	374	4.3-4.6
6	282	1.9-2.2	319	2.8-3.0	366	3.9-4.1	385	4.3-4.6
7	288	1.9-2.1	328	2.9-3.0	376	3.9-4.0	397	4.3-4.6
8	303	1.9-2.1	338	2.9-3.0	381	3.9-4.0	399	4.4-4.6
9	299	1.9-2.0	338	2.9-3.0	385	3.9-4.0	405	4.3-4.6
10	305	1.9-2.1	347	2.8-3.0	399	3.9-4.1	421	4.3-4.6
11	305	1.9-2.2	346	2.8-3.1	399	3.9-4.1	420	4.3-4.6
12	330	2.0-2.7	357	2.7-3.1	413	3.8-4.1	427	4.0-4.5