

AVAILABLE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE
LEARNERS (ELLs) ON THE KANSAS STATE ASSESSMENTS
2003-2004

All ELLs must take the required state assessments, regardless of the amount of time s/he has been in the school/district. No ELL is exempt; however, if a student comes AFTER September 20th, his/her score does NOT count toward the school or district's QPA or AYP, but DOES count for participation.

READING: Beginning ELLs have the option of listening to the accompanying audio CD, also called the "Listening" assessment. Additionally, these beginning students have the option of taking the assessment off grade-level; that is, an 11th grader may take either the 8th grade or the 5th grade assessment, an 8th grader may take the 5th grade assessment, while the 5th grader must take it on grade-level. Who qualifies for taking the Listening assessment and off grade-level testing? ELLs scoring a 1 or a 2 on the LAS Reading sub-test, below a 40 on the IPT Reading sub-test, or a 1 or a 2 on the LPTS Reading sub-test. The reading passage absolutely cannot be read to a student either by a teacher or a paraprofessional. It may not be appropriate to order a CD for a student who receives a 2 on the LAS or the LPTS or between 28 and 40 on the IPT (it may be more of a distraction in these cases for the student to be listening while trying to keep up with the reading). In those instances, participation in the Listening assessment must be based on careful teacher/administrator analysis of student performance.

WRITING: Students receiving a 3 on the LAS Writing sub-test, IPT Writing sub-test, or LPTS Writing sub-test will take the general assessment and their scores will be included in building averages. Students receiving a 1 on the LAS Oral sub-test, an A or a B on the IPT Oral sub-test or a Non-proficient on the LPTS Oral sub-test MAY be exempt from taking this assessment if the district so chooses. Possible exemption is ONLY true for the Writing assessment because it is not covered under No Child Left Behind. However, in order to be exempt, the student must also have been in the district LESS THAN ONE FULL ACADEMIC YEAR – September 20th, 2002 is the cutoff point for eligibility this year. The ELLs who don't qualify for an exemption and scored below a 3 on the Writing sub-tests of the LAS, IPT, and LPTS will take the general assessment; however, their writing papers may be graded with a modified rubric and their scores will only be used for instructional purposes. The writing papers produced by these intermediate ELLs will be scored locally and will not be sent for state readings.

MATH: All ELLs, regardless of their LAS, IPT, or LPTS scores have the option of taking the PLAIN ENGLISH Math assessment, which is written in simplified language. An audio CD is also available so that students can listen while they read along.

SPANISH TRANSLATED ASSESSMENTS: For the 2003-2004 school year, state assessments will be available in a side-by-side English/Spanish format for both the Writing and the Math assessments. The English/Spanish format will be offered to any student still receiving ESL services. A Spanish audio CD is also available for beginning students.

ALL ELLs, regardless of their LAS, IPT, or LPTS score also have the following accommodations available to them:

- Additional time
- Individual or small group administration
- Directions read to them
- Electronic translators/bilingual dictionaries

PLEASE NOTE: KSDE will be convening a group of educators and other stakeholders over the next two years to determine eligibility for Spanish translations and for using CDs on the Reading assessment (i.e. Listening assessment). It is expected that eligibility criteria may change for these accommodations in 2006.