

# English Learners English Language Proficiency Assessment

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# English Learners Identification

- All students complete a home language survey when first entering a North Carolina school.
- If indicated, based on the survey, students are screened for services to support English language acquisition.
- Once identified as an English learner, students must be “annually assessed” in four domains: speaking, reading, listening, and writing. (34 CFR Part 200)
- Each state sets the exit criteria students must score on the English language proficiency test to demonstrate English language proficiency.



# Educators' Feedback

- There has been consistent feedback from North Carolina educators
  - In some cases, students who demonstrate language proficiency and readiness to exit the program are unable to meet the exit criteria on the language proficiency assessment.
  - Using measures in addition to the English language proficiency assessments may provide more comprehensive information to determine whether a student should exit English learner status.



# Plan for Review

- The Offices of Academic Standards and Accountability and Testing are collaborating to review the current exit criteria and processes
  - Considering a multiple measures approach
  - Conducting analyses for the recommendation of either affirming or revising the current exit criteria
- The review process will include input from English learners' leaders and testing/accountability leaders (school and district level)
- Intention is to present a recommendation in November 2024 for possible inclusion in an ESSA state plan amendment for the 2024–25 school year



# Action on First Read-TEST-011

- In 2020–21, the exit criteria for the Alternate ACCESS was set as two years of achieving a P1 level.
- Recently, the Office of English Language Acquisition noted it is not allowable to hold students to a two-year exit criteria. When a student meets the exit criteria, they exit English learner status and follow established monitoring protocols.
- The recommendation is to amend TEST-011 to state a student who meets a level of P1 exits English learner status.
  - Effective for 2023–24 and retroactive to 2020–21 school years.



# QUESTIONS

