



OSPI Update January 2019

Annual English Language Proficiency Testing / January 28–March 22

Required assessment for all eligible English learners (Title III and State Transitional Bilingual Instruction Program). Information and training modules are linked at [ELPA21 Assessment](#) and [WIDA Alternate Assessment](#).

Questions? Contact Gayle Pauley at gayle.pauley@k12.wa.us.

Bridge to College

Please share with your districts the *Bridge to College* project has been extended through the 2019–20 school year, expanding now into almost 200 high schools across the state in 115 school districts. Details on training and support for next year will be coming soon. In order to continue to strengthen the connection between high schools and higher education, the *Bridge to College* project is offering a limited number of innovative mini-grants to higher education/K–12 education **partnerships** to:

- Implement effective interventions that help more students move directly and successfully into college.
- Improve the ongoing professional learning of Bridge to College teachers.
- Build/improve local school/college partnerships focused on college readiness and specifically Bridge to College courses.

For details, please see the RFP at [this link](#).

Questions? Contact Aira Jackson at aira.jackson@k12.wa.us or Arlene Crum at arlene.crum@k12.wa.us.

Required Needs Assessment Summaries and School Improvement Plans

In early November 2018, System and School Improvement (OSSI) requested that districts upload the school improvement plans for this school year (2018–19) into an OSPI SharePoint site. This first submission went well with 96 percent of districts successfully gaining access and uploading the plans (the remaining districts we have contact with, but have legitimate barriers to on-time submission). By January 11, districts need to upload a needs assessment summary to the same SharePoint location. To date we have received approximately 25 percent of the needs assessment uploads. A reminder went out to districts the morning of January 7.



Following the submissions, the needs assessment summaries and school improvement plans will be reviewed in partnership with OSSI ESD and Continuous Improvement Partners in their monthly Regional Improvement Network (RIN) meetings. As part of this review process, System and School Improvement will be collecting information and looking for themes around issues such as data sources used or not used, common priorities by region and statewide, and more. This review will inform technical assistance, professional learning, and support offerings from our division. The Office of System and School Improvement plans to share high-level findings following the review process in March.

Each district has a unique School Improvement Plan SharePoint site. Districts were given access to their SharePoint for the purposes of these submittals; if you wish to confirm who in your district has access to your district's School Improvement Plan SharePoint site, please contact doug.demint@k12.wa.us. You may use this same point of contact to obtain access to your district's SharePoint site.

Questions? Contact Doug DeMint at doug.demint@k12.wa.us.

1% Participation Limit on State Alternate Assessments

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) amended a provision of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 related to students participating in alternate assessments of each State Education Agency's (SEA) statewide assessment. ESEA section 1111(b)(2)(D) and 34 CFR 200.6(c) and (d) contain requirements for the participation of students with the most significant cognitive disabilities in the Alternate Assessment based on Alternate Academic Achievement Standards (AA-AAAS). ESEA section 1111(b)(2)(D)(i)(I) now limits the total number of students with the most significant cognitive disabilities who are assessed Statewide with an AA-AAAS to 1.0 percent of the total number of students in the State who are assessed in that subject.

As described in 34 CFR 200.6(c)(3), a State may not prohibit an LEA from assessing more than 1.0 percent of its assessed students with an AA-AAAS. However, **a State must require an LEA that tested more than 1.0 percent of its tested students in any subject with an AA-AAAS to submit information to the State justifying the need to exceed the 1.0 percent threshold.**

Districts will be notified at the end of January if they exceeded the 1 percent threshold in any content area during the 2017–18 administration of state assessments.

Questions? Contact Toni Wheeler at toni.wheeler@k12.wa.us.