

ESOL Language Program

English Learners in Georgia Virtual School

COURSE APPLICATION PROCESS

Many local education agencies (LEAs) are using Georgia Virtual School (GAVS) as a viable option for virtual learning this fall. Consequently, GaVS is seeing an increase in enrollments, which includes growth in EL students as well. The following process (also on the [ESOL website](#)) must be followed to ensure GaVS teachers know that the student is an English learner needing language scaffolds, differentiation, and assessment accommodations as established in the recent [U.S.E.D. Fact Sheet on English Learners](#), May 2018.



Step 1: During the course application approval process, the GA Virtual School Facilitator must identify the student's classifica-

tion in the dropdown menu for each course application. Choose *ESL—English as a Second Language* or *English Learner: Monitored*.

Step 2: In addition, the EL student's most recent ACCESS test results, EL/TPC form, and English Language Development Plan must be uploaded to the student profile in the GaVS registration system. Choose *the Special Needs Document/Accommodations* from the Document Type dropdown menu.

Contact: Sarah Newman, Supervisor of Special Needs
snewman@doe.k12.ga.us—404-985-8371

Updates on Websites

[ESOL LANGUAGE PROGRAM](#)

- EL Language Programs—State Guidance, Updated August 2020
- LEAs' 2020 EL Exit Criteria , pp. 57-61
- ESOL Directors' Munch & Learn Recordings
- Ensuring Accurate EL & Immigrant Data—PPT & Recording

[TITLE III, PART A PROGRAMS](#)

- Title III Handbook Updated August 2020
- ACCESS Non-Participation Examples & Solutions
- Ensuring Accurate EL & Immigrant Data—PPT & Recording
- Title III, Part A Budget FAQs

Upcoming Events

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- **29 Aug**—World Languages DLI Virtual Institute
- **1 Sept**—Family Engagement Statewide Meeting
- **2 Sept**—ESOL Directors' September **Munch & Learn**
- **15 Sept**—New Curriculum Directors' Meeting
- **6-7 Oct**—School District Effectiveness Fall Virtual Conference
- **6 Oct**—KSU Prof Learning on ELs & Technology
- **7 Oct**—ESOL Directors' October **Munch & Learn**
- **12-30 Oct**—WIDA eSummit (Free virtual event!)
- **29-30 Oct**—GATESOL Virtual Conference

WIDA Screening, Standards, & Professional Learning

WIDA Remote Screener

AVAILABLE WHEN IN-PERSON SCREENING IS NOT POSSIBLE

WIDA introduced the WIDA Remote Screener for Grades K-1 in July and the WIDA Remote Screener for Grades 2-12 in August of this year. All screener materials and training resources are available in the [WIDA Secure Portal](#), under the WIDA Remote Screener tile.

WIDA's paper-based Remote Screener is a temporary solution to the challenge of screening potential English learners, new to U.S. schools, and in Kindergarten, who cannot be in school in person. Visit the [ESOL Language Program](#) for state guidance on when to use the WIDA Remote Screener, and how the results will be used to identify English learners this school year.



See the [August Assessment Update](#) for FAQs on the Remote Screener Administration.

Contact: Dr. Mary Nesbit-McBride, Assessment Specialist, mnesbit@doe.k12.ga.us; 404-232-1207

WIDA eWorkshops

SELF-PACED



Starting Sept. 1, 2020, all educators in Georgia have free access to WIDA's self-paced eWorkshops in the eLearning Center of the [WIDA Secure Portal](#). Learn at your own pace!

- WIDA's Writing Rubric
- Doing & Talking STEM
- Engaging Multilingual Newcomers
- Engaging Multilingual Learners Through Inquiry (Social Studies)
- Developing Language for Learning in Mathematics
- Classroom Walkthrough Resources based in Principles of Leading for Equity.

For full eWorkshop descriptions and intended audiences, view the [WIDA self-paced eWorkshops flyer](#) on the GaDOE [ESOL Professional Learning website](#).

Don't have a WIDA Secure Portal account? Contact your local school system's ESOL Coordinator and request a login/password to the WIDA Portal eLearning Center.

WIDA ELD Standards 2020 Edition

COMING SOON

WIDA's English Language Development Standards 2020 Edition will be released this year. The new edition outlines language expectations in listening, speaking, reading, and writing for six key language uses - explain, argue, narrate, inform, inquire, and discuss.



Copies may be accessed electronically on the [WIDA website](#) or paper copies purchased from the [WIDA Store](#).

A Self-paced eWorkshop on *Engaging with the WIDA ELD Standards: A Collaborative Approach* will be available Winter 2021 in the eLearning Center of the [WIDA Secure Portal](#),

USED Resources/Webinars

- **Toolkit for Educators: Using Educational Technology—21st Century Supports for English Learners** (Five guiding principles for working with and supporting ELs through technology.)
- **Spotlight: Newcomer Toolkit Webinar** Learn how to support EL newcomers in a [one-hour webinar](#) with the Office for English Language Acquisition (OELA) and Dr. Marguerite Lukes. The webinar includes an introduction to the [Newcomer Toolkit](#) and provide tips on developing a welcoming environment and establishing high quality instruction for newcomers.
- [Ensuring Continuity of Learning for English Learners](#) — A resource from the [National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition](#).
- Webinar **Save the Date—Teacher Collaboration: Aligning Content and Language Instruction**. Join [OELA](#) and [REL Southwest](#) on Wednesday, September 9 @ 3:30 pm ET.

EL Language Programs
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EL Language Programs include both the state funded core ESOL Language Program and the federally funded supplemental Title III, Part A Program for English Learners and Immigrant children and youth in Georgia.



@ELPrograms (coming soon)

Crosswalk WIDA Resources to Teach Georgia Standards

COMING SOON

To build the capacity of Georgia's English learners (ELs) and prepare them for college and career readiness, the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) prepares to launch **Crosswalk WIDA Resources to teach Georgia standards**. Crosswalk associations between *Georgia's Standards of Excellence* and *WIDA's Can-Do Descriptors, Key Uses Edition*, were developed in collaboration by GaDOE Curriculum and Instruction, EL Language Programs, Georgia Virtual School, *OpenSalt*, SLDS, and teachers of ELs across Georgia. These associations will support teachers' planning and delivery of lessons differentiated to ELs' levels of English language proficiency across content areas. Look for more information coming soon on how to access the **Crosswalk WIDA Resources** within SLDS and the Teacher Resource Link (TRL).

