



**Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State to State
for English Language Learners (ACCESS for ELLs™)**

Criteria for Tier Placement for the English Language Proficiency Test

ACCESS for ELLs™ uses Tiers (A, B, or C) to maximize accuracy and validity of the results for English language learners in grades 1 through 12. For placement into the appropriate Tier, English language learners must meet at least **ONE** of the criteria listed for the Tier.

English Language Proficiency Levels					
Level 1 Entering	Level 2 Beginning	Level 3 Developing	Level 4 Expanding	Level 5 Bridging	Level 6 Reaching
ACCESS for ELLs™ : TIER A					
		ACCESS for ELLs™ : TIER B			
			ACCESS for ELLs™ : TIER C		
<p>TIER A is most appropriate for English language learners who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>have arrived in the U.S. or entered school in the U.S. this academic school year without previous instruction in English, OR</i> • <i>currently receive literacy instruction ONLY in their native language, OR</i> • <i>have recently tested at the lowest level of English language proficiency.</i> 					
		<p>TIER B is most appropriate for English language learners who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>have social language proficiency and some, but not extensive, academic language proficiency in English, OR</i> • <i>have acquired some literacy in English, though have not yet reached grade level literacy.</i> 	<p>MOST ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS FALL INTO THIS TIER.</p>		
			<p>TIER C is most appropriate for English language learners who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>are approaching grade level in literacy and academic language proficiency in the core content areas in English, OR</i> • <i>will likely meet the state's exit criteria for support services by the end of the academic year.</i> 		