



COLORADO

Department of Education

ESSA State Plan: Assessment Accommodations for English Learners

November 14, 2016

Advance Organizer

- **State Plan Template: Identify any existing assessments in languages other than English, and specify for which grades and content areas those assessments are available**
 - CMAS Accessibility Features and Accommodations for English Learners
 - Questions for the Group
- **State Plan Template: Provide the SEA’s definition for “languages other than English that are present to a significant extent in the participating student population,” and identify the specific languages that meet that definition**
 - Number and Percent of English Learners by Language Group
 - Legal Requirements and Office of Civil Rights Precedent
 - Questions for the Group

State Plan Template:

Identify any existing assessments in languages other than English, and specify for which grades and content areas those assessments are available



CMAS Accessibility Features and Accommodations for English Learners



Accessibility Features

- Answer masking*
- Audio amplification
- Bookmark
- Color contrast
- Blank scratch paper
- Eliminate answer choices
- General admin directions read aloud/repeated/clarified
- Highlight tool
- Headphones/noise buffers
- Line Reader mask tool*
- Magnification/enlargement device
- Notepad
- Redirect Student to the Test
- Spell Check* or External Spell Check Device
- Student Reads Assessment Aloud to Him or Herself
- Text-to-Speech for Math, S/SS
- Human Reader/Signer for Math

* ELA and math only

Accommodations are...

Accommodations are practices and procedures that provide equitable access during instruction and assessment for English Learners who have a documented need

Appropriate accommodations are:

- Determined based on specific access needs of individual students
- Documented in a formal plan
- Evaluated regularly for effectiveness
- Routinely used for both instruction and assessment

Accommodations are not...

- Intended to give advantage or optimize performance
- Used to reduce learning expectations
- Used to replace instruction/intervention
- Intended to help all students “do better”
- Used without evidence of effectiveness
- Used for the convenience of the adult

Administrative Considerations

- **Small group testing**
- **Time of day**
- **Separate or alternate location**
- **Specified area or setting**
- **Adaptive and specialized equipment or furniture**
- **Frequent breaks**

CMAS Linguistic Accommodations for English Learners

Linguistic Accommodations may be in English or L1

- **Word-to-word glossary**
- **General admin directions read aloud/repeated/clarified in English or L1 (Translated “Say” directions)**

For Content Areas other than ELA: Presentation

- **Human reader/oral script in English**
- **Text-to-speech in English**
- **Transadaptation into Spanish**
- **Text to speech in Spanish**
- **Spanish oral script**
- **Human reader/oral script in English for onsite translation**

CMAS Linguistic Accommodations for English Learners

For Content Areas other than ELA: Response

- **Respond in written Spanish**
- **Respond in written language other than English or Spanish. Must be translated and transcribed onsite.**
- **Human scribe in English or Spanish**
- **Respond orally in language other than English or Spanish. Must be scribed, translated and transcribed onsite.**

Native Language Presentation Accommodations Used in Colorado

Content Area	Grade	SPANISH Transadaptation	Script for TRANSLATION	SPANISH TTS	TRANSLATED DIRECTIONS
MATH	03	761	11	433	500
MATH	04	274	3	208	241
MATH	05	117	2	158	172
MATH	06	81	0	108	110
MATH	07	107	1	119	147
MATH	08	97	0	112	137
MATH	09	154	0	113	197
SCIENCE	05	92	3	9	144
SCIENCE	08	113	0	7	121
SCIENCE	11	58	0	1	83

Native Language Presentation Accommodations Used in Colorado

(updated December 2016)

Content Area	Grade	SPANISH TRANSLATION	Script for TRANSLATION	SPANISH TTS	TRANSLATED DIRECTIONS	Word-to-Word Glossary
ELA	03	0	0	0	126	60
ELA	04	0	0	0	107	74
ELA	05	0	0	0	128	119
ELA	06	0	0	0	81	183
ELA	07	0	0	0	112	204
ELA	08	0	0	0	89	197
ELA	09	0	0	0	120	434
MATH	03	761	11	433	500	81
MATH	04	274	3	208	241	79
MATH	05	117	2	158	172	106
MATH	06	81	0	108	110	168
MATH	07	107	1	119	147	188
MATH	08	97	0	112	137	199
MATH	09	154	0	113	197	667
SCIENCE	05	92	3	9	144	95
SCIENCE	08	113	0	7	121	184
SCIENCE	11	58	0	1	83	292

Colorado Spanish Language Arts (CSLA)



Colorado Spanish Language Arts Assessment (CSLA)

- **CSLA is an accommodated form for ELA/Literacy required by State law**
- **Students in 3rd & 4th grades who qualify:**
 - English learners
 - Have received instruction in Spanish language arts (in last year), typically through a bilingual program
 - In program 3 or fewer years with up to 2 additional years
- **Annual cost: approximately \$1.5 million**

CSLA Numbers

CONTENT	GRADE	LANGUAGE	2016 NUMBER
CSLA	03	Spanish	1494
CSLA	04	Spanish	483

Content Area	Languages Other than English Provided by State	Grade
Science*	Spanish	5, 8, 11
Math*	Spanish	3-high school
English Language Arts	Spanish	3 and 4 (Colorado Spanish Language Arts assessment)

*Additional translations produced at the local level are allowed at district discretion as long as the accommodation is consistent with instruction.

Questions for this Group

- **Under what conditions are students receiving content instruction in L1 in Colorado? In what languages?**
- **For students who are currently receiving the majority of their content instruction in English**
 - What types of L1 instructional accommodations are they receiving?
 - What types of other instructional accommodations are they receiving?

State Plan Template:

Provide the SEA's definition for "languages other than English that are present to a significant extent in the participating student population," and identify the specific languages that meet that definition



Number and Percent of English Learners by Language Group in Colorado



Key Considerations

- **“Important” versus “significant extent”**
- **Spoken language versus written language**
- **Home language versus academic language**
 - Bilingual programs in CO tend to be:
 - Spanish
 - Chinese, Mandarin
 - At least 2 schools in CO (Denver and Colorado Springs)
 - Earlier grades (See CSLA numbers)
 - May include both ELs and native English speakers

Home Languages Other than English in Colorado (2015-2016)

Rank	Language	Number of ELs	Percent of ELs	Percent of Total Student Population
1	Spanish	74335	84.8	10.3
2	Vietnamese	1260	1.4	0.2
3	Arabic	1223	1.4	0.2
4	Somali	832	0.7	0.1
5	Russian	744	0.8	0.1
6	Chinese, Mandarin	734	0.8	0.1
7	Nepali	684	0.8	0.1
8	Amharic	577	0.7	0.1
9	French	439	0.5	0.1
10	Burmese	426	0.5	0.1
11	Karen, Pa'o	369	0.4	0.1
12	Korean	283	0.3	.04

Home Languages Other Than English: Grade 3

Home Language	English Learner Count	Percent English Learners
Spanish	10388	91.2
Vietnamese	215	1.9
Arabic	193	1.7
Russian	125	1.1
Chinese, Mandarin	111	1.0
Amharic	94	0.8
Somali	92	0.8
Korean	62	0.5
French	61	0.5
Nepali	53	0.5

Home Languages Other Than English: Grade 4

Home Language	English Learner Count	Percent English Learners
Spanish	8825	91.2
Arabic	184	1.9
Vietnamese	173	1.8
Russian	93	1.0
Chinese, Mandarin	86	0.9
Somali	82	0.8
Amharic	81	0.8
Nepali	57	0.6
French	54	0.6
Korean	44	0.5

Home Languages Other Than English: Grade 5

Home Language	English Learner Count	Percent English Learners
Spanish	6888	92.2
Arabic	119	1.6
Vietnamese	94	1.3
Russian	66	0.9
Somali	63	0.8
Nepali	47	0.6
Chinese, Mandarin	46	0.6
Amharic	39	0.5
French	37	0.5
Burmese	37	0.5
Hmong	34	0.5



Home Languages Other Than English: Grade 6

Home Language	English Learner Count	Percent English Learners
Spanish	6017	92.7
Arabic	215	1.7
Vietnamese	193	1.1
Somali	125	0.9
Russian	111	0.8
Chinese, Mandarin	94	0.7
Nepali	92	0.7
Amharic	62	0.5
Burmese	61	0.4
Hmong	53	0.4

Home Languages Other Than English: Grade 7

Home Language	English Learner Count	Percent English Learners
Spanish	6009	86.8
Arabic	91	1.3
Vietnamese	77	1.1
Nepali	57	0.8
Somali	56	0.8
Russian	43	0.6
French	42	0.6
Amharic	40	0.6
Chinese, Mandarin	39	0.6
Burmese	29	0.4

Home Languages Other Than English: Grade 8

Home Language	English Learner Count	Percent English Learners
Spanish	6087	93.1
Arabic	73	1.1
Vietnamese	66	1.0
Somali	64	1.0
Nepali	52	0.8
Russian	52	0.8
Amharic	40	0.6
Karen, Pa'o	39	0.6
French	33	0.5
Chinese, Mandarin	29	0.4

Home Languages Other Than English: Grade 9

Home Language	English Learner Count	Percent English Learners
Spanish	6184	92.3
Arabic	89	1.3
Vietnamese	85	1.3
Nepali	68	1.0
Russian	60	0.9
Somali	60	0.9
Karen, Pa'o	44	0.7
Amharic	40	0.6
Burmese	38	0.6
French	34	0.5

Legal Requirements and Office of Civil Rights Precedent

- **Title VI of The Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d) and the U.S. Department of Justice's (DOJ) Title VI regulations at 49 CFR Part 21**
- **5% or 1,000 persons, whichever is less, of the LEP population eligible to be served or likely to be affected [by a particular service or product]**
 - Grade-specific tests



Questions for the Group

- **What are your suggestions regarding defining “languages other than English that are present to a significant extent in the participating student population”?**

- **Which languages meet that definition?**