

Colorado Growth Model Results: CELApro to ACCESS for ELLs

Background

Colorado transitioned to a new English language proficiency (ELP) assessment, the ACCESS for ELLs assessment, developed by the World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) consortium. The previous ELP assessment (adapted from LAS-Links) was the Colorado English Language Acquisition Proficiency assessment (CELApro) and was administered from 2007-2012. The state adopted the WIDA English language proficiency standards in 2009 and starting in the 2012-2013 school year, joined the WIDA consortium in administering WIDA's ACCESS for ELLs.

Decision Point

The transition between assessments raised questions about whether or not to use English language proficiency student growth percentiles and median growth percentiles for improvement planning and accountability measures (School and District Performance Frameworks and Title III Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAO 1)). While the underlying English language proficiency constructs in the two assessments (CELApro and ACCESS for ELLs) overlap, the ACCESS for ELLs assessment includes additional constructs. Since differences exist, it was important to determine if growth from one assessment to another produced meaningful results. During April and May, CDE investigated whether or not the Median Growth Percentiles (MGPs) calculated from the assessment transition, could be used for accountability purposes.¹

Decision

After a thorough data analysis, discussions with the Technical Advisory Panel for Longitudinal Growth, district representatives, and assessment and English language acquisition experts at the department, CDE has determined that we can use the Median Growth Percentiles (MGPs) for improvement planning and in the School and District Performance Frameworks for 2012-13 accountability decisions. A revised rubric, set without determining if Adequate Growth was met, will be used. Specifically, the cut-points for English language proficiency growth will be:

- MGP \geq 65 earns an *exceeds*
- MGP \geq 50 earns a *meets*
- MGP \geq 35 earns an *approaching*
- MGP $<$ 35 earns a *does not meet*

Through the request to reconsider process, districts will be allowed to request removing the 2 point sub-indicator for English language proficiency growth in the school and/or district performance frameworks, if complications occurred due to the administration of the new ACCESS assessment in 2013.

¹ As the state needs two years of data on the same assessment to calculate Adequate Growth Percentiles (AGPs), for 2012-13 AGPs on English language proficiency growth cannot be calculated.

In 2013-14, analysis to determine appropriate adequate growth targets will occur, using both Colorado's data and the whole WIDA consortium data, as possible. Adequate Growth Percentiles will again be part of the frameworks in 2013-14.

For AMAO 1 (measuring progress in attaining English for Title III), CDE is proposing to use just the MGPs to the U.S. Department of Education for 2012-13, as aligned with the state accountability system. When a final decision is received from the U.S. Department of Education, the results will be shared publicly.

Decision Making Process

Event	CDE Activity	Results
End of April	ACCESS Data Received by CDE	CDE staff ran the growth model on CELApro to ACCESS assessment.
End of April-end of May	CDE analyzed the results of the English language proficiency growth calculations	CDE summarized data to share with the TAP and other stakeholders.
May 23rd	TAP Meeting	TAP recommended using MGPs, as long as request to reconsiders would allow removal of the sub-indicator (2 points).
End of May	Formally shared results with CDE staff and asked for recommendation for use for SPF/DPF and AMAOs	The group supported using MGPs for English language proficiency growth.
June	Decision made around using ELP Growth for 2012-13	Shared with field
June	Work with the U.S. Department of Education for approval for AMAO 1 and 2.	Call with USDE Staff on June 5 th
July	English language proficiency student level growth reports in CEDAR	Districts will be able to access ELP growth data.
August	Release SPF/DPF with modified ELP Growth Metric	Districts will be able to access SPF/DPFs in CEDAR.
September	Release of AMAOs with modified ELP Growth Metric	AMAOs will be released to districts.