



**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: September 15, 2017
TO: Division Superintendents
FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction
SUBJECT: Training for the Administration of the WIDA Screener Online English Language Proficiency Assessment

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform school divisions of upcoming professional development regarding the WIDA Screener Online English Language Proficiency (ELP) assessment. The Virginia Department of Education, in collaboration with the WIDA® Consortium and Data Recognition Corporation (DRC), is offering training for the 2017-2018 administration of the WIDA Screener Online English Language Proficiency assessment. This one-day training is designed for division directors of testing (DDOTs) and test administrators who conduct entrance language proficiency assessments for students in grades 1-12.

Participants in this training will work collaboratively to strengthen their understanding of the administration of this online assessment. Particular attention will be given to the scoring of speaking and writing sections of the assessment. Specifically, this training will prepare participants to be able to:

- Explain the purpose and background of the WIDA Screener;
- Identify the connection between the English Language Development Framework and Screener scoring scales;
- Use the scoring scales to score speaking and writing samples;
- Examine the online administration procedures for listening, reading, speaking & writing; and
- Discover the available accommodations on WIDA Screener.

Additionally, procedures for setting up test sessions, entering and generating score reports and exploring the logistics for test administration will be demonstrated. Participants must bring either a computer or tablet with wireless capability as both the WIDA website and WIDA Assessment Management System (AMS) will be accessed during the training. Participants must also have log-in credentials to access both sites. Individuals who do not have the necessary log-in credentials for the WIDA website or WIDA AMS should contact their DDOT to request them prior to the day of training.

This is a one-day training that will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and is limited to 40 participants. The training will be offered on the following days at the locations listed below:

- Thursday, November 2, 2017
Staunton City Public Schools
Lee High School
1200 North Coalter Street
Staunton, VA 24401
(540) 332-3926
- Friday, November 3, 2017
Roanoke City Public Schools
William Ruffner Professional Development Center
3601 Ferncliff Avenue, NW

Roanoke, VA 24017
(540) 853-2382

- Wednesday, November 8, 2017
Henrico County Public Schools
Glen Allen High School - Community Room
10700 Staples Mill Road
Glen Allen, VA 23060
(804) 501-3300
- Thursday, November 9, 2017
Fredericksburg City Public Schools
Walker-Grant Center
210 Ferdinand Street
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
(540) 372-1065

Training materials, breakfast, and a working lunch will be provided for all participants. The cost of travel will be the responsibility of the participants. To register for this training, please access this brief [online registration survey](#). Registration will remain open until Friday, October 20, 2017.

If you have questions, please contact the assessment staff by email at student_assessment@doe.virginia.gov or by phone at (804) 225-2102.

SRS/SLR/cd