

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Corporation Test Coordinators  
English Learner Administrators

**FROM:** Valerie Beard, Assistant Director of English Learners & Migrant Education  
Dr. Charity Flores, Director of Student Assessment  
Maggie Paino, Director of School Accountability

**DATE:** December 8, 2017

**RE:** Changes to Assessment Administration Flexibility for Recently Arrived English Learners

In previous years, recently arrived English learner students were exempt from the English/language arts ISTEP+ assessment during their first 12 months enrolled in US schools. The implementation of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) resulted in changes to the testing requirements for this subset of English learner students.

**Beginning with the ISTEP+ assessment administered during the spring of 2018, all schools and corporations will be required to administer all content areas of the ISTEP+ assessment to recently arrived English learners. Recently arrived English learners are no longer exempt from the administration of the English/language arts ISTEP+ assessment.**

A recently arrived English learner for the 2017/2018 school year is a student who:

- initially enrolled in US schools<sup>1</sup> after March 1, 2017 or has been enrolled in US schools for less than 12 cumulative months; and
- demonstrated limited English proficiency (LEP) based on the WIDA Screener or WIDA ACCESS 2.0 assessment.

All recently arrived English learner students should be reported on the LEP-ISTEP collection which will open in May 2018.

The following table demonstrates how recently arrived English learner students will be included for accountability purposes:

Accountable Year <sup>2</sup>	English/Language Arts	Mathematics
Year 1 (2017-18)	Participation Only	Participation & Performance <sup>3</sup>
Year 2 (2018-19)	Participation & Growth	Participation, Performance, & Growth
Year 3 (2019-20)	Participation, Performance, & Growth	Participation, Performance, & Growth

Students who were considered a Recently Arrived English Learner for the 2016-17 school year, will be counted in all applicable accountability calculations.

Questions regarding this memo may be directed to the Office of Student Assessment ([INassessments@doe.in.gov](mailto:INassessments@doe.in.gov)); the Office of English Learning and Migrant Education ([vbeard@doe.in.gov](mailto:vbeard@doe.in.gov)); or the Office of School Accountability ([schoolaccountability@doe.in.gov](mailto:schoolaccountability@doe.in.gov)).

<sup>1</sup> US Schools includes only schools in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Students coming from Puerto Rico, outlying areas, or the freely associated states may be eligible for Federal Flexibility if they meet the above criteria, although they are not immigrant students.

<sup>2</sup> Years in parenthesis are to provide an example of a student who is a Recently-Arrived English Learner in 2017-18.

<sup>3</sup> Students who meet the eligibility requirements for Recently-Arrived English Learner by definition do not have a previous year ISTEP + score to calculate a growth score.