



Glenda Ritz, NBCT

Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction

Monthly Happenings

Office of English Learning and Migrant Education

September 2014

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Indiana has officially joined the [WIDA consortium](#), which brings a wealth of resources, professional development, and an updated ELP assessment for Indiana educators and ELs.

In the next few weeks, we will be releasing a lot of information regarding the annual ELP assessment (ACCESS), screener (W-APT), what to do with current LAS links materials, more WIDA professional development opportunities, IDOE guidance/policy, and more. Please stay tuned to the announcements from the Title III and NESP learning connection community and updates from the Office of Student Assessment.

Schools should utilize the LAS links [placement](#) test for the first semester of the SY 14-15 for newly enrolled students who need to be assessed for English language proficiency. More information will be provided soon regarding how to start using the WIDA placement screener (W-APT).

Check out these great opportunities for professional development!

- **September 21-22, 2014** *Indiana State Reading Association Conference*; Indianapolis, IN. Click [HERE](#) for more information.
- **October 9, 2014** *Wabash Valley ESC Indiana State EL Conference*; West Lafayette, IN. Click [HERE](#) for more information.
- **October 23-25, 2014** *WIDA 2014 National Conference*; Atlanta, Georgia. Click [HERE](#) for more information.
- **November 15, 2014** *Indiana Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (INTESOL) Annual Conference*; Indianapolis. Click [HERE](#) for more information.
- **NEW WIDA ELD Standards Framework videos have been uploaded on our website** so that educators may revisit the summer 2014 in-person trainings held across the state. The accompanying PowerPoint can be found here as well.
- IDOE **"Success with English Learners" EL Webinar Series**: These recorded webinars are free and can be viewed at any time. Participants can earn a PGP certificate for participating.

Did You Know WIDA has a National Conference?

Consider attending WIDA's [National Conference](#) in Atlanta, GA October 23-25, 2014. Members of the IDOE and several Indiana school districts are planning to attend. The mission of the WIDA 2014 National Conference is to provide Pre-K through Grade 12 educators of ELs opportunities for professional development, idea sharing, relationship building, and strategic collaboration, which will feature examples of outstanding practice from the educators themselves, as well as nationally renowned experts in the field.

The program is designed to meet the needs of Pre-K through Grade 12 educators ranging from general education, content area, special education, and ESL/bilingual teachers to district and state administrators. Registration is limited.

Further Discount to the WIDA Store

Indiana already receives a discount from the [WIDA store](#) as a consortium member when you need to purchase standards materials, apps, reference guides and more. For the rest of 2014, WIDA is offering an **additional** 10% discount when you use the code WIDAPD10. As a reminder, the IDOE covers the cost of the required ELP placement (W-APT) and annual (ACCESS) assessments.

Subscribe to the WIDA News

If you would like to stay up-to-date on WIDA specific news, then subscribe to their email updates at www.wida.us and then looking at the bottom right of the home page to click on subscribe.

LATEST NEWS [MORE](#)

Congratulations Jennie Bordonaro for being the WIDA Featured Educator for September. [Read more](#). Posted 8/30/14

WIDA is looking for a psychometrician to join our Assessment team.. [Read more](#). Posted 8/30/14

WIDA is hiring! Again! There are two new positions posted. [Read more](#). Posted 8/22/14

Puerto Rico has officially adopted the WIDA Spanish



Indiana Department of Education

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Indiana WIDA Professional Development

The executive director of WIDA, Dr. Tim Boals, will be the keynote speaker at [INTESOL](http://intesol.org) (the Indiana affiliate of TESOL) on Sat., November 15, 2014 in IUPUI in Indianapolis. More WIDA breakout sessions will be offered as well, including sessions directly from WIDA and those from Indiana educators who want to highlight their implementation. Click here to register: <http://intesol.org/wordpress/Registration/>

Wabash Valley will host their EL Conference on October 9, 2014 in West Lafayette, IN. WIDA sessions will be offered at the conference. Click here to [register](#).

Both conferences are an allowable use of funds as professional development under Title I, III, and NESP for eligible schools/teachers.

Additionally, the IDOE is coordinating our professional development plan with WIDA's professional development delivery team. As soon as we have this information finalized, we will release these opportunities in the announcements of the Title III and NESP learning connection community. Indiana is provided an annual allotment of days from WIDA to use on state professional development as a member of the consortium.

Title III Application Updates

The IDOE Offices of Grants Management and English Learning are reviewing Title III applications now. As soon as a district's or consortium's application has been reviewed, the specialist will contact the Title III coordinator for the review details or approval.

LEAs that submitted their grants in substantially approvable form will be able to ask for reimbursement back to the date that the grant was submitted. Grants must be fully complete, plan for professional development, consult nonpublic schools, and submit job descriptions (if applicable) to be considered in substantially approvable form.

Non-English Speaking Program Application Update

Review of NESP applications will begin soon. All activities and objectives approved in a submitted grant can be reimbursed back to July 1, 2014. NESP functions on a cash request basis, which allows an LEA to either reimburse the general fund or to spend directly from this line item. [Reminder, Title III is only reimbursement]

English Learner Community of Practice

Looking to connect with other educators of English learners across Indiana? Visit and join our English Learner Community of Practice. You can find all of the communities here: <http://www.doe.in.gov/elearning/online-communities-practice>

This is not a replacement of Learning Connection but rather a peer-to-peer method to connect with other educators. The IDOE will not use this community for official communication. Educators may wish to share great ideas for teaching, parent involvement activities, requests for help, new research articles, local activities and strategies, and more!

EOY Reporting

The end of year reports for Title III and NESP have been released. The annual performance reports (APR) for Title III SY 13-14 and NESP SY 13-14 are due September 30, 2014. The financial end reports for FFY 2012 Title III and NESP 2013-2014 are due December 31, 2014. Review this [memo](#) for more information.

Indiana Academic Standards Resources

Educators and parents of English learners may wish to visit the Indiana Academic Standards (IAS) 2014 hub page at www.doe.in.gov/standards and then click on [Special Populations of Students](#). Here you will find WIDA & IAS implementation and resource guides.

Additionally, educators may wish to share the easy to read *ESEA flexibility Waiver Resource Guide for Parents of English Learners* and the *What are Standards Parent Community 1 Pager* with parents and community members. Versions are in English and Spanish on the [Special Populations of Students](#) page.

ESEA Waiver Corner

Indiana Department of Education's received an ESEA flexibility extension without conditions in August 2014. This extension provides more flexibility in how local schools utilize federal funding and how we measure student performance and growth. See more here: <http://www.doe.in.gov/esea>

The waiver highlights Indiana's plan to support English learners, their educators, and families. To read the plan, check out pages 83-90 and 190 of the [waiver extension](#).