

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: English Learner Assessment Coordinators

FROM: Abe Krisst, Bureau Chief, Performance Office

DATE: May 12, 2025

SUBJECT: English Learner/Multilingual Learner Identification Screening Materials for the 2025-26

School Year

This memorandum shares information regarding obtaining English Learner/Multilingual Learner (EL/ML) screening materials for the 2025-26 school year.

English Learner/Multilingual Learner Identification Screening Materials

In order to identify students in Grades K-12 as EL/ML, school districts are required to adhere to the Connecticut State Department of Education English Learner/Multilingual Learner Identification Process. The process begins with the one time administration of the Home Language Survey (HLS) upon the student's initial registration into the Connecticut public school system. Results will dictate if the administration of a screener for EL/ML identification purposes is necessary. The LAS Links Placement Test 2nd Edition English version is the screener used for students in Grades K-12. If the student is in kindergarten, the preLAS 2000 English Oral Component may be administered in lieu of the LAS Links Placement Test. If the student is in Grades PK-4, the Oral Component of the preLAS 2000 English is the only language placement test available.

Obtaining the Digital Version of the LAS Links Placement Test

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) provides the digital version of the LAS Links Placement Test for students in Grades K-12 at no cost.

Below are links to the digital version of the LAS Links Placement Test, as well as the training video.

- Placement Test Materials SharePoint Site: https://laslinks.com/secured
- Training Video: http://www.brainshark.com/ctb/LL PT 2nd Training

To access the SharePoint site hyperlinked above, new English Learner Assessment Coordinators (ELACs) who are already in the <u>Contact Manager system</u> will need to obtain the password. Contact the DRC Help Desk at 866-282-2250 (Option 2) for access.

The CSDE does not provide paper forms of the LAS Links Placement Test. Districts may place orders for the paper LAS Links Placement materials directly with DRC at the <u>district's expense</u>.

Obtaining preLAS Materials

The CSDE provides the preLAS 2000 English version for districts that prefer to administer this test to kindergarten students. Please note that districts can choose to administer either the preLAS 2000 English version or the LAS Links Placement Test to kindergarteners, whereas the preLAS 2000 English version is the only placement test available to those students who are in Grades PK-4. Districts are expected to maintain all preLAS administration materials from year-to-year. It is likely that only the consumable score sheets will need to be replenished yearly.

- ELACs may order preLAS 2000 English materials for the 2025-26 school year by completing the <u>CSDE</u> 2025-26 preLAS 2000 Materials Order Form and emailing it to **both** the LAS Links Project Manager, Franklin Brown, at <u>LASLinksPM@datarecognitioncorp.com</u> and Cristi Alberino at <u>Cristi.Alberino@ct.gov.</u> Materials for orders placed by Friday, May 30, 2025, should be received by June 13, 2025.
- The 2025-26 preLAS 2000 English version order window is open until December 26, 2025.

The CSDE will review orders and approve them based on district English learner/multilingual learner counts, and previous order history. Districts who ordered the preLAS 2000 English version in previous school years are expected to use previously ordered materials, which include the Test Examiner's Manual, the Quick Reference Guide, the Cue Picture Book, the Story Audio CD, and preLAS 2000 score sheets.

Additional Options for EL/ML Identification Screening Materials

Districts may choose to assess students using the full form of the LAS Links, either C or D in lieu of the LAS Links Placement Test or <u>immediately</u> after administering a LAS Links placement test. Please note, LAS Links Form C and Form D require more extensive administration time than the LAS Links Placement Test, and the **CSDE does** not cover the cost for use of the full Form C/D for identification purposes.

- If the student's Overall score on the full Form C/D is in level 1, 2, or 3, then the student is identified as an EL/ML;
- If the student's Overall score on the full Form C/D is in level 4 or 5, the student **is not** identified as an EL/ML.

Districts may purchase any EL/ML identification materials or other supporting materials from DRC by contacting Franklin Brown at LASLinksPM@datarecognitioncorp.com. Districts will receive an invoice directly from DRC for any independent purchases.

Please visit the <u>CSDE English Learner/Multilingual Learner (EL/ML)</u> web page and the <u>CSDE English Language</u> <u>Proficiency Assessment-LAS Links</u> web page for additional information. You may also contact the following staff as appropriate.

EL/ML Assessment and Special Populations	Katie Seifert	Katherine.Seifert@ct.gov
EL/ML Assessment, LAS Links, and Appeals	Cristi Alberino	Cristi.Alberino@ct.gov
EL/ML Data, Accountability, and Growth Model	Michael Sabados	Michael.Sabados@ct.gov
EL/ML Identification, Standards, and Programs	Megan Alubicki Flick	Megan.Alubicki@ct.gov