

Questions from CAPELL for CSDE

Name	District	Topic	Question	CSDE Answer
Rowena Zylali	New Fairfield	Newcomers	If a Newcomer comes from another country but actually has enough English that they don't qualify to be designated as an EL, does the two-year flexibility for tests still apply? Are they	The student would need to qualify as an EL/ML per page 88 of the following document: https://edsight.ct.gov/relatedreports/using_accountability_results_to_guide_improvement.pdf
Nicole Cotoia	Farmington	Screening SBAC Accommodations	Should we screen in-state transfers who list another language on their home language survey, but do not have a copy of a screener in their cumulative file? In these cases, the school districts they are transferring from have not returned phone calls and emails. We have already checked EdSight to determine if they were identified as ML, and they were not. Would it be possible to provide other/more language supports for embedded SBAC accommodations?	Students who are moving within the CT school system should not be given a Home Language Survey. That is only given once upon entry into the CT Public School System. See the CSDE EL/ML Learner Identification Process document for more information. SBAC Accommodations: The CSDE puts requests with Smarter Balanced in every year to have additional languages added and language supports in addition to those already provided. We will continue to advocate for this population.
Katherine Abrego	Brookfield	LAS Links	If an ML student is currently refusing to come to school (no 504/ no IEP), how should we proceed with LAS Links testing? The student completes no work at home for any class, and there is no official homebound situation set up at this time.	All students who are eligible for the LAS Links are expected to participate. Those who do not participate will be viewed as absent and will count against a district's participation rate. There is an expectation of 95%, leaving room for situations such as this.

Rowena Zylali	New Fairfield	Immigrant Status	If a student was born in the U.S. but subsequently returned to their home country, then comes back to the U.S. in the upper grades, does the two-year testing flexibility still apply?	This is only applicable “for the first time” in a US school. Please see page 88 of the following document: https://edsight.ct.gov/relatedreports/using_accountability_results_to_guide_improvement.pdf Situations such as this are described in the Identification Guidance for Returning EL/ML Students 10/2023 document.
Michelle Gudiel	Fairfield		Can a LAS Links writing score be challenged or reviewed? I tested a 1st grader one on one and observed very few errors. The writing score is a 3. The EL is proficient or above in all other areas. Thank you.	Please contact the assessment office at ctstudentassessment@ct.gov regarding this.
Normaliz Acosta	Manchester	LAS Links-speaking domain exemption	We have a second grade ML who was exempted from the speaking subtest, per his IEP, and obtained a 4 (proficient) in Reading, Writing, Comprehension, and Literacy but did not get a score. Shouldn't this student exit? Are there any additional steps I need to take as the ELAC?	Students with (a) domain exemption(s) can exit if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They have PLs of 4 or 5 on Reading and Writing, and • Their CSDE calculated Overall score (based on the subtests they did take), gives them an Overall PL of 4 or 5. When scores are populated to EdSight, the full results for those students who were exempt from a subtest will be available.
Susan Fink	Trumbull	LAS Links	Multiple students who passed every domain except one. For example, two first graders who received all 5s but a 3 in writing. Is there ever a way to see why they were marked down? How is this scored? How do we improve if we don't know what they need to learn?	The rubrics for LAS Links are available on the DRC CSDE website under Scoring and Reporting. The Item Roster report under Student Results in Interactive Reports gives

				<p>the student's scores at the item level. For information on how to get this reports, go to the LAS Links Guide to Interactive Reporting. This report can be used in conjunction with the Item Maps under Quick Links in Interactive Reports to determine the student's areas of weakness at the objective level.</p>
Kristen Talley	Norwich	LAS	Does DRC have a plan to add speech-to-text, instead of scribe, so that LAS Links accommodations are consistent with all other summative assessments?	DRC LAS Links has added both Speech-to-Text and Text-to-Speech for directions/prompt items only in the Reading subtest to a list of possible enhancements in their long-term system planning.
Kristen Talley	Norwich	SBAC/NGSS	Does Cambium have a plan to add more languages to the presentation/toggle to make access more equitable for our MLL population?	SBAC Accommodations: The CSDE puts requests with Smarter Balanced in every year to have additional languages added and language supports in addition to those already provided.
Suzanne Shippee	Bloomfield	LAS Links SBAC	Would it be possible to provide verbal questions for the Writing Section so that it is not a reading test as well as writing? Would it be possible to have the CSDE SBAC/NGSS Support Team practice the EL/ML supports with real teachers and real students so they understand the practical application of supports and are able to provide guidance in print and on the phone?	<p>For students who are identified as Section 504 or special education with an IEP, there are several accommodations to support them if there is a determined need. PPTs or Section 504 teams can reference the LAS Links Reader Options Table for allowable supports available on the LAS Links.</p> <p>The CSDE continues to work collaboratively with districts and</p>

				teachers, as well as the Smarter Balanced Consortium to ensure accessibility supports are available and feasible as well as to understand application of them during practice tests, interims, and summative testing.
Joanne Creedon	Torrington	Older students	Is there guidance coming out re responsibility of the district to enroll	The CSDE is currently working on late arrival guidance and will share it in the near future.
Lisa Carino	Trumbull	LAS Links	Is there a possibility of DRC being able to allow Text-to-Speech for directions/prompt items <u>only</u>? These students must be pulled separately and require a human reader.	DRC LAS Links has added both Speech-to-Text and Text-to-Speech for directions/prompt items only in the Reading subtest to a list of possible enhancements in their long-term system planning.
Lisa Carino	Trumbull	ELlevation	Is the state considering using the ELlevation Platform for all districts to monitor progress? I have met with the reps and love the program, however my district does not have the funds to support it.	At the moment, the Performance Office is not considering this.
Jackie Klein	Milford	LAS Links	I have two students who scored proficient in all domains except for writing. Both of these students were 1 point under the proficient level in writing, and they are excelling in their classrooms. Can these scores be reviewed?	Please contact the assessment office at ctstudentassessment@ct.gov regarding this.