



**State of Tennessee**  
**Department of Education**  
**ELL Students and Tennessee Assessments**

**2009-2010 English Language Learner (ELL) Accommodations**

Accommodations	TCAP Achievement (grades 3-8)	TCAP End-of-Course (EOC) / TCAP Gateway	TCAP Writing Assessment	ELDA	Gateway Diploma Requirement
<b>Q</b> Extended Time <sup>1</sup>	Time and a half per subtest	EOC- Time and a half per test Gateway – NOT APPLICABLE - Untimed	Time and a half	No Accommodations allowed	Not applicable - Untimed
<b>R</b> <sup>2</sup> Bilingual Dictionary	Not allowed for Reading/ Language Arts	Not Allowed for EOC English I and Gateway Language Arts	NOT Allowed	No Accommodations allowed	Not Allowed for Gateway Language Arts
<b>S</b> Read Aloud in English Test Instructions	All subtests	All tests	All tests	No Accommodations allowed	All tests
<b>T</b> Reading/ Language Arts Read-Aloud in English Internal Test Items	Not allowed for Reading/ Language Arts	Not Allowed for EOC English I and Gateway Language Arts	All tests	No Accommodations allowed	Not Allowed for Gateway Language Arts

Test Accommodations

**\*All ELL students are eligible for Allowable Accommodations, as needed, on any TCAP Assessment. Special Accommodations are available for students with an IEP or 504 Service Plan.**

**\*Transitional ELL students who have tested proficient on the state mandated language proficiency assessment and are in the two required years for monitoring are not entitled to ELL accommodations and should be coded only as T1/T2 on the TCAP answer document.**

**Note: Questions regarding required conditions for use of ELL Accommodations should be directed to the TN ESL Assessment Program Manager, Steven Nixon, at (615) 741-0720.**

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<sup>1</sup> If the student uses both ELL and Special Accommodations, Extended Time is determined by the IEP Team or 504 Review Committee.

<sup>2</sup> Electronic dictionaries and/or translators are prohibited for all students.

## English Language Learner (ELL) Accommodations and Exclusions

All students are expected to achieve the same high standards in Tennessee. The State of Tennessee English Language Learners (ELL) Testing Policy states:

“The purpose for including our student population of English Language Learners in our Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program is to help ensure that children who are limited English proficient, including immigrant children and youth, attain English proficiency, develop high levels of academic attainment in English, and meet the same challenging State academic content and student academic achievement standards as all children are expected to meet.”

ELL status must be determined by the State of Tennessee ESL Assessment. A score of less than English Proficient on any subtest qualifies students as ELL. School districts must document and determine accommodations each year, based on individual needs and abilities.

Questions regarding ELL Accommodations should be referred to Steven Nixon (615) 741-0720.

### ELL First Year Excluded

In the first calendar year (less than 365 days) an ESL student is enrolled in an American school, he/she may be exempted from participation in the Reading/Language Arts content area of the TCAP Achievement Test. A recently arrived ELL student **must** participate in the Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies content areas of the TCAP Achievement Test. The ELL Excluded Bubble must be used to indicate the student is being exempted from the Reading/Language Arts content area of the TCAP Achievement Test.

ELL students may be exempted from the Reading/Language Arts content area of the TCAP Achievement Test and may have their Mathematics Achievement Test score excluded (must use the **ELL Excluded Bubble**) from AYP calculations if they:

- are identified on the Home Language Survey as having a home language other than English, and
- score limited English proficient on the Tennessee ESL Assessment, and
- are in their **first year of enrollment in a U.S. school**.

At the end of the first year of enrollment in a U.S. school, all ELL students are expected to take all state mandated assessments and are included in calculations for NCLB.

### ELL Students Classified as T1/T2 ELL

Transitional Limited English Proficient (LEP) Students are non-English language background students who were classified as ELL based on the Tennessee ESL Assessment, and have scored fluent English proficient or above on all subtests on the Tennessee ESL Assessment. Students are classified as Transitional 1 (T1) the first year after scoring proficient, and as Transitional 2 (T2) the second year.

T1/T2 ELL students are required to take all content areas of the Achievement Test. T1/T2 students are not eligible to receive ELL accommodations.

### ELL ACCOMMODATIONS

The following is a complete list of approved accommodations provided for English Language Learners in State assessments and may be used, as indicated, on the TCAP Achievement Test. The example of ELL Accommodations bubbles (see right) may not apply for all parts of the Achievement Test (see 2008–2009 English Language Learner (ELL) Accommodations table).

ELL Accommodations			
<b>Q</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>T</b>
○	○	○	○

#### **Q. Extended Time**

This accommodation may be used for all subtests.

The Test Administrator must verify that the circle for **ELL Accommodation Q** is darkened to signify that the student used this accommodation. *Test administrators must confirm that the student has met the required conditions for use of this accommodation and verify that the circle for ELL is darkened on the answer document, as well as the ELL Accommodation Q box.*

Eligible students using Accommodation Q should be given one and one-half ( $1\frac{1}{2}$ ) times the standard time limits:

ELL Accommodations Q Extended Time Limits  
TCAP Achievement, Grade 3, Form A

Content Area	Parts	# of Items	Testing Time in Minutes
Reading/Language Arts	Part 1	1-38	104
	Part 2	39-75	101
Mathematics	Part 1	1-35	80
	Part 2	36-69	77
Science	Part 1	1-35	80
	Part 2	36-69	77
Social Studies	Part 1	1-35	80
	Part 2	36-69	77

ELL Accommodations Q Extended Time Limits  
TCAP Achievement, Grade 4-5, Form A

Content Area	Parts	# of Items	Testing Time in Minutes
Reading/Language Arts	Part 1	1-38	104
	Part 2	39-75	101
Mathematics	Part 1	1-35	71
	Part 2	36-69	69
Science	Part 1	1-35	72
	Part 2	36-69	71
Social Studies	Part 1	1-35	71
	Part 2	36-69	68

ELL Accommodations Q Extended Time Limits  
TCAP Achievement, Grade 6-8, Form A

Content Area	Parts	# of Items	Testing Time in Minutes
Reading/Language Arts	Part 1	1-42	114
	Part 2	43-83	111
Mathematics	Part 1	1-35	71
	Part 2	36-69	69
Science	Part 1	1-35	72
	Part 2	36-69	71
Social Studies	Part 1	1-35	71
	Part 2	36-69	68

### R. Bilingual Dictionary

This accommodation **may only** be used for Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies subtests. ELL Accommodation R **may not** be used for Reading/Language Arts subtests. Electronic dictionaries and/or translators are prohibited for all students.

The Test Administrator must verify that the circle for **ELL Accommodation R** is darkened to signify that the student used this accommodation. *Test administrators must confirm that the student has met the required conditions for the use of this accommodation and verify that the circle for ELL is darkened on the answer document, as well as the ELL Accommodation R box.*

### S. Read Aloud Internal Test Instructions in English

This accommodation may be used for all subtests.

Eligible students must receive this accommodation under the following conditions:

- The student must be tested in an isolated area in which students who do not need the accommodation may not hear the test administration. This must be provided in an individual or small group setting with students needing the same accommodation.
- Internal test instructions must be read exactly as they are written in the test book. **Any variation from the text will invalidate the test.**

The Test Administrator must verify that the circle for **ELL Accommodation S** is darkened to signify that the student used this accommodation. *Test administrators must confirm that the student has met the required conditions for the use of this accommodation and verify that the circle for ELL is darkened on the answer document, as well as the ELL Accommodation S box.*

### T. Read Aloud Internal Test Items in English

This accommodation **may only** be used for Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies subtests. ELL Accommodation T **may not** be used for Reading/Language Arts subtests.

Eligible students must receive this accommodation under the following conditions:

- The student must be tested in an isolated area in which students who do not need the accommodation may not hear the test administration. This must be provided in an individual or small group setting with students needing the same accommodation. Ensure that all students in the group setting have the same versions of the achievement test.
- Internal test items must be read exactly as they are written in the test book. **Any variation from the text will invalidate the test.**

The Test Administrator must verify that the circle for **ELL Accommodation T** is darkened to signify that the student used this accommodation. *Test administrators must confirm that the student has met the required conditions for the use of this accommodation and verify that the circle for ELL is darkened on the answer document, as well as the ELL Accommodation T box.*