



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: English Learner Assessment Coordinators, Title III Coordinators,
District Administrators in TIDE, Special Education Directors

FROM: Janet Stuck, Special Populations Education Consultant, Performance Office

DATE: December 6, 2020

SUBJECT: Updated 2021 LAS Links Test Administration Window

This memo provides the latest information for the 2021 LAS Links Assessment window, which has been revised. The current updated LAS Links Assessment Window is now:

January 4-March 31, 2021*

On December 1, 2020, the Performance Office English Learner Assessment Team met with members of the English Learner Assessment and Accountability Advisory Group to discuss recent feedback and data collections, including the 2020 LAS Links Remote Guidance Survey results, changes in District Learning Models, and current English learner (EL) attendance data to consider the impact on the 2021 administration of the LAS Links. The LAS Links testing window has been revised. An extension through March 31 will provide greater flexibility.

Additionally, the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) will administer LAS Links **Form D** as the summative English Language Proficiency test form for all English learners in 2020-21. This decision to administer only Form D (instead of also administering the new Form E operational field test) will streamline test administration for districts. Using one test form will allow for concurrent test administration for both in-person and remote testing. Subtest scores for a student from both in-person and remote testing may be combined, thus eliminating potential over-testing in order to achieve an overall score. While in-person testing remains the preferred method, the CSDE will be providing instructions for valid remote administration of Form D by the end of this month. Remote administration guidance, as well as a checklist for parents available in multiple languages, will also be provided. Similar LAS Links test forms have been successfully administered remotely to thousands of students in large districts in Texas, Illinois, and California, so we are confident that we will be able to provide a remote testing opportunity for students who are English learners.

We appreciate your continued commitment to administering the state assessments so we can all make informed decisions about student learning, progress toward English language proficiency, and exit from the English learner program.

*End Date Subject to Change

2021 LAS Links Assessment Window Update and Associated Due Dates

<u>Event</u>	<u>Revised Date(s)</u>	<u>Additional Information</u>
LAS Links Test Administration Window	January 4, - March 31, 2021*	
Accommodated/Paper Form Order Submission	January 15, 2021	https://laslinks.com/connecticut-information/ see Assessment Administration, 2021 Accommodated Paper Materials Form
Alternate Assessment Eligibility Registration for ELs in Grades K-2, 9, 10, and 12	January 15, 2021	English Learners with Significant Cognitive Disabilities Potentially Eligible for Alternative Assessments Survey https://laslinks.com/connecticut-information/ see Assessment Administration, English Learners with Significant Cognitive Disabilities Potentially Eligible for Alternative Assessments Form Provide Students SASID, Student Grade, District Name, School Name and Primary Disability Category, ELAC Name, and ELAC Phone Number.
Domain Exemption Registration	January 15, 2021	LAS Links Domain Exemption Students Survey https://laslinks.com/connecticut-information/ see Assessment Administration, Domain Exemption Form Provide Students SASID, Student Grade, District Name, School Name and Primary Disability Category, Subtest, ELAC Name, and ELAC Phone Number.
Final date to request UPS Pick Up for completed Accommodated/Paper Forms to send to DRC for processing	March 10, 2021	Return shipping information included with Accommodated/Paper Materials
*End Date Subject to Change		