



English Language Learners Background Questionnaire

2009



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Dear Principal or Administrator:

Thank you for allowing your school to participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). These assessments are vital to measuring the academic skills and progress of the students in our nation and in each state.

As you know, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires that all students with disabilities participate in state and district wide assessment programs through regular assessments, including with appropriate accommodations when necessary, or alternate assessments. The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) likewise requires the participation of students with disabilities in the student academic assessments required under that Act, and also requires that English language learners, as well as other groups of students, participate in those state assessments. NCLB allows for reasonable accommodations on assessments administered to English language learners. Although federal law does not explicitly specify similar requirements regarding the participation of students with disabilities and English language learners in NAEP, the NAEP program has been working very hard to make its sample of students taking the assessments as representative as possible of all students. We are asking you to ensure that the greatest possible number of students with disabilities and English language learners in your school, who are selected to participate, do in fact take the assessments.

Please keep in mind that NAEP does not produce results for individual students or schools, as your state or district tests might. All results are summarized only at the national and state levels (and for a few large urban districts). In other words, the NAEP assessments do not impose consequences for the student or the school, and are instead intended purely to provide a picture of educational performance and progress.

We want to include as many students as possible in the picture NAEP provides for us. For this reason, we ask you to do all you can to help ensure the participation of students who are selected for NAEP whenever possible, including students with disabilities and English language learners. Students taking the NAEP are able to use most of the testing accommodations they usually receive in other tests (e.g., extended time, small group testing). Most students with disabilities and English language learners are indeed able to participate in NAEP with their fellow students.

NAEP is one of the most visible and important indicators of educational performance in this country, and we very much appreciate your support in making NAEP as inclusive as possible.

Richard L. Smith
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Our mission is to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence throughout the Nation.

GENERAL DIRECTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE

The student named on the front cover of this questionnaire has been selected to participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) and has been identified as an English Language Learner (ELL).

Please answer the following questions about this student and return the completed questionnaire to the NAEP school coordinator. Refer to *A Guide for Completing the Student with Disabilities (SD) and English Language Learner (ELL) Questionnaires* for additional information about how to complete this questionnaire.

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1. What is this student's ELL classification? (Fill in **one** oval.)

- Ⓐ The student is currently classified as ELL and is receiving services. → *Continue with Question 1a.*
- Ⓑ This student is currently classified as formerly ELL and is included in ELL reporting for adequate yearly progress (AYP) for No Child Left Behind (NCLB). → *Do not complete the remainder of this questionnaire. Return it to the NAEP school coordinator.*
- Ⓒ This student is no longer classified as ELL and is not included in ELL reporting for adequate yearly progress (AYP) for No Child Left Behind (NCLB). → *Do not complete the remainder of this questionnaire. Return it to the NAEP school coordinator.*

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1a. What is this ELL student's first or native language? (Fill in **one** oval.)

- Ⓐ Spanish
- Ⓑ Other language (specify) _____

DIRECTIONS. The decision tree below illustrates the steps in determining how best to include this student in NAEP. By answering the questions that follow, you will provide the information needed to make this determination.

For NAEP, each student takes the assessment in only one subject. The subject this student has been selected to take is identified on the front cover in the box labeled “Directions for School Staff.” Refer to this subject when answering the questions below.

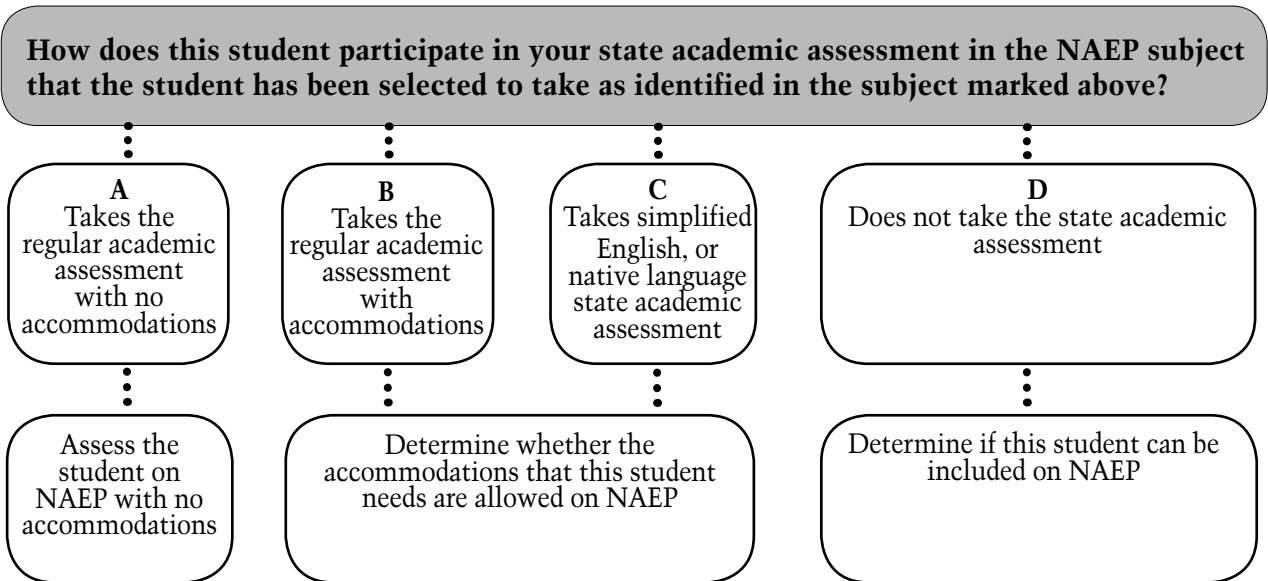
If the subject is reading or mathematics, refer to the state assessment used for reporting adequate yearly progress under No Child Left Behind. If the subject is not reading or mathematics, refer to the state assessment, if available; otherwise, refer to local testing or instructional practice when answering **Questions 3–6**.

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2. This student has been selected to take the NAEP assessment in (*refer to front cover and fill in one subject oval below*).

- Ⓐ Reading Ⓑ Mathematics Ⓒ Science Ⓓ U.S. history, or geography, or civics

ELL DECISION TREE



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3. How does this student participate in your state academic assessment **in the NAEP subject you marked in Question 2?** (Fill in **one** oval.)

- Ⓐ This student takes the regular academic assessment in this subject **with no accommodations**. → *Skip to Question 7.*
- Ⓑ This student takes the regular academic assessment in this subject **with accommodations**. → *Continue with Question 4.*
- Ⓒ This student takes a **simplified English or native language** state academic assessment in this subject. → *Continue with Question 4.*
- Ⓓ This student **does not take** the state academic assessment in this subject. → *Skip to Question 6.*

4. Fill in the oval in Column A for each accommodation that this student receives on your state assessment in the NAEP subject you marked in Question 2. The information in Column B will help you answer Questions 5 and 6. Column C is for your information.

COLUMN A		COLUMN B				COLUMN C
On state assessment in the NAEP subject marked in Question 2, this student:		Accommodations allowed on NAEP (only if received on state assessment)				If allowed on NAEP, who provides accommodation?
		Reading	Math	Science	U.S. history or geography or civics	
Direct Linguistic Support						
Has directions read aloud/repeated in English or receives assistance in English to understand directions	<input type="radio"/>	Standard NAEP practice				NAEP provides
Has directions only read aloud in native language	<input type="radio"/>	Y	Y	Y ¹	Y	Spanish/English Only NAEP provides translated materials
Has test materials read aloud in native language	<input type="radio"/>	N	Y ^{2,3}	Y ^{2,3,4}	N	Spanish/English Only NAEP provides translated materials
Uses a bilingual version of the test	<input type="radio"/>	N	Y ³	Y ^{3,4}	N	Spanish/English Only NAEP provides translated materials
Uses a bilingual word-for-word dictionary without definitions	<input type="radio"/>	N	Y	Y	Y	School provides
Has occasional words or phrases read aloud in English	<input type="radio"/>	N	Y	Y	Y	NAEP provides
Has all or most of the test materials read aloud in English	<input type="radio"/>	N	Y	Y	Y	NAEP provides
Has oral or written responses in native language translated into written English	<input type="radio"/>	N	N	N	N	NA
Indirect Linguistic Support (Note: NAEP takes only 90 minutes.)						
Takes the test in a small group ⁵	<input type="radio"/>	Y	Y	Y	Y	NAEP provides
Takes the test one-on-one ⁵	<input type="radio"/>	Y	Y	Y	Y	NAEP provides
Receives preferential seating	<input type="radio"/>	Y	Y	Y	Y	School provides
Must have test administered by familiar person	<input type="radio"/>	Y	Y	Y	Y	School provides
Receives extended time ⁶	<input type="radio"/>	Y	Y	Y	Y	NAEP provides
Is given breaks during the test	<input type="radio"/>	Y	Y	Y	Y	NAEP provides
Must be allowed to take subject test over several days	<input type="radio"/>	N	N	N	N	NA
Receives the following accommodation(s) not listed above. _____	<input type="radio"/>	Check with your NAEP representative				

NA = Not applicable

¹ Bilingual Direction Read Aloud is not available for Science Interactive Computer Tasks or Hands-On Tasks.

² The bilingual booklet is used.

³ Spanish/English bilingual booklets are not provided at grade 12.

⁴ Bilingual booklets are not provided for Science Interactive Computer Tasks or Hands-On Tasks.

⁵ NAEP provides staff to conduct small group or one-on-one sessions after regular sessions.

⁶ If state test is untimed, students may require extended time on NAEP, which is timed but not a speeded test.

5. Looking at Columns A and B on page 6, are all of the accommodations this student receives on the state assessment **in the NAEP subject you marked in Question 2** allowed on NAEP? (Fill in **one** oval.)
- Ⓐ Yes. This student should be assessed with these accommodations, as allowed on NAEP. → *Skip to Question 7.*
 - Ⓑ No. But the student can be assessed with only the accommodations allowed on NAEP. → *Skip to Question 7.*
 - Ⓒ No, and this student should not be assessed on NAEP. → *Skip to Question 8.*

6. For students who **do not take** the state assessment **in the NAEP subject you marked in Question 2**, could the student participate in NAEP with any of the accommodations allowed on NAEP as listed in Column B on page 6? (Fill in **one** oval.)
- Ⓐ Yes. List the accommodations allowed on NAEP and include the student in NAEP.

- Ⓑ No. This student should not be assessed on NAEP.

7. Including the current school year, how long has this student been receiving academic instruction primarily **in English?** (Fill in **one** oval.)
- Ⓐ This student does not receive academic instruction primarily in English.
 - Ⓑ Less than 1 year
 - Ⓒ 1 to 2 years
 - Ⓓ 2 to 3 years
 - Ⓔ 3 years or more
 - Ⓕ I don't know.

8. At what grade level does this student perform **in the NAEP subject you marked in Question 2?**

- Ⓐ This student performs at or above grade level.
- Ⓑ This student performs one year below grade level.
- Ⓒ This student performs two or more years below grade level.
- Ⓓ This student is currently not receiving instruction in this subject.
- Ⓔ I don't know.

9. How would you characterize this student's English proficiency? (Fill in **one** oval in each row.)

	ELL advanced	ELL intermediate	ELL beginning	No proficiency	I don't know.	
a. Listening comprehension in English	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓓ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓔ	VC188374
b. Speaking English	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓓ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓔ	VC188375
c. Reading English	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓓ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓔ	VC188385
d. Writing English	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓓ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓔ	VC188388