

**2008-2009 ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER**  
**ACCOMMODATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS**

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.”

An English Language Learner is a student who:

- a) is identified on the Home Language Survey as speaking a language other than English, and;
- b) scores less than a 4 or 5 composite on the English Language Development Assessment (ELDA)

**ELL First Year Exclusion for Participation in Selected State Assessments**

The first year\* (365 days) an ELL student is in an American school he/she may be exempted from participating in the following TCAP assessments:

- Writing Assessment in grades 5, 8, and 11,
- TCAP reading/language arts in grades 3 through 8,

Any ELL student, regardless of the length of time he/she has been in an American school, must participate in high school end-of-course and Gateway assessments if he/she is enrolled in the corresponding course.

An ELL, including a first year enrolled student, must participate in the following assessments:

- TCAP math in grades 3 through 8;
- TCAP social studies in grades 3 through 8
- TCAP science grades 3 through 8 and,
- State approved English Language Proficiency Assessment.

A first year student enrolled ELL who participates in any TCAP assessment will have his/her scores excluded from calculations for Title I Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

**An ELL must participate in the following assessments:**

- TCAP math in grades 3 through 8,
- TCAP reading/language arts in grades 3 through 8, **(May be exempted if in his/her first year of enrollment in an American school)**
- TCAP science grades 3 through 8
- TCAP social studies in grades 3 through 8
- TCAP writing in grades 5, 8, and 11,
- High school end-of-course and Gateway exams when enrolled in the corresponding course; and,
- State approved English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessment.

**Note: There are no exemptions or exclusions allowed for math, ELP, science, social studies, writing or Gateway, end-of course exams.**

**Approved ELL Accommodations for 2008-2009**

An ELL is eligible for accommodations on any TCAP assessment except for the state approved English Language Proficiency test. School districts must determine allowable accommodations based on individual student needs and abilities and document these accommodations.

Allowable accommodations for ELLs are outlined in the following chart. An ELL who also has either an Individual Educational Plans (IEP) or a 504 Service Delivery Plan may receive additional accommodations as identified in that plan.

**2008-2009 English Language Learner (ELL) Accommodations**

Accommodations		TCAP Achievement (grades 3-8)	TCAP End-of-Course (EOC) / TCAP Gateway	TCAP Writing Assessment	ELDA	Required Conditions for Accommodations
<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	ELL
<b>R</b>	Reading/Language Arts  Bilingual Dictionary	Not allowed for subtests	Not Allowed for EOC English I and Gateway Language Arts	NOT Allowed	No Accommodations allowed	ELL
<b>S</b>	Read Aloud in English Test Instructions	All subtests	All tests	All tests	No Accommodations allowed	ELL
<b>T</b>	Reading/Language Arts Read-Aloud in English Internal Test Items	Not allowed for subtests	Not Allowed for EOCC English I and Gateway Language Arts	All tests	No Accommodations allowed	ELL

**\*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) 253-4515.**

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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.