



**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

255 Westminster Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

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Deborah A. Gist  
Commissioner

August 12, 2009

TO: ELL DIRECTORS

FROM: Mary Ann Snider, Director  
Office of Instruction, Assessment, and Accountability

Ken Swanson, Director  
Office for Diverse Learners

SUBJECT: Testing of monitored former LEP (MFLEP) students

Beginning in the 2009-2010 school year, local education agencies (LEAs) in Rhode Island will no longer be required to administer the ACCESS for ELLs<sup>®</sup> annual English language proficiency assessment to LEP students who are classified as *monitor year one* or *monitor year two*. LEP students are classified as *monitor year one* during the first full school year following exit from an English language instructional program and *monitor year two* during the following year. The option to assess monitored LEP students with the ACCESS for ELLs<sup>®</sup> will remain available should English language instructional program staff determine that the information from the ACCESS assessment is necessary to ascertain language proficiency for monitoring purposes.

Each LEA is responsible for maintaining a formal, comprehensive, and uniform process for monitoring ELLs' progress during the two years of monitoring in accordance with Regulations Governing the Education of English Language Learners, Chapter 16-54 authorized by R.I.G.L. 16-54-1, et seq. This process should include collecting and evaluating such indicators as course grades, formative and summative assessments results, class participation, and teacher and parent observations to determine if language proficiency is a significant factor in preventing a former ELL from fully accessing the general academic program.

If you have questions regarding monitoring or assessment of ELLs, please contact Bob Measel ([robert.measel@ride.ri.gov](mailto:robert.measel@ride.ri.gov)) at (401) 222-8480 in the Office of Instruction, Assessment, and Accountability or Susan Rotblat-Walker ([susan.walker@ride.ri.gov](mailto:susan.walker@ride.ri.gov)) at (401) 222-8413 or Emily Klein ([emily.klein@ride.ri.gov](mailto:emily.klein@ride.ri.gov)) at (401) 222-8985 in the Office for Diverse Learners.

cc: District Testing Coordinators

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