



ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Field Test - Technology Requirements

The table below outlines the system requirements for ACCESS 2.0 field testing.

Component	Field Test System Requirements
Security	Lockdown Capability The web browser to be used on the field test will “lock down” the computer, blocking access to other applications and browsers.
Operating System - Windows	Windows XP SP3 Minimum; Windows 7 Recommended
Operating System - Mac	Current release of Mac OS X 10.6 Minimum; Mac OS X 10.7 Recommended
Operating System - Linux	Ubuntu 12.04 32 and 64 bit with Gnome 3.4, with Unity shell
Memory	512 MB Minimum; 1 GB Recommended
Processor Speed	1 GHz
Screen Size	9.5+ inch
Screen Resolution	800 x 600
Input Devices	Keyboard; Mouse; Headphones/Earphones; Microphones Please note that tablets and Chromebooks cannot be supported on the field test.

Bandwidth Requirements

Bandwidth Estimates

WIDA is seeking to provide districts with more specific bandwidth guidelines, which will include information about the size of the test as it becomes more defined.

It is important to remember that bandwidth requirements are based on the actual amount of bandwidth available. Even with a high-speed communication line, only part of the connection may be available for online testing due to Internet traffic. For testing, the greatest amount of bandwidth is required when students download tests.

DRC’s Local Caching Service (LCS)

The field test system, Data Recognition Corporation (DRC)’s INSIGHT testing system, provides a Local Caching Service (LCS) that helps manage and streamline the communication process between the test computers and the INSIGHT server. An LCS typically reduces bandwidth traffic for schools by about 50% when downloading test content. With an LCS, if the communication stalls because the Internet connection is congested, the testing computer sends its answers to



the LCS cache. The LCS can be installed using an easy-to-use installation Wizard. This LCS does not communicate with other caching servers, so districts should plan to download this in addition to any system they already have.

Understanding INSIGHT System Bandwidth and Connectivity Requirements

In order to start a test, the INSIGHT system contacts DRC to login. After a successful login, INSIGHT downloads the test from DRC (or an LCS if available). INSIGHT sends answers to DRC every time the page is changed or to the LCS if communication with DRC is lost.

* Because of the way the answers are sent, INSIGHT must maintain connectivity to the Internet or the LCS throughout the test.

* INSIGHT can be used on wireless networks but states and districts will need to be aware of overall Internet usage to ensure that testing is not affected.

Technology User Guide for Tech Coordinators (DRC)

In January 2014, DRC will make available a Technology User Guide for Technology Coordinators. This comprehensive document describes the components, both required and optional, that make up the INSIGHT Online Learning System – a combination of software and hardware that provides a secure, online testing environment. The guide describes the features and user interface and offers examples of how to configure, install, manage, and troubleshoot the system.

Technology Readiness Checks

For the field test, districts should plan to use two downloadable software programs to test their systems. WIDA/DRC will share more information and dates for their availability in Fall 2013.

System Readiness Check

The System Readiness Check is a software application that is designed to help troubleshoot any issues that might occur during INSIGHT installation or when INSIGHT is running. The application starts when INSIGHT is installed and runs anytime INSIGHT starts. It runs a series of tests that enable diagnosing and easily correcting most errors.

Load Simulation Tool

The Load Simulation Tool is a software application that simulates and tests both the load and route of the data from the testing workstation to the DRC servers to help ensure that everything is set up correctly for testing. Technology Coordinators can use this software tool to perform load simulations to help estimate the amount of time it will take to download tests and upload responses.

Help Desk Support

DRC will provide Help Desk support in preparation for field testing beginning in January 2014. Educators who have questions or need technical assistance will be able to receive support via phone and email. For questions regarding the assessment administration or policy questions, educators should continue to contact the WIDA Help Desk.