

# Frequently Asked Questions on English as a Second Language & the English Language Development Standards

**1. Are there new essential standards for English as a Second Language (ESL)? Where can teachers find these standards?**

The English Language Development (ELD) Standards, adopted by the NC State Board of Education in June 2008, are the New Essential Standards for ESL and for all content teachers of English language learners. North Carolina belongs to the World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) Consortium and uses WIDA's English Language Development Standards as North Carolina's essential standards for ESL. These can be found at the following link:

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/esl/scos/>

**2. Are there support documents to assist high school teachers of English language learners in teaching these standards?**

The WIDA Consortium has two supporting documents: Model Performance Indicators (MPIs) and CAN DO Descriptors.

- Model Performance Indicators (MPIs) are detailed representations of the ELD Standards. They are structured around example topics and genres. They also address each of the progressive levels of English language proficiency and are divided into the four domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The Grades 9-12 2012 Edition Draft is available for download at

<http://www.wida.us/standards/elp.aspx#2012>

- CAN DO Descriptors help give teachers a basic overview of what the Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing proficiency level results indicate about their students' abilities. The WIDA English Language Learner CAN DO Booklet for Grades 9-12 is available for download at

[http://www.wida.us/standards/CAN\\_DOs/index.aspx](http://www.wida.us/standards/CAN_DOs/index.aspx)

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