



2011-12 WIDA Best Practices Video Contest¹

Purpose: WIDA would like to learn about, celebrate, and share model classroom practices that develop all students' academic language and advance English language learner (ELL) achievement. We therefore are requesting **5 to 10-minute** video submissions that include:

1. Classroom interactions and/or activities that promote effective teaching, learning, and/or assessment of content and language for ELLs;
2. Educator reflections/interviews on those classroom events. (Student and other participant reflections are welcome but not required.)

Deadline: A DVD with the video as well as a completed one-page application form and signed release forms (located at the end of this packet; also, see "Permissions" below) must be postmarked no later than April **15, 2012**, to be eligible for awards. An awards committee comprised of WIDA Consortium educators and staff will review the submissions during April and notify awardees in May. Application materials should be mailed to:

Connie North
WIDA Consortium
Wisconsin Center for Educational Research (WCER)
1025 W. Johnson St., MD #23
Madison, WI 53706

If you have questions, please e-mail (cenorth@wisc.edu) or call (608-890-4377) Connie.

Prizes: All Consortium members who successfully complete the submission process will receive a free copy of the 2012 elementary or secondary English Language Development Standards booklet. The **first-place** award winner will receive a \$1,000 cash prize and a scholarship for the awardee and a colleague to attend a 2012 WIDA Professional Development academy. The **second-place** award winner will receive a \$500 cash prize and a scholarship for the awardee and a colleague to attend a 2012 WIDA Professional Development academy. The **third-place** award winner will receive a \$250 cash prize and a scholarship for the awardee and a colleague to attend a 2012 WIDA Professional Development academy.

Guidelines, Permissions, Technical Suggestions, and Other Helpful Information:

Guiding Questions: Video submissions must respond to **one or more** of the following nine questions:

1. How does this classroom event advance ELLs' English language performance—particularly, in the areas of linguistic complexity, language forms and conventions and/or vocabulary usage?²

¹ To create these video contest guidelines, we drew on the 2011 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards® "Part 1: General Portfolio Instructions." You can download this document at: <http://www.nbpts.org>.

² To view performance criteria for these areas, see the WIDA Performance Definitions at: <http://www.wida.us/get.aspx?id=5>.

2. How does this classroom event promote ELLs' English language development the four language domains (i.e. listening, speaking, reading, and/or writing)? You can focus on one domain in particular or integrate two or more.
3. How does this classroom event demonstrate the effective differentiation of language instruction/assessment for ELLs?
4. How does this classroom event demonstrate the effective scaffolding of content instruction/assessment for ELLs? In other words, how does it make grade-level content accessible to ELLs?
5. How does this classroom event attend to the sociocultural context for language use (e.g., making the classroom a culturally responsive context; using different registers, genres and language varieties ; integrating student and community linguistic resources)?
6. How does this classroom event promote ELLs' higher order thinking?
7. How does this classroom event use instructional supports (i.e. sensory, graphic, and/or interactive resources) to advance ELLs' content and language development?
8. How does this classroom event address one or more of WIDA's standards (Social & Instructional Language, Language of Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies)?
9. How does this classroom event promote biliteracy and biligualism?

Permissions: You must obtain parental consent for any student under 18 years of age who appears in your video. Parental consent should be obtained using the WIDA-provided parental consent form only. You must also obtain the permission of anyone over 18 years of age that appears in your video. You are required to use the WIDA forms located at the end of this packet to obtain permissions. District or school release forms will not be accepted. **To be eligible for the above prizes, you must include all signed permission forms with your video recording and the completed one-page Video Submission Contest Application.**

Ensure parents understand the video recordings are not about individual students, but are meant to improve the teaching, learning, and assessment of ELLs, and that the recordings will never identify students by their full names. If a student's guardians refuse to grant permission, you will have to make sure the student is seated out of the camera's range.

Contest Rule Overview: Before you submit your video to WIDA, review the WIDA Video Submission Terms and Conditions at the end of this document.

Technical Suggestions

1. **Equipment.** We recommend you have the following for your recording: a video camera, headphones to monitor the sound being recorded, an external omnidirectional boundary microphone set up near students and connected to the camera at some distance from the group, tripod, new DVDS or tapes (if your video cannot store the footage digitally), and an extension cord.

Use the best video recording equipment available to you. Your school may have high-quality equipment that you can borrow. Because students can be difficult to hear on video recordings, make

sure your equipment has a sensitive microphone. If you are filming small student groups, you should carry a handheld microphone to record your voice and the voice of the students.

2. **Classroom lighting.** To improve the quality of your video recording, increase the amount of light in the classroom. Make sure to turn on all the lights and, if possible, open your curtains or blinds. However, beware of shooting into bright light. For example, if the classroom has windows on one side, try to film with your back to that light source.
3. **Audio Quality.** Be sure to test the sound quality when recording and check the equipment to ensure that all cables are secured. When possible, eliminate noises that may interfere with recording, such as fans and air conditioners, and avoid recording when you have to compete with outside noises, such as recess or band practice. Also remember that the closer the microphone is to the action, the better the sound recording. If you are using an external omnidirectional boundary microphone, it will likely plug into the **EXT MIC** jack on the camera and cause the built-in microphone on your camera to automatically shut off. However, we recommend checking this feature of your camera before you begin recording. If you are not going to move an external microphone while recording, such as during the filming of a whole-class event, consider securing your microphone with masking tape to a wall or other flat surface that faces toward the majority of speakers.
4. **Capturing learning objects.** If whiteboard writing or other environmental images/print is an important part of the classroom event, be sure to capture a focused version of it in the video recording. For whiteboards, you may need to move the camera to reduce glare on the board and/or use dark markers that contrast with the white background. If videotaping the learning object(s) is too difficult, please include digital photographs of the object(s) on your DVD.
5. **Focusing on speakers.** As a general rule, the camera should be pointed at the speaker(s). This rule is easier to achieve if you position the camera at the side rather than the back of the room. Place the camera on a tripod or in a good vantage point (such as on top of a file cabinet) where the desired focus of your recording is visible.
6. **Camera movement during recording.** If you need to move the camera while recording, set the zoom lens to its widest setting so as to decrease the trembling of the recorded image. Avoid trying to follow a conversation back and forth between different people since the camera always arrives late to the action.

Additional Suggestions

1. **Video record your classroom more than one time.** Until you and your students are used to being videotaped, a video recording may appear inauthentic. Therefore, we recommend video recording your classroom several times so that you and your students become familiar with the mechanics of video recording and behave naturally in front of the camera.

2. **Consider varied teaching formats.** Depending on your classroom event, the best video recording may involve full-group instruction, cooperative-group work, and/or small-group instruction.
3. **When possible, get help.** Arrange for another person to operate the video equipment. Maybe a local high school or college student who is interested in video communication would help with camera work. Additionally, a school library media or audio visual specialist may be able to assist you.
4. **Take some notes for your reflection/interview on the classroom event.** Before you reflect on the recorded classroom event in front of the camera, you may want to jot down your thoughts about one or more of the following:
 - a. Strengths/characteristics of your students and challenges impacting this classroom event;
 - b. The learning goals for the event;
 - c. Important considerations for planning and implementing this practice;
 - d. Important instructional materials/supports used in the lesson;
 - e. Your opinion about the student learning that occurred during the event and evidence that supports your opinion.

Video Contest Entry Specifications and Guidelines	
Length	5–10 minute video recording
Deadline	Postmarked by April 15, 2012
Format	DVD plus one-page application and signed release forms
Permissions	For all persons appearing in the recording, signed WIDA release forms are required. Students under 18 years of age require a WIDA parental release form.
Content	Classroom event that responds to one or more Guiding Question and educator reflection(s) on that event.



Video Submission Contest Application

Mail in ALL of the following materials to be eligible for the video contest awards* :

- Completed application form (this document)
- ALL Adult and Parent/Guardian Release Forms
- DVD (with classroom event and reflection)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

School Name: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Title of Video: _____

To which Guiding Questions does your video respond? _____

Please check the box and sign below to indicate your observance of the WIDA Video Submission Terms and Conditions

I have read the WIDA Video Submission Terms and Conditions and agree to follow them.

Signature _____

* Mail your application packet to the following address:

Connie North
WIDA Consortium
Wisconsin Center for Educational Research (WCER)
1025 W. Johnson St., MD#23
Madison, WI 53706



World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment
Wisconsin Center for Education Research (WCER)
University of Wisconsin-Madison
1025 West Johnson Street, MD #23
Madison, WI 53706

608.263.4216 • 866.276.7735 • www.wida.us

Photo/Video Release – Adult

I grant the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Wisconsin Center for Education Research and the WIDA Consortium permission to use my likeness in photographs/video in any and all of its print or electronic media publications in furtherance of WIDA’s educational mission. I understand that I will not be compensated for any photograph or other images which may be used in this capacity unless I am a contest awardee.

Print Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Title of video submission: _____

Name of person submitting video: _____



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PARENT/GUARDIAN VIDEO CONSENT

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The WIDA Consortium at the University of Wisconsin-Madison would like to include your child in a video about best educational practices for English language learners. The purpose of the video is to help teachers improve all students' academic language development and academic achievement.

Your child will be filmed during regular classroom hours and may appear in the video recording for 10 minutes or less. WIDA will not pay you or your child for appearing in this video. The purpose of this form is to obtain your consent to allow your child to appear in the WIDA video.

I, _____
_____ (please print parent name)

do _____ / do not _____ (check one) give permission for the WIDA Consortium to publish photo or video images of my child _____ (please print child's name) in WIDA print and electronic media publications in furtherance of WIDA's educational mission.

I understand that the WIDA publications may be viewed as part of WIDA teacher training courses and as part of the content made available on its website.

I am the child's parent or guardian and have the authority to give this consent. I have been fully informed about the purpose of this video and this consent form and have had an opportunity to ask questions about my child's participation in this video or this consent form.

Parent signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Title of video submission: _____

Name of person submitting video: _____

WIDA Video Submission Terms and Conditions

Any person[s] or entity (“you”) that desires to submit a video and supporting material to WIDA (“WIDA,” “us” or “we”) agrees to be bound by these terms and conditions.

1. When you submit a video to us you are entering an agreement with the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System (the “Regents”). You represent that you are at least 18 years of age. Nothing in these terms and conditions establish an employment or other professional relationship between you and us. Any submission by you is completely voluntary and you are responsible for your own time and costs.

2. When you submit a video to us you agree to grant and do hereby grant to us a non-exclusive license to use the video, still shots and supporting works in any media for any purpose that is consistent with the educational, research and outreach mission of WIDA and the Regents. Your license grant to us includes the right for us to reproduce copies, prepare derivative works, distribute copies, and make public performances, displays and digital transmissions. This grant includes the right for the Regents to sublicense all rights granted by you as long as any sublicense use is consistent with the educational, research and outreach mission of WIDA and the Regents and these terms and conditions. This grant shall last for the life of any copyright. You will not receive any royalty or other payment for our use of your video.

3. We will credit you for your work, according to the credit line on the video submission form in consideration for using your video.

4. You shall only submit material that is appropriate for kindergarten through grade 12 education environments. You shall not submit materials in violation of any law. You shall not submit any materials that chiefly acts to promote or endorse a commercial product. WIDA, in its sole discretion, may determine that your materials are in violation of this section.

5. You warrant that your video is an original work and does not infringe on the rights of any

third party and that you have obtained all necessary clearances for the use of third party materials consistent with the terms of your license grant to us. If your video contains any third party materials, then you shall disclose and describe the use of these materials to us at the time of submission. You agree to provide us with any third party clearances upon our request. You are solely responsible for obtaining third party clearances for your video.

6. You shall obtain the permission of all identifiable individuals in your video using the WIDA-provided video permission form. You shall obtain parental consent for any identifiable individual under the age of 18 using the WIDA-provided parental consent form. You shall not change or modify the terms of our permission and consent forms without our prior written approval. All permission and consent must be obtained prior to videoing and all permission and consent forms shall be included with your video submission. We may reject your video submission if all of your submitted permission and consent forms are not complete.

7. You shall read and follow any associated video contest rules. WIDA may void any entry that does not adhere to these rules. WIDA may, in its sole discretion, change these rules without prior notice to you.

8. You shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the State of Wisconsin, the Regents, the University of Wisconsin System, WIDA and all of its officers, employees and agents for any damages, costs or other liability from claims or suits by others made against WIDA or the Regents arising out of your conduct, acts and/or omissions in submitting a video to us or in breach of these terms and conditions.