

**CLIMBS®** (Content and Language Integration as a Means of Bridging Success) is a course that aims to improve instruction for English language learners through the integration of state content standards and WIDA's English language proficiency standards and through the implementation of research-based practices.



## Who Can Benefit from CLIMBS®?

All K-12 educators who want to learn more about supporting the education of English language learners will benefit from this course. Districts and schools assemble teams of educators to take the course together. These teams could consist of:

- Mainstream/content teachers
- ESL specialists
- Bilingual teachers
- Special education teachers
- School coaches and learning coordinators
- School and district administrators

No prior training in teaching English language learners is necessary.

## Participants in the CLIMBS® Course Will:

- Develop a deeper understanding of the knowledge and skills of English language learners at different language proficiency levels.
- Integrate the WIDA English Language Proficiency Standards and content standards into classroom curriculum, materials, instruction, and assessment.
- Use data from ACCESS for ELLs®, state achievement tests, and classroom assessment to inform planning and instruction.
- Use research-based practices to scaffold academic content and build language proficiency for English language learners through lesson planning, reflection, and assessment.
- Complete a portfolio of lesson plans, written reflections, and student work or carry out another relevant project that supports the process and practice of scaffolded instruction.
- Build collaborative relationships with educators in their state and in other WIDA states through face-to-face and online interaction.

## CLIMBS® Course Structure

Course modules will be spread across five face-to-face sessions. Participants will also interact through an online forum and exercises between classes.

### Day 1: Collaboration and Professional Learning Communities:

Introduction and practice with the online learning platform; Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and school culture; co-planning, peer observation and coaching

**Day 2: Instructional Planning:** Transformations of the WIDA ELP Standards that facilitate unit and thematic planning; language objectives and scaffolded instruction

**Day 3: Assessment:** Formative and summative assessment, including analysis of student data from ACCESS for ELLs® score reports

**Day 4: Building Schema:** Tapping into prior learning and students' cultural/experiential backgrounds; teaching key vocabulary

**Day 5: Lesson Delivery:** Synthesizing course learning in the context of the classroom lesson and peer observation follow-up

## About the Course

**Facilitators:** CLIMBS® is facilitated by a team of two trained instructors.

**Capacity:** Facilitators attend a multi-day training provided by WIDA staff. Upon completion of the training, technical support is provided to each facilitator during their first year of instruction.

**Location:** The CLIMBS® course is available across all interested states, and can be offered by both state and local educational agencies.

**Course Structure:** The course takes place over five full-day face-to-face sessions, typically conducted over a period of five months. Participants will devote two to three hours per week to online exercises between face-to-face sessions.

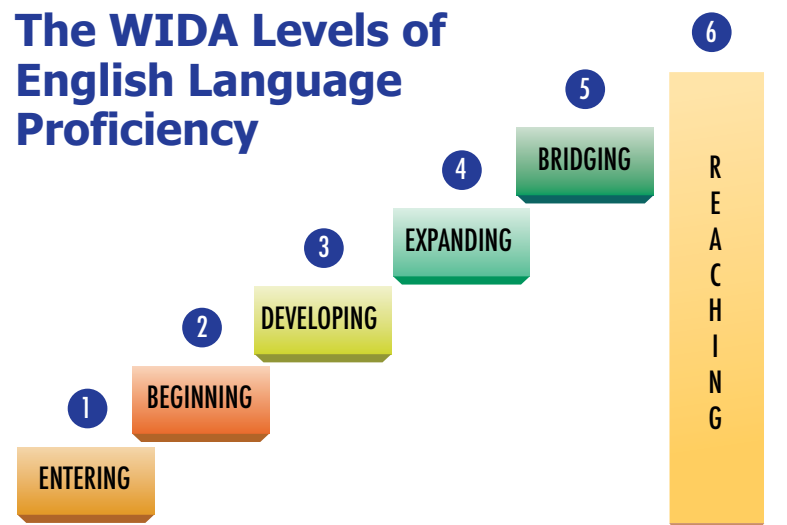
**Participants:** Participants attend in school teams including teachers and administrators. WIDA recommends that teams are comprised of at least one English language teacher and one general education or subject area teacher from each participating school.

**Credit:** Teachers can earn professional development hours for the five face-to-face sessions. Depending on state/district policy and local availability, they may also have the opportunity to earn graduate credits for the course.

**Registration, Fees, and Dates:** Registration is specific to each state. Further details on the courses can be found at [www.wida.us/CLIMBS](http://www.wida.us/CLIMBS).

**For more information, please e-mail [info@wida.us](mailto:info@wida.us).**

## The WIDA Levels of English Language Proficiency



## WIDA Professional Development Mission

Embracing WIDA's mission, our professional development aims to promote educational excellence in classrooms, schools, and systems across our consortium. As we develop these opportunities, our goal is that the professional development we offer will share four common traits:

- A student-centered focus
- Inclusion of research-based practices
- Adaptability and customization to particular needs across the consortium
- Opportunities for building capacity across the consortium



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Content and Language Integration as a Means of Bridging Success



The World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment Consortium Presents:

# CLIMBS<sup>®</sup>

## A Professional Development Course for Teachers of English Language Learners



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