

Announcing the Release of
**The WIDA Standards to Common Core State
Standards Alignment Study**

Release Date: March 16, 2011

The WIDA Consortium is pleased to announce the release of the WIDA Standards to Common Core State Standards Alignment Study, conducted by the University of Oklahoma Department of Educational Training, Evaluation, Assessment, and Measurement (E-TEAM) in November, 2010. The study, in which educators and content experts from across the Consortium participated, showed that the language functions and example topics in the 2007 WIDA English Language Proficiency (ELP) Standards, PreK–12 strongly associate with the content expectations of the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics.

A growing body of research—and federal policy supporting it—recognizes that academic language proficiency closely ties to academic achievement (Gottlieb, 2006). Meaningful relationships between ELP standards and content standards are necessary to ensure that language standards support English language learners in accessing grade-level content expectations expressed in state content standards.

Key findings of this report include:

- The WIDA ELP Standards strongly link (i.e. have an associated match) to the Common Core State Standards across the majority of grade-level clusters.
- The language domains of Speaking and Listening strongly link for all grades.
- The language domains of Reading, Writing, and the language of Mathematics link for the majority of grades.
- In many cases, the alignment indicates that the WIDA ELP Standards go beyond what is currently required in federal guidance by not only matching, but also broadly covering and meeting, the cognitive demands of the Common Core State Standards.

The study results reveal the degree of correspondence between the WIDA ELP Standards and the Common Core for the 27 states that have adopted the WIDA ELP Standards. Moreover, the results are being integrated into a standards amplification project that will assist educators across the Consortium. The project, which is currently in progress, reflects WIDA's ongoing commitment to enhancing its standards and assessment program on a regular basis. In the fall, WIDA will release amplified standards' matrices that provide additional example topics and components drawn from the Common Core, state academic content, and national standards.

For more information, contact Jesse Markow, Director of Communications and Business Development, at markow@wisc.edu. To request a copy of the WIDA Standards to Common Core Alignment Report, contact Meredith Alt, Correlations/Alignment Manager at WIDA: mlalt@wisc.edu.