

Q: What is the purpose of the Academic Language and Literacy Diagnostic (ALLD)?

A: The ALLD is a diagnostic tool to identify Students with Interrupted Formal Education (SIFE). The ALLD will standardize the SIFE identification process for students with a home language of English or Spanish.

Q: Who will take the ALLD?

A: The ALLD should only be administered to students with a home language of English or Spanish who report more than a two year interruption in their formal education, and are entering grades 6 – 12. Schools will use the SIFE Oral Interview Questionnaire to determine the number and length of interruptions.

Q: Where does the ALLD fit into the overall identification process for English Language Learners (ELLs)?

A: Schools should continue with the ELL identification process. The ALLD is not a substitution but an additional assessment to determine if a student is SIFE. The ALLD should be given after the Home Language Identification Survey (HLIS) and Language Assessment Battery-Revised (LAB-R) have been administered and an interview with the Oral Interview Questionnaire has pinpointed an interruption of more than two years.

Q: Is the ALLD available in multiple languages?

A: The ALLD is available in English and Spanish.

Q: What if I think a student is SIFE and their home language is not Spanish. Should they take the ALLD in English?

A: No, SIFE with a home language other than English or Spanish should not take the ALLD English. If it is determined during the SIFE Oral Interview Questionnaire (Albanian, Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, English, French, Haitian Creole, Korean, Polish, Russian, Urdu) that a student has more than a two year interruption in their formal education, schools should continue to evaluate each student's native language literacy skills with a brief writing sample and reading comprehension passages in the native language.

Q: Who would benefit from the ALLD English?

A: The ALLD English can be administered to English proficient students who may have had interrupted education as a diagnostic assessment to determine literacy interventions in English.

Q: How long will it take to administer?

A: The ALLD should be administered in two or three days. First, students will take a short screener (10 minutes) to determine if they should continue with the pre-literacy (45 minutes) or core literacy (one hour and 45 minutes) and mathematics assessment (45 minutes). The pre-literacy and core literacy will take two periods of class time; the mathematics portion will take one period of class time. See Figure 1 for a representation of the sequence that should be followed to administer the appropriate assessments.

Q: Who can we contact if we do not have staff members who speak a student's native language?

A: Contact the NYC DOE Translation unit at translations@schools.nyc.gov or 718.752.7373.

Q: Will it still be possible to identify SIFE with a home language of Spanish without the ALLD Spanish?

A: No. As of September 2, 2008, the Spanish ALLD is the only diagnostic tool that should be used by NYC DOE schools.

Q: When and where can schools learn about the ALLD?

A: There will be monthly professional development on the ALLD throughout the year conducted by the Office of English Language Learners. Contact your district ELL Compliance Support Specialist (CPS) for registration information or check Protraxx <https://www.protraxx.com/scripts/ezcatalogny>

Q: Who should schools contact if they have a question?

A: Schools should contact their [district's ELL CPS](#), Assessment Implementation Director or Rachel Hoff at rhoff4@schools.nyc.gov or 212.374.0295