

Revised Assessment Accommodations for English Learners

It's important for all Ohio students to receive an equal opportunity to earn their high school diploma and the supports needed to reach this goal. The Ohio Department of Education (Department) commits to providing these supports for national origin minority English learner students. Ohio offers English learners multiple ways to meaningfully engage with and demonstrate their content knowledge. In doing so, the state provides specific accommodations on state tests, especially those that do not test English language proficiency.

The Department is continuously looking to improve its supports to students. Upon review of testing accommodations, the Department updated its Accessibility Manual, Ohio's State Test Rules Book and the Administration Manual for the Ohio Graduation Tests (OGT). The updates ensure English learners can demonstrate their knowledge on state tests with accommodations designed to shrink language barriers and increase access.

All English learners may have extended time and use a word-to-word translation dictionary on all tests. In addition, oral translation of Ohio's State Tests is allowable. All parts of the OGT may be translated except the reading passages and the writing test responses, which assess the students' English language proficiency. [Ohio's Accessibility Manual](#) describes the available accommodations in detail. These accommodations are not determined by the amount of time an individual is enrolled in U.S. schools or the number of years a student has been identified as an English learner. The updates include an opportunity for eligible students to retake the OGT, as outlined below.

Retakes for Ohio Graduation Tests Now Available

The Department announces an opportunity to retake the OGT. Individuals who enrolled in grade 9 before July 1, 2014, including English learners, are eligible. Those interested may register with any Ohio public school district, community school, participating chartered nonpublic school or 22+ adult high school diploma program. A directory of schools is [available here](#).

The OGT are available through June 2022. Test takers have up to three testing opportunities available each year. Ohio's online OGT testing period is open from September through July, with the final testing period ending June 30, 2022. Test dates vary by location. Paper accommodations are available in fall, spring and summer testing periods. English learner test takers will receive accommodations based on their level of language proficiency. Please visit the [Ohio Graduation Test](#) webpage for more information. Contact the Office of Assessment at statetests@education.ohio.gov or (614) 466-1317 with questions.