



Director of Test Administration
Office of State Assessment

October 2025

TO: Principals of Public, Religious, and Independent Schools
Leaders of Charter Schools

FROM: Clara DeSorbo *Clara DeSorbo*

SUBJECT: Requesting, Shipping, and Storing of Materials for the Spring 2026 Administration of the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT)

This memorandum provides essential information concerning the procedures for requesting, shipping, and storing materials for the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT).

The Speaking component of the test is scheduled to be administered Monday, April 6 through Friday, May 22, 2026. The Listening, Reading, and Writing components of the test are scheduled to be administered Monday, May 4 through Friday, May 22, 2026.

REQUESTING INFORMATION

This week, you will receive an email from the New York State Education Department's NYSESLAT vendor, MetriTech, Inc., with instructions for ordering materials through their Online Examination Request System. If you do not receive an email or have questions about ordering the test, please contact MetriTech at NYSESLAT@metritech.com or 1-800-747-4868.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The NYSESLAT is designed to assess the English language proficiency of students who have been identified as English Language Learners (ELLs). This memorandum, and all information in subsequent communications pertaining to this test, will be available on the [NYSED website](https://www.nysed.gov). Test booklets, *Directions for Administration*, scoring materials, and the *School Administrator's Manual* are being prepared by MetriTech.

All schools administering the NYSESLAT must contract with a Regional Information Center (RIC) or a large-city scanning center in order to obtain answer sheets and scanning services. Neither the Department nor MetriTech supplies answer sheets. When ordering tests through MetriTech's Online Examination Request System, schools must identify the RIC or large-city scanning center with which they have contracted. Schools will not be able to proceed with ordering State tests until this information has been entered. A complete [list](#) of RICs and large-city scanning centers is available on the NYSED website.

Schools must submit examination requests under their own BEDS Code. The requests for two or more schools in a district must not be combined into one request.

STUDENTS TO BE TESTED

- **English Language Learners (ELLs):** Part 154 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education requires that all ELLs be tested annually. All public (including charter) schools must administer the NYSESLAT to all ELLs in Grades K–12, regardless of the physical location of the student, whether a student is identified as a student with a disability, or number of years of service (including six or more years), until proficiency is attained as reflected in the score achieved on the NYSESLAT (or by a combination of scores achieved on the NYSESLAT and Grades 3–8 English Language Arts Examination or Regents Examination in English Language Arts).

Religious and independent schools are strongly encouraged to administer the test to their ELLs. If a religious or independent school receives services or equipment paid for with Title III funds, it must administer the NYSESLAT or an equivalent test to its ELLs annually. High School Equivalency (HSE) programs preparing students for the General Educational Development Test (GED) should not administer the NYSESLAT to any of their students. Valid scores and score reports cannot be provided for students enrolled in HSE programs who take the NYSESLAT.

- **Students with Disabilities:** All ELLs with disabilities (identified by the Committee on Special Education (CSE) or by a multidisciplinary team), including those participating in the New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA), must participate in the NYSESLAT. Use the [chart on NYSED's website](#) to ascertain which grade level of the NYSESLAT test is appropriate to administer to those ungraded ELLs with disabilities.

STORAGE OF TEST MATERIALS

The NYSESLAT must be stored in a secure location in the building to which the tests will be shipped. All secure test materials must be placed in the storage location as soon as they are received. Access to the test materials must be restricted to ensure that test security is maintained.

If the building in which the tests will be administered does not have a secure location large enough to store the NYSESLAT materials, arrangements must be made to store the materials at another school. Tests stored at such a location must not be transferred to the school in which the tests will be administered until the day on which each part of the test will be administered.

With the exception of the Speaking session materials, tests and other secure materials may not be removed from the secure storage location until the day scheduled for the administration of each part of the test. The packages containing the scoring materials for the Speaking session may be opened prior to the date of administration of this part of the test so teachers can familiarize themselves with procedures and rubrics for scoring. Teachers who have been given the scoring materials for the Speaking session must safeguard these materials and must not leave them unattended. The other sealed packages of secure test materials must not be opened during the inventory and must remain sealed until the test administration date.

Additional [information](#) about the NYSESLAT is available on the NYSED website. If you have any questions about the NYSESLAT, please contact the Office of State Assessment (OSA) at emscassessinfo@nysed.gov or 518-474-5902. If you need assistance with the identification of ELLs, please contact the Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages at OBEWL@nysed.gov or 518-474-8775. If you have specific questions concerning any information in this memorandum, please contact the OSA's Operations Group at 518-474-8220 or examrequest@nysed.gov.