



Multilingual Learner Exemption Guidance: 2026-27 Maine Through Year Assessment

Federal law, under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act section 1111(b)(3)(A) as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act, allows for a one-time exemption of “recently arrived English learners who have been enrolled in a school in one of the 50 States in the United States or the District of Columbia for less than 12 months” from the state summative reading or language arts assessment.

The Maine Through Year Assessment consists of both a required fall interim reading assessment and a required spring summative reading assessment; the winter interim reading assessment is optional for all Maine students.

See the table below for dates for of the exemption of newly arrived multilingual learners from the administrations of the Maine Through Year Assessment.

Newly Arrived Multilingual Learners First US Enrollment	Interim Reading Fall 2026 (State Requirement)	Optional Interim Reading Winter 2027 (Optional for All Maine Schools)	Summative Reading Spring 2027 (Federal & State Requirement)
First US Enrollment: On or before October 23, 2025	Required	Optional	Required (No exemption; First US Enrollment date is ≥12 months from the last day of the assessment administration)
First US Enrollment: October 24, 2025 to May 28, 2026	Optional	Optional	Required (No exemption; First US Enrollment Date is ≥12 months from the last day of the assessment administration)
First US Enrollment: On or after May 29, 2026	Optional	Optional	Optional (One-time exemption; First US Enrollment Date is <12 months from the last day of the assessment administration)