

INITIAL ALTERNATE

English Language Proficiency Assessments for California



WHAT IS THE INITIAL ALTERNATE ELPAC?

The Initial Alternate English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (Alternate ELPAC) is the test that is used to measure how well students in kindergarten (K) through grade twelve understand English when it is not their primary language as indicated on the home language survey. This test is designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities who are potential English learners (ELs) whose individualized education program (IEP) team has determined that they are eligible for an alternate assessment.



WHY IS THE INITIAL ALTERNATE ELPAC GIVEN?

The Initial Alternate ELPAC was developed to ensure that all students are able to participate in an assessment that is an accurate measure of a student's English language proficiency (ELP). The Initial Alternate ELPAC will provide information to determine a student's initial classification as an EL student or as fluent English proficient (FEP).



WHO TAKES THE INITIAL ALTERNATE ELPAC?

The Initial Alternate ELPAC will be administered to all eligible students with the most significant cognitive disabilities in grades K through grade twelve, including students through twenty-one years of age, whose primary language is a language other than English and are determined eligible for alternate assessments by an IEP team.



HOW IS THE INITIAL ALTERNATE ELPAC GIVEN?

This is a computer-based assessment administered one-on-one in person by a trained test examiner who is familiar with the student and their needs. The student will interact with a test examiner who will collect and record responses, although some students may navigate the test independently, depending on their abilities. The Initial Alternate ELPAC is untimed; test items will be administered to the student over the course of one or more testing sessions, as needed, for the student to complete the assessment.



WHEN IS THE INITIAL ALTERNATE ELPAC GIVEN?

The Initial Alternate ELPAC administration window is from July 1 through June 30. Note that eligible students will only take the Initial Alternate ELPAC once, upon first enrolling in a California public school.