



ALTERNATE

English Language Proficiency Assessments for California



WHAT IS THE ALTERNATE ELPAC?

The Alternate English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) is the test that is used to measure how well students in kindergarten (K) through grade twelve (including students through 21 years of age) understand English when it is not their primary language. This test is designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities who are English learners (Summative), and potential English learners (Initial), who have been identified as having a language other than English. Furthermore, their individualized education program (IEP) team has determined that they are eligible for an alternate assessment.



WHY IS THE ALTERNATE ELPAC GIVEN?

The 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 English learner (EL) or as initial fluent English proficient (IFEP) and the Summative Alternate ELPAC will provide information on an EL student's annual progress toward ELP and support decisions for students to be reclassified as fluent English proficient (RFEP).



WHO TAKES THE ALTERNATE ELPAC?

The Initial Alternate ELPAC will be administered to all eligible students in kindergarten through twelve, ages three through twenty-one, whose primary language is a language other than English and are determined eligible for alternate assessments by an IEP team. LEAs are required to administer the Summative Alternate ELPAC annually to eligible students identified as ELs until they are RFEP.



HOW IS THE ALTERNATE ELPAC GIVEN?

This is a computer-based assessment administered one-on-one 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 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 ALTERNATE ELPAC GIVEN?

Students who are English learners and are eligible for an alternate assessment are given the Summative Alternate ELPAC every spring until they are reclassified as proficient in English.

