The English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) is California’s assessment system that is used to determine the English language proficiency of students whose primary language is not English. The ELPAC is aligned with the 2012 California English Language Development Standards and assesses four domains: Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing.

The Summative ELPAC measures how well students are progressing with English language development in each of the four domains.

The purpose of the Summative ELPAC is to measure progress toward English proficiency, to help inform proper educational placements, and to help determine if a student is ready to be reclassified. This is important to ensure that students continue to receive the support they need to do well in school.

The Summative ELPAC is given only to English learners in grades K–12. These students will take the assessment every year until they are reclassified as fluent English proficient.

Students with disabilities who cannot take one or more domains of the ELPAC with approved accessibility resources are eligible for a domain exemption. Students with the most significant cognitive disabilities who cannot access the ELPAC with approved accessibility resources are eligible to take an alternate assessment, as noted in their individualized education program.

The Summative ELPAC is computer-based and administered in seven grade spans—K, 1, 2, 3–5, 6–8, 9–10, and 11–12. In grades K–1, all domains are administered individually. In grade 2, all domains are administered one-on-one except Writing, which is administered in small groups. A technology readiness screener may be used to determine if the Summative ELPAC should be administered individually. In grades 3–12, all domains are administered in a group, except for Speaking. Estimated testing times are available at https://www.elpac.org.

The Summative ELPAC administration window is open from February 1 through May 31.

For additional information visit the California Department of Education ELPAC web page at https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ep/.