The California Department of Education (CDE) is currently developing the Alternate ELPAC for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. Once the Alternate ELPAC is operational, it will replace all locally determined alternate assessments. The following information is provided to help local educational agencies (LEAs) prepare for this assessment. For guidelines regarding participation, refer to the Alternate Assessment IEP Team Guidance web page at https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/caaiepteamrev.asp.

**HIGH LEVEL DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE**

- **May 2019**: High level test design approved by the State Board of Education
- **January 2020**: Pilot test and cognitive labs
- **January–February 2021**: Statewide operational field test
- **July 2021**: Operational Initial Alternate ELPAC
- **February 2022**: Operational Summative Alternate ELPAC

**HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE ALTERNATE ELPAC**

**2019–2020**
- LEAs use locally determined alternate English language proficiency (ELP) assessments for initial and summative purposes.
- LEAs and individualized education program (IEP) teams need to plan for English learners (ELs) with the most significant cognitive disabilities to take the Alternate ELPAC operational field test in 2020–2021.

**2020–2021**
- LEA IEP teams must identify ELs with the most significant cognitive disabilities to take the Alternate ELPAC operational field test.
- LEAs will no longer locally determine or administer summative alternate ELP assessments.

**2021–2022**
- All LEAs will use the operational Alternate ELPAC for initial and summative purposes.

For more information, visit the CDE ELPAC web page at https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ep/.