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**From:** ELPAC <Do-Not-Reply@info.ets.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 1, 2020 1:23 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** ELPAC: September Monthly Update



## **ELPAC Monthly Communication**

This communication includes information about the Initial, Summative, and Alternate English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC).

### **Upcoming Dates and Deadlines**

Please mark your calendars!

***September 9, 2020***

#### **Preparing Technology for Online Testing Webcast/ Remote Testing Update**

This webcast will occur on September 9, 2020, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. The webcast will begin with information about technology needed for the administration of in-person/co-located online assessments. The remainder of the webcast will focus on an update on the administration of remote testing and address any technology needs specific to remote testing. LEA coordinators and technology coordinators can view the webcast on the [CAASPP Live Webcast](#) and the [ELPAC Live Webcast](#) web pages. This webcast is open to everyone and requires no preregistration or account logon to attend.

***September 15, 2020***

#### **Summative ELPAC and Alternate ELPAC Administration and Scoring Training (AST) Registration Opens**

The California Department of Education (CDE)-sponsored statewide computer-based Summative ELPAC ASTs are changing to an online format. The Summative ELPAC AST and the Alternate ELPAC operational field test AST will be available online in the Moodle Training Site, similar to the Initial ELPAC AST.

At the beginning of October 2020, each LEA will receive a printed copy of the 2021 Summative ELPAC AST binder in the mail. At the beginning of November 2020, LEAs with students participating in the Alternate ELPAC operational field test will receive training materials containing printed PowerPoint slides for each module and

a draft of the Alternate ELPAC operational field test *Directions for Administration* for training purposes.

LEA ELPAC coordinators must complete the online AST registration process, which opens on September 15, 2020, and include the address where the training binder(s) for each test program will be received. Coordinators will be sent an email that contains registration information, a registration code, and access keys prior to the opening of registration.

LEA ELPAC coordinators or their designee can fulfill the mandatory training requirements by accessing the [ELPAC Administration and Scoring Moodle Training Site](#). The certification earned upon successful completion of the activities in Moodle fulfills the training requirement for the LEA. A certificate of completion will be produced upon completion of the LEA certification course.

Test examiners will still need to be calibrated to score the Speaking domain and will need to calibrate in the test examiner's course. Each LEA will receive a printed copy of the 2021 Summative ELPAC Administration and Scoring training binder in the mail. The 2020–2021 Summative Moodle Training will launch on October 19, 2020. Refer to the [2020–21 Computer-based Summative Administration and Scoring Trainings](#) web page for additional information.

## ***September 18, 2020***

### **Application Deadlines for the ELPAC Item Review Meeting and Alternate ELPAC Standard Setting Meeting**

The deadline to apply to these educator meetings, scheduled for February 2021, is September 18, 2020. Both meetings will be held virtually. To apply, go to the [Educator Opportunities Portal](#) and select the meeting you would like to attend. If you do not already have an account in the Educator Opportunities Portal, you can [create one](#).

The ELPAC Item Review Meeting is an opportunity for educators to review potential ELPAC items for content as well as for potential bias and sensitivity concerns.

During the Alternate ELPAC Standard Setting Meeting, educators will use approved range performance level descriptors (PLDs) to set cut points for various proficiency levels. Using the PLD for each performance level in each language domain, selected California educators will consider the knowledge and skills needed by a student who just meets the minimum level of each PLD and then use that description to guide their judgments in establishing a cut score. Educators will review, discuss, and provide feedback on the specific performance level thresholds based on results from the Summative Alternate ELPAC operational field test.

## ***September 24, 2020***

### **New Coordinator Webinar #2**

On September 24, 2020, from 3–4 p.m., the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) will host a webinar for new coordinators. The webinar provides information about upcoming coordinator checklist tasks, a deep dive into accessibility resources, and an understanding of the coordinator role in relation to accessibility. LEA ELPAC and CAASPP coordinators who have been in their respective roles for fewer than 12 months or who want a refresher on coordinator responsibilities should plan to attend. [Registration is now available](#).

**September 30, 2020**

### **Matching Accessibility Resources to Student Needs Virtual Training**

This virtual training provides guidance on how to assign accessibility resources appropriately for the CAASPP and ELPAC. The training will focus on providing participants with an understanding of the importance of accessibility resources, the categories of accessibility resources, and the process for matching students with appropriate accessibility resources for use in daily instruction and on assessments. **This training will be held via Zoom and requires registration. [Register now!](#)**

**October 30, 2020**

### **Return Completed Kindergarten Through Grade Two (K–2) Summative ELPAC Answer Books for Scoring**

The optional administration of the 2019–2020 Summative ELPAC concludes on October 30, 2020. LEAs should continue to ship any completed K–2 Answer Books to Educational Testing Service. LEAs that returned Answer Books after June 12, 2020, will begin receiving Student Score Reports in September 2020.

Please review and follow the [2019–20 Summative ELPAC Packing and Return Instructions](#). LEAs can download and complete the [ELPAC School/Group List](#) to organize the return of Answer Books. Completed scorable materials must be returned in **white return cartons** to ensure materials will be routed to the correct location.

**October 30, 2020**

### **2019–2020 ELPAC Results Are In—Now What? Connecting Assessment to Instruction Virtual Workshops**

In support of the measures being taken nationwide to slow the spread of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), this workshop is being presented virtually as a series of seven professional learning modules that will be posted online. There will be a staggered release of the modules. Modules 1–3 will be released on October 30, 2020, and Modules 4–7 will be released by the end of 2020. The modules will demonstrate how to use ELPAC data to advance English language proficiency through high-leverage instructional sequences tied to ELPAC task types. Registration for the workshop materials will be coming soon!

## **Ongoing Reminders**

### ***Alternate ELPAC Operational Field Test***

The administration of the Alternate ELPAC operational field test to all eligible students is mandatory and will take place from January 12 through February 16, 2021. As the new school year approaches, it is essential for individualized education program (IEP) teams to begin preparations well in advance for this operational field test.

The Alternate ELPAC operational field test is a census field test, which means that it must be administered to **all** kindergarten through grade twelve students with the most significant cognitive disabilities, up to twenty-two years of age, who have an English Language Acquisition Status of English learner (EL) and have been determined eligible to take alternate assessments by an IEP team. Students must

continue to be administered the Initial ELPAC through 2020–2021, which may include a locally determined alternate assessment, **and** they must be classified as EL students prior to participating in the Alternate ELPAC operational field test.

The Alternate ELPAC is intended to replace locally determined alternate assessments for the Summative ELPAC. The Alternate ELPAC will also provide, for the first time, a consistent, standardized measurement of English language proficiency across the state for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

To elicit the most reliable responses, it is necessary that the test examiner be very familiar with each student and each student’s primary communication mode. It is strongly recommended that only an educator familiar with the student serve as the test examiner.

For each LEA with eligible students, the LEA ELPAC coordinator or a designee is required to complete the online LEA certification course. The LEA certification course opens on the [Moodle Training Site](#) on November 2, 2020. The LEA certification course will take approximately two to three hours and should be completed by the opening of the Alternate ELPAC testing window on January 12, 2021. There will also be an online test examiner training course. LEAs will be responsible for tracking the progress of test examiners who are taking the test examiner training course.

If you have any questions about the Alternate ELPAC operational field test, please contact Salina Donek, Alternate ELPAC field test coordinator at SCOE, by phone at 916-228-3301 or by email at [elpac@scoe.net](mailto:elpac@scoe.net). Please feel free to share this information with the appropriate special education staff within your LEA.

### ***Educator Opportunities for the ELPAC and Alternate ELPAC***

New opportunities for the ELPAC and Alternate ELPAC are available on the [ELPAC and Alternate ELPAC Opportunities to Get Involved](#) web page. Simply [create an account](#) in the Educator Opportunities Database. Those who already have an account can go directly to the [Educator Opportunities Portal](#). For questions about how to get involved in these educator opportunities, please contact the CAASPP and ELPAC Project Team, by phone at 916-228-2682 or by email at [edopportunities@scoe.net](mailto:edopportunities@scoe.net).

### ***Support for New LEA ELPAC Coordinators***

Are you new to the role of LEA ELPAC coordinator? The CDE offers a variety of trainings throughout the year to support you in this new role. Visit the [2020–21 Training Opportunities](#) web page and use the filtering options to display the events that are most relevant to you.

### **Available Now!**

#### ***Manuals, Instructions, and Quick Reference Guides***

- [CAASPP and ELPAC Test Operations Management System User Guide](#)
- [Where to Submit Answers for the 2020–21 ELPAC](#) web document
- [2020–2021 COVID-19 Guidance for Reclassification](#) web document
- [A Parent Guide to Understanding—The Alternate ELPAC](#) web document

- [Alternate ELPAC—Assessment Fact Sheet](#) web document

## **Videos**

- [Assigning Test Settings in the Test Administrator Interface for the Initial ELPAC demonstration video](#)
- [Initial ELPAC Q and A For New Coordinators Webinar](#)

## **Website Updates**

- [Manuals and Instructions](#) web page
- [Quick Reference Guides and Videos](#) web page
- [Computer-based Summative ELPAC Administration and Scoring Trainings](#) web page
- [Alternate ELPAC Administration and Scoring Trainings](#) web page

## **Access to Previous ELPAC Monthly Communications**

Previous ELPAC Monthly Communications, as well as other email communications, can be found on the [ELPAC Coordinator Emails](#) web page.

General questions about the ELPAC should be directed to CalTAC, by phone at 800-955-2954 or by email at [caltac@ets.org](mailto:caltac@ets.org).

Sincerely,

California Technical Assistance Center  
Educational Testing Service  
Phone: 800-955-2954  
Email: [caltac@ets.org](mailto:caltac@ets.org)  
Website: <https://www.elpac.org/>