

Title III Directors ELPA21 Conference Call
September 16, 2015

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- Recording number: 091615
- Moderator access code: 8033951#

ELPA21 (Testing Window: February 8th – March 18th)

- New online assessment implemented in 2015-2016
- For more information as well as sample items visit <http://www.elpa21.org/>
- Questar will be the vendor for the 2015-2016 Operational Forms
 - Customer Support coming soon!
- Field tested last year with positive feedback. Technical issues are currently being resolved.
- Technical Requirements (attachments from Terri and NDE webpage)
 - Hardware:
 - Review specs
 - Chromebooks are okay but field testers reported small devices generally not optimum for young students
 - Headsets:
 - Should plan to purchase/use integrated headsets (see specs)
 - Number of headsets is dependent on how test is administered. It is not necessary to purchase one set per student.
 - Title III funds may not be used for administering ELPA21 Assessment
 - Headsets already purchased may be used if they meet the technical requirements.
 - Operating systems (see specs)
- Reporting
 - AMAOs for 2014-2015 will be calculated from ELDA.
 - Next year there will be changes – TBA.
 - Standard setting will occur in Summer 2016 (along with PLDs)

Key Dates

- October 6, 2015 webinar (10am-11am CT):
 - Sept. 18 registration invitation will be sent by Questar.
 - Registration may be forwarded to key people and will be followed up with another email on Sept. 23 outlining the topics
 - Anyone attending will register individually
 - Target audience: DACs, School Assessment Coordinators, IT personnel (not for staff administering assessment)

- Topic: Technical/system requirements
- Webinar will be available on our website if unable to attend
- December 7, 2015—Upload of NSSRS data to Questar
 - All LEP students coded on Field 95 will be expected to test
 - Should a student arrive after, there will be a process to enter the student separately (TBA).
- Early December (date TBA) training webinar
 - Hosted by Questar
 - Target audience: Test Administrators (anyone facilitating the assessment)
 - Topic: test administration, interactive demos, accommodations, etc.
 - Webinar will be available on our website if unable to attend
- Early December (~December 7th)
 - Interactive Demos will be available designed to give students practice in actually doing the assessment.
 - Training modules for district/school personnel are being developed
 - Short modules covering various topics—i.e., accommodations, test administration, etc.
 - Will be accessible at any time.

Planning for Administration

- Plan for online delivery with exception of
 - Paper/pencil writing component for K-1
 - Paper/pencil option will be available but it may be limited (more info later)
- Have the “right” people involved/prepared, including technology and school assessment personnel
- Allow time for student practice on Interactive Demos (available Dec. 2015)
- Grades K-1 will need a lot of support
 - schools will need to plan ahead for small group/one-on-one administration
 - have young students practice manipulating a mouse (drag and drop) in the classroom
- Older students can use computer lab or devices
- All students should practice speaking into a mic/practice the playback function
- Seating considerations to avoid audio distractions for Speaking test/some districts advise every other student seating

Customer Support (by early next week)

- Questar will be hosting a customer support Helpdesk phone line and assistance through email
- Extended office hours during testing windows (considering both CT and MT)