



ELPA21 Update 2021-22
Preparing for Summative Assessments
DACs and ELPA21 Contacts:

The ELPA21 testing window is fast approaching. Here are a few things to keep in mind as you prepare:

- NDE's ADVISER system will pull student data from your SIS on January 11, 2022. All English Learners who are identified in your SIS on this date will be pre-loaded and ready for testing. Students who arrive in your district after January 11th will need to have their demographic information entered manually into the TIDE system.
- **Feb. 7-March 18, 2022** is the testing window. All K-12 English Learners are expected to be tested on each of the four domains (listening, reading, speaking, writing) during this timeframe. Please create schedules now if you haven't already done so for practice sessions as well as operational sessions.
- All testing materials and resources can be accessed via the [Nebraska ELPA21 Portal](#).
- Student devices will need to have a secure browser installed. Refer to the [Technology Coordinators](#) section of the portal [f](#)or more information.
- Large print, Braille and paper materials ordered during the November order window will arrive on or before January 24, 2022. An additional order window will be open January 24th through March 7th, 2022. District users order materials directly by calling the Nebraska ELPA21 HelpDesk at 866-287-5617. Districts are asked to **return materials to Cambium as soon as you have finished testing the students who need these test formats.**
- If you haven't signed up for email alerts from Cambium, the ELPA21 test vendor, please do so on the portal (upper right-hand section).
- Ensure test administrators have been trained to administer the assessment. **Training modules and manuals** are available on the portal in the [Resources](#) section.
- Ensure students have had adequate opportunities to engage with the testing environment by utilizing the available [practice tests](#).



- Translated test directions are available, if needed, on the portal in the [Resources](#) section for the following languages:
 - Spanish
 - Arabic
 - Chinese
 - Karen
 - Russian
 - Vietnamese
 - Marshallese
- Review the [ELPA21 Accessibility and Accommodations Manual](#) if you have questions about providing support for ELs with disabilities.
- **Domain exemptions:** In rare situations that preclude a student from engaging with a particular domain because of a disability, NDE can approve a domain exemption(s). For example, an exemption may be approved for a non-verbal EL who, because of the student’s disability and the absence of appropriate accommodations, cannot take the Speaking portion of the assessment. All domain exemptions must be approved by the NDE Title III Director prior to the student beginning the operational assessment. The practice test, however, may be administered to determine whether an exemption is an appropriate option.
- If English Learners transfer into your district during the testing window from another Nebraska district or ELPA21 state (AR, IA, LA, OH, OR, WV), check with the previous district to see if the student may have completed any or all of the domain tests. If assistance is needed, contact Allyson or Anne.

Helpful contact info

NE ELPA21 Help Desk

866-287-5617

Neelpa21helpdesk@cambiumassessment.com

Order materials, get assistance with technical issues

Allyson Olson DenBeste

402-405-5212

allyson.olson@nebraska.gov

Domain exemptions, policy questions, general questions

OR

Anne Hubbell

402-405-7017

anne.hubbell@nebraska.gov