

Nebraska ELPA21 Summative Assessment Guidance (2024-25)

The ELPA21 Summative is the statewide English Language Proficiency assessment that all English learners (ELs) (K-12) take each spring. English learners must be identified in ADVISER, the state record system. The testing window for the ELPA21 Summative Spring 2025 is January 27th - March 14th.

Important things to know about ELPA21 summative testing:

- The vendor for the ELPA21 Summative is Cambium Assessments (CAI). All information, resources, manuals, training webinars, etc. can be found on the NE ELPA portal at: <http://ne.portal.cambiumast.com/>
- Be sure to sign up for email updates on the portal by clicking “Register for email updates” at the top of the portal.
- Review ALL user guides and systems before testing, including the following resources:
 - [TIDE User Guide](#) (TIDE is the student and user management system)
 - [Nebraska ELPA21 TA User Guide](#) (Includes information about the Testing Delivery System)
 - [DEI User Guide](#) (Includes information about the Data Entry Interface for TAs administering the paper or braille version of the assessment)
 - [Nebraska ELPA21 Online Summative Test Administration Manual](#) (Includes directions for the practice and general test administration)
 - [ELPA21 Accessibility and Accommodations Manual](#) (Includes information about selecting and administering universal features, designated features, and accommodations for students)
- Prepare for testing:
 - Secure browser: Work with your technology coordinator to set up computers for ELPA21 testing. Both the test administrator and student will need a computer. A secure browser will need to be installed on the student’s computer. The secure browsers can be accessed on the dedicated resources page for [technology coordinators](#) on the NE ELPA21 portal.
 - Headsets are required for this assessment.
 - Paper Materials: Students may require accommodated materials such as braille, paper, and large print booklets, to take the ELPA21 Summative assessment. Initial orders for paper and braille tests for the ELPA21 Summative assessment may be placed through the Cambium Help Desk from October 30, 2024 through November 19, 2024 to ensure delivery to districts prior to the start of the Summative test window. There will be an additional ordering window for paper and braille tests from January 16 – March 7, 2025.
- Student Upload:
 - CAI will conduct a student data upload of all Grades K-12 students who have been identified in ADVISER as ELs on January 8, 2025. Please make sure that ELs are identified in your Student Information System as “EL Participants” prior to this date. These students will be uploaded into the TIDE system in preparation for testing. All K-12 students who arrive after the upload will need to be entered manually into TIDE. The [TIDE User Guide](#) has directions on how to add students.
 - Students who took the ELPA21 Screener and DID NOT qualify for EL services will not show up on your list of students unless the “English Learner Status” field in TIDE is marked ‘Yes.’ To ensure they don’t take a summative assessment, be sure their

- “English Learner Status” in TIDE, under the Student Demographics panel is marked as ‘No.’
- All EL students are required to test on the ELPA21 Summative or the Alt ELPA. However, if a student does not take the ELPA21 Summative assessment for a variety of reasons, a “reason not tested” (RNT) code will need to be assigned to that student in TIDE. The window to enter RNT codes is January 27 – March 28, 2025.
 - Reason not tested codes can be found in the [ELPA21 TIDE User Guide](#). Any eligible student that does not test and is not assigned a reason not tested code, will be assigned the lowest possible score for accountability purposes.
- Practice tests: It is very important that all students are given the opportunity to complete the practice tests before testing. Practice tests can be accessed in two ways:
 - Non-secure practice tests: The Test Administrator (TA) and student access the practice test on the homepage of the [NE ELPA21 portal](#). Credentials not required.
 - Secure-browser: This option mimics the secure testing environment. The TA must create and manage tests. Students use the secure browser and enter their log-in information. Students must have a profile in TIDE to use this practice option.
 - There are training options for the ELPA21 Summative Assessment:
 - Comprehensive online modules are available through the Iowa ELPA21 LMS. If you are new to the ELPA21 LMS, you will need to create an account in order to access the system. Instructions for doing so are provided below. If your email is a Google account, find directions [here](#). If your email is not a Google account, find directions [here](#). Once you have created an account, you will be able to enroll in the ELPA21 Summative Assessment training. Log into your account and click on the “catalog” button and you will see the registration button to start the ELPA21 Summative Assessment training. Click "Register" and you are ready to go! If you run into any issues creating an account or enrolling in the training (after you have reviewed the instructions linked in this message), please click on the help button in the LMS and create a help ticket or email <mailto:elpa21training@aelearningonline.org>.
 - There is also a new shorter online module, Refresher Training, for experienced Test Administrators. Short training modules for Summative administration can be found in the Resources sections of the [NE ELPA21 portal](#) (under Training Modules). Filter for the Summative Assessment and Training Modules.

For technical assistance, contact the NE ELPA21 Help Desk: Phone: 866-287-5617

Email: neelpa21helpdesk@cambiumassessment.com

Chat: <https://ne.portal.cambiumast.com/contact.html>

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