



Multilingual Learners Newsletter

September 2024

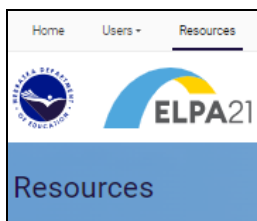
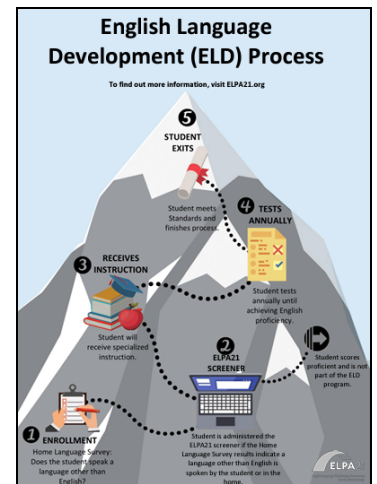


Reviewing ELPA21 Resources

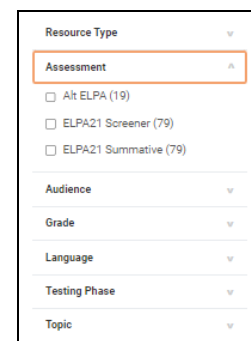
*New! Alt ELPA Screener!

The Alt ELPA Screener is available for Nebraska districts to pilot this year. This is an assessment of a student’s language proficiency in the required domains of Listening, Reading, Speaking, and Writing. The Alt ELPA Screener test items are based on the [Alternate English Language Proficiency \(ELP\) Standards for English Learners with Significant Cognitive Disabilities](#), which were adopted by the participating Alt ELPA states (Council of Chief State School Officers, 2019). These standards, which were completed in January 2019, highlight and amplify the critical language, knowledge about language, and skills using language in the College and Career Ready Standards.

The Alt ELPA screener should be administered by a district employee who holds a current license from the NE, a long term substitute who holds a license from the NE, or by someone who is employed under a waiver from licensure as a teacher of record or as an administrator. The Alt ELPA is best administered by a test administrator who is familiar with the student and the student’s communication needs. Test administrators and test coordinators must successfully complete the online self-paced training. The Alt ELPA test administrator/test coordinator trainings are located in the [ELPA21 training system](#). To access this training, please refer to [this document](#).



Additional Resources for all of the ELPA21 assessments (ELPA21 Screener, ELPA21 Summative, and Alt ELPA Assessment) can be found at the [NE Portal for Cambium](#). Educators can find training modules, administrative resources, and translated directions for the assessments in the [resources section](#) and can search by resource type, a title, or key words.



Two helpful resources for the beginning of the school year are the [ELPA21 Dynamic Screener TA Manual](#) and the new [Alt ELPA Screener TA Manual](#). In addition to all of the resources available on the NE Portal, there are also ELPA21 Assessment resources on the [NDE EL Website](#).



Spotlight: Lee Perez, ESL Teacher, 2022 Nebraska Teacher of the Year and 2023 Horace Mann Award for Teaching Excellence Finalist

Lee Perez is a wonderful resource for all educators in Nebraska. He has been honored for his work with English learners/Multilingual learners and he offers a number of professional learning opportunities. Some of these offerings include: ELL Teaching Strategies, Sketchnotes, Academic Conversations, Free Writing, Project Based Learning, Multilingual Teaching Strategies, and ELL Teaching Strategies for All Students. To learn more about Lee, please visit the [NDE Press Release](#), the [CCSSO Spotlight](#), or this [Channel Six News Link](#). To contact Lee, email him at lee.perez@ops.org.

Guidance: US Department of Education

FYI: Unlike most other ELs, under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, American Indian or Alaska Native (AI/AN) students may be identified as ELs even if their native language is English but they “come from an environment where a language other than English has had a significant impact” on their English language development. Some states have identification policies specific to AI/AN students, including Montana, North Dakota, Washington, and Wisconsin. To learn more about this, visit the [National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition \(NCELA\) website](#).

MIDTESOL: Mark your calendars for September 27-28, 2024 at the MidAmerica Center in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Join [MIDTESOL](#) and get involved! Register for the conference [here](#)! Some Nebraska educators will be presenting and it should be a great conference!

Additional Resources:

- [Understanding EL Reports in Adviser](#) and [Understanding the ELPA21 Reports](#)
- **Project ASSETS:** Listen to the ASSETS Podcast: <https://shop.nabe.org/pages/cop>
 - **Family Leadership Institute Cohort** this Fall! [English Flyer](#) and [Spanish Flyer](#)
 - Educator Cohort 4 - coming June 2025
- Professional Learning Opportunities: Academic Language Webinar Series and Canvas Course, ELP Standards and ELP Standards and Proficiency Level Descriptors, Content and Language Objectives, Formative Assessments for EL/MLs, and Rule 15 Canvas Courses. All of these can be found on our website under [staffing and professional development](#).
- Please remember to use the resources in [TransACT ParentNotices](#)! There are documents to support all areas of education. NDE provides the subscription and anyone can [self-onboard](#).
- Check out the [NDE EL Collaborative Groups](#) - EL Coalition [One-Stop-Shop](#), Teachers of EL/ML Collaborative [One-Stop-Shop](#), Multilingual Higher Education Group [One-Stop-Shop](#), Title III Consortium Directors [One-Stop-Shop](#)(Access to Title III Consortium Directors only).

Questions: Please contact us with any questions or concerns regarding your ML students or program.



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