



# Multilingual Learners Newsletter

## January 2025



### ELPA21 Summative and Alt ELPA Assessments

Starting on January 27, 2025, the ELPA21 Summative and Alt ELPA Assessment window opens for districts to begin testing all English learners and Alt English learners. The window will close on March 14, 2025. We hope the early opening and extra week give districts the time they need to complete all ELPA21 testing. Our goal is 100% participation. Please see other important dates [here](#).

Districts can check their Adviser English Language Testing report to verify all English learners who will be testing. If there are any errors, check your SIS and work with your tech to ensure accurate information is being communicated to Adviser. There are many helpful

English Learners			
REPORT	DESCRIPTION	Roles	REVIEW
Dominant Language	Summary of dominant language reported, with detailed student lists available.		Fall & Year-End
English Language Testing	Report of students who will be included in English language testing (ELPA21) preprinted labels extract.		Prior to Extract Date (December/January)

[reports in Adviser](#) and districts are encouraged to use these reports to check their data for English learners/Multilingual learners. NDE will pull district data January 8, 2025 for the testing upload. Districts can verify rosters in TIDE on January 10th. If you have students move into your district after the upload, you will need to manually enter them into TIDE on the Cambium Portal. If there are students on your roster who are no longer in your district, the Reason Not Tested window opens the same day as the testing window and closes on March 28, 2025.

Accommodations for those students with IEPs are allowable and should be set prior to testing. Students should be familiar with their accommodations and use them in the classroom on a regular basis. For guidance around accessibility and accommodations, please see the [2024-25 ELPA21 Accessibility and Accommodations Manual](#) and the [2024-25 Alt ELPA Accessibility and Accommodations Manual](#).

There are a number of training opportunities for test administrators. Modules can be found on the [ELPA21 Training Platform](#). Please see the [directions](#) to access these modules. The [NE Cambium Portal](#) also offers many training modules such as using TIDE, managing rosters, test delivery system overview, and more. In addition, NDE will offer an ELPA21 and Alt ELPA Assessment Training Office Hour on January 8, 2025 from 11:00-12:00 pm CT.

Anyone can join the Zoom Meeting: <https://educationne.zoom.us/j/4024057017?omn=95039164443>





## Spotlight: Harney Elementary, South Sioux City Community Schools Excellence in serving special populations of students!



We have some exciting news at South Sioux City Community Schools! On behalf of the National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators, SSC is thrilled to announce that the Nebraska Department of Education recognizes Harney Elementary as a National ESEA Distinguished School. Harney Elementary is one of just two schools in Nebraska to receive this honor, awarded for their outstanding efforts in significantly closing the achievement gap between student groups. This remarkable accomplishment reflects the dedication of the Harney staff, students, and families. At SSC, we couldn't be prouder!

In recognition, there will be a special presentation at the National ESEA Conference in Austin, Texas, on February 19-21, where a team from Harney will represent SSC Community Schools and celebrate this achievement on a national stage. This honor for Harney Elementary shines a spotlight on the collective impact of its staff on fostering excellence for ALL students. Congratulations to Harney Elementary!

**Guidance:** [The NSCAS Accessibility Manual](#) is a great resource for linguistic support and allowable accommodations for English learners. In addition, districts can understand how English learners are included in state accountability. All ELs must participate in all state-administered content assessments. Scores in the first year of assessing the student, however, will not be included in state accountability. In the second year, students must test, but only growth will be calculated. In the third year, students will participate, and scores will be included in state accountability systems.

### Additional Resources:

- The National Center on Educational Outcomes offers [English Learners with Disabilities Toolkits](#) to help better understand and appropriately serve this student population.
- [ELPA21 Training Modules](#) available on the [ELPA21 Training Site](#).
- ELPA21 Workshops: free for any educator in our state! [Sign up here!](#)
- Are you interested in joining the 4th Cohort of Project ASSETS? Cohort 4 begins June 2025 and if you want more information, [click here](#).
- Check out Alegria Learning, [Joyschoolenglish.com](#), with [resources](#) to support teachers and students.
- Blog: [National Scan of Screening Policies and Practices for Identifying English Learners in Pre-K](#).
- Please remember to use the resources in [TransACT Parent Notices!](#) There are documents to support all areas of education. NDE provides the subscription and anyone can [self-onboard](#).

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

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