

Office of Curriculum, Intervention, & Assessment
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ELPAC Frequently Asked Questions:

What is the purpose of the ELPAC?

The ELPAC has three main purposes:

- Initial Identification
- To monitor a student's progress in developing English proficiency
- To assist in determining proficiency in English and to serve as one criterion for reclassification to RFEP

Who can administer the test?

Only test examiners who are employees of Santa Cruz City Schools, are proficient in speaking English, have received formal ELPAC training, and have completed the test security affidavit may administer the ELPAC.

Which students are required to take the ELPAC?

Students with a primary language other than English, as determined by a home language survey, who have not taken the California English Language Development Test (CELDT) or ELPAC before and who have not been previously classified as an EL, must take the ELPAC Initial Assessment (IA). Students designated as ELs via the CELDT or ELPAC IA are required to take the ELPAC SA annually until they are reclassified as fluent English proficient.

Do English learners with disabilities take the ELPAC?

Yes. English learners, and newly enrolled students who have a home language other than English, with disabilities must be tested. Students with disabilities who participate in the ELPAC may use variations, accommodations, and/or modifications as specified in their individualized education programs (IEPs) or Section 504 plans.

Do foreign exchange students take the ELPAC?

Yes. The law does not specify that any student(s) may be exempted.

Do students in transitional kindergarten classes take the ELPAC?

Yes. These students are to take the kindergarten test. All students enrolled in SCCS in the first year of a two-year kindergarten program (i.e. transitional kindergarten), whose primary language is other than English as determined by a home language survey, must be administered the ELPAC within 30 calendar days of enrollment or 60 calendar days prior to instruction, but not before July 1.