



ELPA21 Testing Updates and Information

ELPA21 Spring 2018 Testing Window **February 5, 2018 – March 16, 2018**

All identified English Learners in Nebraska take the ELPA21 summative assessment. AIR is the vendor for ELPA21 testing. Information and resources for ELPA21 testing can be found on the Nebraska AIR portal at <http://ne.portal.airast.org/>. Please read over all manuals and user guides pertaining to your role before testing.

***If you haven't, be sure to [register for email updates](#) on the homepage of the portal.

Secure Browser Reminder: Secure Browser 9.5 or Secure Browser 10.0 must be installed on any computers used for secure ELPA21 testing. The 17-18 Secure Browsers can be downloaded from the Secure Browsers page on the AIR portal. Coordinate with your district technology coordinator and refer to the Technical Resources on the AIR Portal for more information.

Testing Labels Upload: Grades 2-12 student testing labels data upload will be on January 11, 2018. Grades K/1 upload took place in November. Work with your data manager to ensure that students in these grades are accurately identified on Fields 95 and 113. **All ELs must be identified on NSSRS Field 95 by this date.** Students who have met the state's exit criteria (See Rule 15) and are no longer EL, should be identified on Field 113 as redesignated English fluent (these students will not test on the ELPA21). If students enter a district after the upload, they must be entered manually into TIDE.

Training Webinars: Summative test training webinars have been created and can be found on the Resources Page of the AIR Portal. [Here](#) is a list of available training modules with times.

Practice Tests: Practice Tests are available for all students to understand the ELPA21 online testing environment and practice available tools. The Practice Tests can be accessed as many times as necessary for students to become familiar with the testing system. For complete instructions on administering Practice Tests, refer to the *TA User Guide*, available on the Resources page of the AIR Portal. There are two practice test options:

- Non-secure practice test – Guest user: The TA and student access the practice test on the homepage of the AIR portal. Credentials not required. Can be done at any time.
- Secure browser – Secure practice test: This option mimics the secure testing environment. TA must create and manage tests. Students use the secure browser and enter their log-in information. Students must be in TIDE in to practice this way.

K-1 Writing Supplement: ELPA21 testing includes an *additional* paper-pencil writing supplement in grades K and 1. All paper tests and K/1 Writing Supplements will be delivered to districts between ~~1/22/18-1/26/18~~. **DATES ADJUSTED to 1/19-1/20.**

As assessment season gets under way, here is an article that provides some ideas for collaborating and advocating for English learners on state-wide testing. Find it at: <http://www.ascd.org/publications/educational-leadership/feb16/vol73/num05/Fair-And-Square-Assessments-for-ELLs.aspx>