

## Nebraska ELPA21 Summative Assessment Guidance (2020-2021)

The ELPA21 Summative is the state-wide English Language Proficiency assessment that all English learners (ELs) (K-12) take each spring. English learners must be identified on ADVISER, the state record system. The testing window for the ELPA21 Summative Spring 2021 is February 8<sup>th</sup> – March 19<sup>th</sup>.

Important things to know about ELPA21 summative testing:

- The vendor for the ELPA21 Summative is CAI. All information, resources, manuals, training webinars, etc. can be found on the NE CAI portal at: <http://ne.portal.cambiumast.com/>
  - Be sure to sign up for CAI email updates on the portal by clicking “Register for email updates” on the upper-right corner of the portal, to receive updates from CAI.
  - 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)
    - *Nebraska ELPA21 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 browser can be found on the portal. There is dedicated resources page for technology coordinators on the CAI 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. Orders for paper and braille tests for the ELPA21 summative assessment must be placed through the Help Desk by November 19, 2020 to ensure delivery to districts prior to the start of the Summative test window. Help Desk contact information is listed at the end of this document.
  - **Student Upload:**
    - CAI will conduct a student data upload of all **Grades K-12** students who have been identified on ADVISOR as ELs on January 11, 2021. These students are all in the TIDE system. All K-12 students who arrive after January 11, 2021 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. However, if a student does not take the ELPA21 Summative assessment for a variety of reasons, a “reason not tested” code will need to be assigned to that student in TIDE. This can be done shortly after the testing window opens.
  - Reason not tested (RNT) codes can be found in the Nebraska ELPA21 TIDE User Guide. Any eligible student that does not test and is not assigned a reason code, will be counted as not making progress for accountability purposes.
  - Remote learners who are not able to be tested during the 2021 Summative window should have a RNT code of Unable to Test (08) entered.
- **Practice tests:** It is very important 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 TA and student access the practice test on the homepage of the CAI portal. Credentials not required.
  - Secure-browser: 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 to use this practice option.
- Short **training webinars** for all aspects of testing are available on the CAI portal for the summative assessment and can be accessed here:  
<https://ne.portal.cambiumast.com/resources/summative-webinars-and-trainings-ta/>

For information and questions, please contact the NE ELPA21 Help Desk:

**Hours:** 7:00AM to 7:00PM Central Time, Monday – Friday (except holidays)

**Phone:** 1.866.287.5617

**Email:** [neelpa21helpdesk@cambiumassessment.com](mailto:neelpa21helpdesk@cambiumassessment.com)

**Chat:** <http://ne.portal.cambiumast.com/chat/>