

Future Kindergarten Screener “Proficient” Designation Update – FAQs

What is the change? The definition of “Proficient” is changing from a mix of Level 4s and 3s (see [crosswalk](#) below) to all Level 3s or better for the **Future Kindergarten** scoring version of the screener.

When does the change go into effect? The update to the **Future Kindergarten** scoring version of the screener goes into effect in August 2021, when the screener debuts for the new school year in each state.

What assessment does it affect? This change affects the **Future Kindergarten** scoring version of the screener, which is used for students pre-registering for or enrolling at the beginning of their kindergarten year. The available dates vary by state, so check with your Test Coordinator or your state’s assessment portal to learn your state’s window dates.

Why was this change made? ELPA21’s Research & Evaluation team reviewed the kindergarten screener data. They concluded that students who score Level 3s or better on a spring pre-registration screener or an early fall screener are likely to be as successful as their non-English learner peers during their kindergarten year. The ELPA21 Governing Board voted in November 2020 to make this change official, beginning in the 2021–22 school year.

Who decided to make this change? ELPA21 and stakeholders—including the ELPA21 Governing Board, the ELPA21 Technical Advisory Committee, educators in school districts, and staff at state education agencies—helped gather data about this potential change. The advisory committees were key in assisting the Board to come to a decision regarding an official change to the **Future Kindergarten** scoring version of the screener proficiency requirement.

What are the kindergarten screener scoring models? See the crosswalk below.

**ELPA21 Scoring Version Requirements of the Kindergarten
 and Future Kindergarten Screener Crosswalk**

School Year(s)	Kindergarten Screener	Future Kindergarten Screener
2018–19 to 2020–21	4s or better in all domains	3s or better in Reading and Writing, 4s or better in Listening and Speaking
2021–22 and beyond	4s or better in all domains	3s or better in all domains