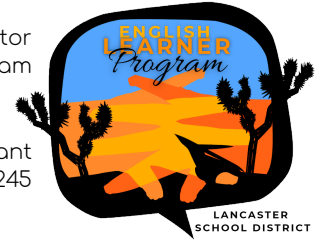


Krista Thomsen, Director
Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

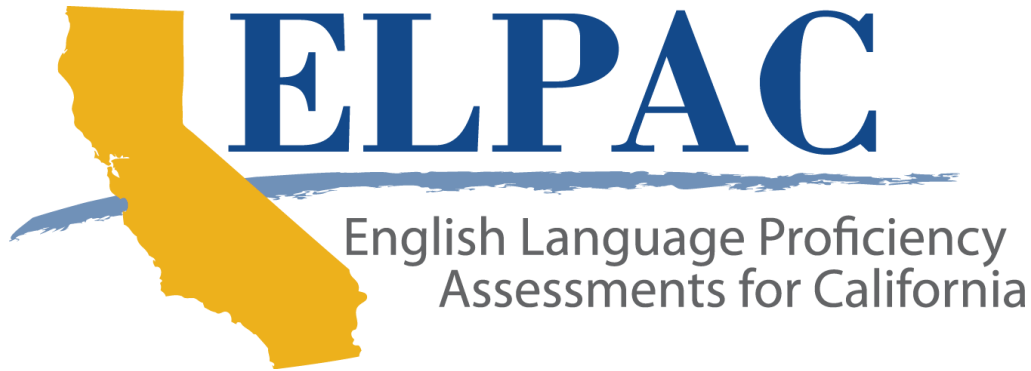
Martha Castro, Bil Office Assistant
(661) 723-0351 EXT. 57302

Nayeli Chacon, Coordinator
English Learner Program

Jennifer Padilla, Bil Office Assistant
(661) 948-4661 EXT. 245



Lancaster School District * 44711 Cedar Avenue * Lancaster, CA 93534 * (661) 948-6780 Fax



Identification, Assessment and Placement of English Learners

How does the Lancaster School District identify potential English learners and what do we do with that information?

Parents or guardians of students entering a California school for the first time (usually in Kindergarten or 1st grade) complete a Home Language Questionnaire (HLQ) that asks 3 questions:

1. What is the primary language used at home, regardless of the language spoken by the student?
2. What is the language most spoken by the student?
3. What is the language that the student acquired when he began to speak?

If the answer to any of these 3 questions is a language other than English, we are required to assess the student's English Language Proficiency (ELP). In California, the ELP adopted is the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC). When we administer it for identification only, we call it the initial ELPAC.

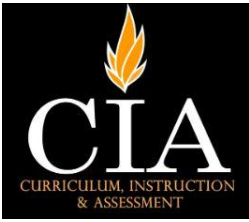
Students are then identified as IFEP (Initial Fluent English Proficiency) or EL (English Learner) based on the results of the ELPAC assessment.

If the student is identified as EL, we provide language assistance services to ensure that students acquire full English proficiency as quickly and effectively as possible, and meet state standards for academic achievement.

If you indicated that your child speaks a language other than English on the HLQ, your child will be assessed with the initial ELPAC test between August 11-September 7.

If your child receives special education services and has a significant cognitive impairment, the Alternate ELPAC will be administered by his teacher.

This year, the test will be in person, or remotely only if your child is in Independent Study.

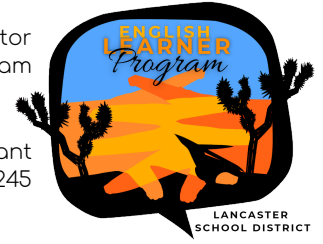


Krista Thomsen, Director
Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

Martha Castro, Bil Office Assistant
(661) 723-0351 EXT. 57302

Nayeli Chacon, Coordinator
English Learner Program

Jennifer Padilla, Bil Office Assistant
(661) 948-4661 EXT. 245



Lancaster School District * 44711 Cedar Avenue * Lancaster, CA 93534 * (661) 948-6780 Fax

The test takes approximately one hour and will be administered by a trained test examiner at your child's school during school hours. If your child studies at home, you will receive a call from the school with the date and time of the remote test.

Your child's voice will be recorded as part of the speaking section of the test that is presented on the computer. A small percentage of student responses is used to validate the accuracy of the score obtained and will not be used for identification purposes. All recorded responses will be destroyed once the results are validated.

To ensure that each student receives the most accurate result, and so that the exam is fair to all students, we indicate below the guidelines to follow for a remote test:

- You can help your child start the test session.
- Do not discuss the test questions or any of your materials with anyone before, during, or after the test.
- No one may record the test or use cameras or other devices to take photos of the test questions or of your child answering the test.
- To make sure your child is taking the test without help, they will be monitored during the test using audio and video (a microphone and a webcam).
- The camera is only used to observe your child and their surroundings during the test and will not record the session. We ask that you follow all instructions given by the examiner as to where the camera should be placed.
- If your child is unable to use the computer's camera, microphone, speaker or headset during the remote test, please contact your school to find out how else your child can take the test.

To learn more about the ELPAC, go to the California Department of Education Parent Guides to Understanding web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/parentguidetounderstand.asp>.

You also can look at sample test questions on the practice tests, which can be found on the ELPAC Starting Smarter website at <https://elpac.startingsmarter.org/>.

If you have any questions about your child taking the Initial ELPAC, please contact your child's school.

Sincerely,

Nayeli Chacon
English Learner Program Coordinator