

Alt ELPA Assessment Overview & FAQ

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Resources, guidance, and training materials for the Alt ELPA are found in the following locations:

- [ELP Assessment page](#) (Alt ELPA section)
- [OSAS testing portal](#) (Resources section, use the test filter “Alt ELPA”)

The Alternate English Language Proficiency Assessment (**Alt ELPA**) is a new test designed *specifically* for English learners with the most significant cognitive disabilities who are eligible to participate in their state’s alternate assessments. It was developed through the Collaborative for the Alternate Assessment of English Language Proficiency (CAAELP) project in collaboration with state and national partners. Its purpose is to provide fair and valid information on the English language proficiency of this historically underserved group of students. English learners who take the Alt ELPA operational field test will not be required to take another English language proficiency assessment for the 2022-2023 school year. The Alt ELPA operational field test will be administered in winter 2023, and student scores will be available on September 2023. For additional details about the CAAELP project, please visit the altelpa.org.

Alt ELPA Operational Field Test

- 1. When is the operational field-testing window?**
 - a. The testing window for the operational field test is February 01 – March 24, 2023.
- 2. How is the operational field test administered?**
 - a. The test will be administered using the state’s online assessment platform. Each test will be administered to a student by a trained test administrator, typically the student’s teacher. Test administrators will follow the scripted text provided in the Alt ELPA User Guide. Test administrators will also provide testing supports needed by individual students, as described in the Oregon Accessibility Manual.
- 3. Is there a requirement for parent/guardian consent for student participation in the operational field test?**
 - a. No. Consent is not required, since this test is part of the usual annual state testing.
- 4. Where can I find the student eligibility and participation guidelines?**
 - a. A Decision Making Resource including an eligibility decision tree is found on the [ELP Assessment page](#), in the Alt ELPA Guidance expandable.
- 5. Where can I find the Alt ELPA User Guide?**
 - a. The Alt ELPA User Guide can be found both on the [ELP Assessment page](#) (in the Assessment expandable) and on the [OSAS Portal](#) (in Resources section, use the test filter “Alt ELPA”).
- 6. What materials will test administrators need to prepare prior to the test administration?**
 - a. Test administrators must review the Alt ELPA User Guide and review the *Test Administrator Directions and Scoring Rubric Booklets* that accompany the test and follow the scripted directions exactly. Support materials that may be needed for the student’s use are described in the Alt ELPA User Guide and the Oregon Accessibility Manual. No manipulatives are needed to administer the test.
- 7. Who will record the response to test items for students who are not able to do so?**
 - a. If the student does not use a mouse to record responses to the online test directly, the test administrator may enter the student responses for students who indicate responses to test items by verbalizing, pointing, eye gaze, use of assistive technologies, etc. Please

see the Alt ELPA User Guide and the Oregon Accessibility Manual for specific directions for recording student responses.

8. What should a test administrator do if the student has difficulty working for sustained periods of time or becomes frustrated during the test session?

- a. The test administrator is permitted to pause and resume the test based on the needs of the student. If the test is paused, there is no loss of any recorded student responses. The test administrator may provide the student a brief break or may resume the administration of the test on a different day. Please see the Alt ELPA User Guide for specific directions on pausing and resuming the test as well as the conditions which indicate that a test should be terminated.

9. Since the test is administered online, what are the technology requirements?

- a. The Alt ELPA has the same technology requirements as Oregon’s other online tests, such as the English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and ELPA Summative tests.

10. How can I access the test for a student?

- a. The test will be accessed online through the [OSAS Portal](#).

11. What is required for test administrator training? How do I access test administrator training?

- a. To ensure score calibration in this operational field test year, *every* Test Administrator who is administering the Alt ELPA will be observed by a second scorer the first time they administer an Alt ELPA Speaking or Writing test. Both the Test Administrator and the second scorer must:
 - i. Complete the standard ODE training required of all TAs (see Test Administration Manual Section 1.5), *and*
 - ii. Read the Alt ELPA User Guide
- b. The CAAELP-developed self-guided training is highly recommended, but not required. Instructions on how to access this training can be found in the *User Support* section of the Alt ELPA User Guide.
- c. If the Test Administrator and second scorer complete a test administration and recalibration is not required (as described in the Alt ELPA User Guide), the TA is considered “calibrated” (for that domain) and does not require a second scorer for further administrations (in that domain) in the 2022-23 school year.
- d. DTCs are responsible for tracking Speaking and Writing calibration for TAs in their district.

12. When may I begin setting testing supports for eligible students in TIDE?

- a. Test administrators may add testing supports in the Test Information Delivery Engine (TIDE) throughout the year. Please consult the Test Administration Manual and the Oregon Accessibility Manual for best practices in choosing and implementing supports for testing.

13. How long will testing take?

- a. The time needed to administer this one-on-one test will vary by student. The test forms will include a range of item complexity and test administrators may pause and resume the test based on student needs. Test administrators will need access to the necessary technology (i.e., computers) to complete the sample tests and administration of the operational field with students. Each domain of the Alt ELPA is administered separately and contains 10 items. If all four domains are administered, the test will contain a total of 40 items. For questions regarding test duration, exemptions, or accommodations, please consult the Alt ELPA User Guide and the Oregon Accessibility Manual.

14. Will there be paper-based testing?

- a. Test administrators may print out the test on-site. For details regarding print on demand, please consult the Oregon Accessibility Manual.
- 15. When are make-up testing dates?**
 - a. There will be no make-up testing dates.
- 16. When will the student’s score become available to teachers and guardians?**
 - a. Test results will be available in late 2023.
- 17. Will districts be able to make exiting decisions based on scores from the operational pilot?**
 - a. Yes. ODE will communicate on this process at a later date.
- 18. What are the training requirements for test coordinators who will supervise the administration of the operational field test?**
 - a. It is highly recommended that all test coordinators also complete the online training module. This helps ensure that the test coordinators are knowledgeable about their responsibilities, testing integrity, appropriate test practices, and the procedures for registering students and test administrators.
- 19. Is there a 1% participation cap on the Alt-ELPA?**
 - a. ODE will not be counting Alt ELPA participation as part of the 1% participation cap in alternate assessments based on alternate academic achievement standards (AA-AAAS).

Alt ELPA Sample Tests

- 1. When are the sample tests available? How do I access the sample test?**
 - a. The online sample test can be found on the OSAS Portal. For details regarding the sample tests, please consult the Alt ELPA User Guide.
- 2. What is the purpose of the sample tests?**
 - a. The sample test allows test administrators and students the opportunity to experience the test procedures, training, technology, and item types prior to the winter 2023 operational field test.
- 3. Will the sample test provide scores?**
 - a. No.