

ELPA Screener Webinar FAQ

8/10-8/11 Sessions

Is there any evidence that masks have an impact on Speaking scores for ELPA (by muffling student speech, for example)?

ELPA21 has been tracking this issue with our scoring vendor. So far, there have been no instances of mask-muffling affecting Speaking scores.

How can districts access the 8/10 training on using the Centralized Reporting System?

The training was recorded ([Video](#)) and is accompanied by a [Q&A Document](#).

5/25-26/21 Sessions

Are districts required to test every student who is eligible for unique screening?

No. Districts are expected to test as many students as is feasible, given the local context. Districts are not required to test every eligible student “no matter what.”

Per [Administering the ELPA Screener and Summative in 2020-21](#), districts must develop a priority list for screening order. All eligible students must appear somewhere on this list so that the district knows who is next in the screening order. However, districts should not cut corners on proper testing practices or any lingering health and safety concerns in order to “get through” more students. In some districts, this means that not every student will be tested. The guidance allows for this possibility.

How exactly does parent consent work for unique screening?

For the ELPA Summative, the key phrase was, “Do not test without consent.”

For unique screening, the key phrase is, “Get consent if you can, test when you need to.” It is best practice to remain in communication with families about unique screening and abide by their expressed wishes accepting or declining testing. However, instruction and program decisions must eventually be made to ensure that students receive appropriate language services. Districts should make a good faith effort to communicate with families, but may choose to test without parent consent.

Why wasn't more advance warning given about the unique screening opportunity?

Administering the ELPA Screener and Summative in 2020-21 was published in the January 14 and following editions of AA Update. A copy of the article was distributed to the DTC listserv and Title III listservs on January 8. If you can help us ensure our communications more reliably reach proper district personnel, please let us know!

What is the final date beyond which remote identification is no longer allowable?

Remote identification is set to phase out on July 31, 2021. If districts are aware of any health or safety concerns that would require continuation of the remote identification policy, please let us know.

Could OR use the WIDA Access while waiting for the Alt-ELP?

Because WIDA is not aligned to Oregon standards, we might need a special dispensation from the State Board of Education to pursue such a path.

Is the “on the fly” Speaking scoring rubric the same for all grades?

Yes.

Could the auto-submit window stay at 14 days instead of returning to 7?

Update (8/12): Yes. The auto-submit window will remain at 14 days going forward.

Can multiple students be screened in the same test environment?

Yes, with the following caveats:

- The space needs to meet the stated conditions for a quiet, secure test environment as detailed in the Test Administration Manual.
- Every Screener must begin with a 1:1 TA-student ratio.
 - Once students begin working independently, multiple students may be supervised by the same TA.
- Relevant health and safety precautions must be observed.

When will remote identification no longer be allowed?

July 31, 2021.

If there is a need for remote identification beyond July 31, will we need permission from ODE?

Update (8/12): Currently, health and safety conditions continue to permit in person testing. If your district sees a compelling reason for remote identification, please contact ODE.

During the TA-scored Speaking portion of the Screener, is there a minimum required number or minutes or words that a student must meet at higher score points?

No. Per the [ELPA Screener Speaking Scoring Document](#), the student’s score derives from relevance to the prompt, clear communication, and effective use of grammar and structures. This is true at all grade levels. Even a single word can yield a score point of 1 (although it is admittedly unlikely to yield a score point of 2), at any grade. Please see ELPA Screener Speaking Scoring practice slides for examples and rationales:

- [Elementary](#) (09/08/20)
- [Middle and High School](#) (02/11/21)