

CELA Proficiency

The CELA Proficiency test is an annual assessment of ELL's to observe and report gains in listening, speaking, reading, writing, oral language, and comprehension. Since it is an English proficiency test, it is not available in Spanish.

The test yields scores that enable educators to:

- compare/track student progress in language proficiency over time
- consider various instructional options
- evaluate schools' and districts' instructional programs for ELL's.

The proficiency test is scored by CTB/McGraw Hill, the testing contractor. However, the person administering the speaking domain, rates the student's responses as the student answers and then marks their response. The results of the CELA Proficiency are given to the districts and then the schools, the principal, and any other teacher involved with your child has access to their scores. Parents also get a report of their child's CELA Proficiency scores.

There are five performance standards (1-5) that correspond to English proficiency levels. These levels are included as part of a body of evidence used to monitor progress in English language development and re-designation of students for program services.

Colorado's English Language Development (ELD) Standards

1. **Listening:** ELL's listen for information and understanding, using a variety of sources, for academic and social purposes.
2. **Speaking:** ELL's speak to convey information and understanding, using a variety of sources, for academic and social purposes.
3. **Reading:** ELL's read for information and understanding, using a variety of sources, for academic and social purposes.
4. **Writing:** ELL's write to convey information and understanding, using a variety of sources, for academic and social purposes.

* ELD Standards adopted in April 2005

For more information, please visit the ELAU
Website at:
http://www.cde.state.co.us/cde_english/index.htm

Or contact:

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English Language Acquisition Unit
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For questions regarding CELA Placement contact:

English Language Acquisition Unit 303-866-6963

For questions regarding CELA Proficiency contact:

The Unit of Student Assessment 303-866-6929



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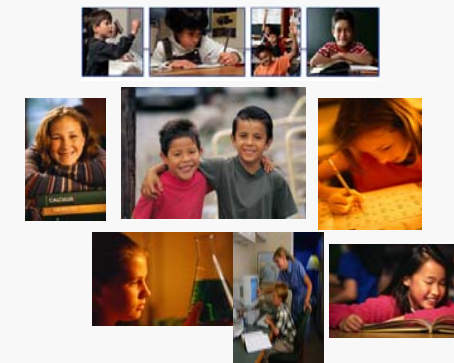
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Colorado English Language Assessment (CELA) Program 2007 Administration

English Language Acquisition Unit

The mission of the English Language Acquisition Unit is to support all English language learners linguistically, socially, and academically. The unit provides educational leadership for teachers, parents or guardians, immigrant, migrant, and refugee students, and Colorado communities.

A Message from the Director

"The CELA assessment program provides Colorado's ELL students with an opportunity to demonstrate their growth in English language acquisition. Students are learning English and they are progressing academically thanks to your efforts. On behalf of the English Language Acquisition Unit, we look forward to the continued development of this assessment program and to working with you to move our students forward."

Barbara M. Medina, Ph. D.

Director, English Language Acquisition Unit

CELA

CELA is the standardized Colorado English Language Assessment for placement and proficiency of all Colorado's English language learners (ELL's). It is based on Colorado's English Language Development (ELD) Standards and is used to fulfill requirements at the state, SB 109, and federal, Title III of NCLB legislation, levels. This test is the only state approved assessment for English language learners. It is replacing the three other tests that were previously approved.

CELA is developed collaboratively by the testing contractor, CDE, and Colorado educators based on the Colorado ELD standards.

Who takes the CELA?

Any new to district student, K-12, who has been identified by the Home Language Survey (HLS) as having a primary home language other than English is required to be assessed with the **CELA Placement test**.

Any student who has been identified by the Placement test as Non-English proficient (NEP) or Limited-English proficient (LEP) and is receiving program services is required to be assessed with the **CELA Proficiency test**.

CELA Placement

The CELA placement test is used as a screener to identify a student's current level of English language proficiency and if they qualify for support services in a language instruction program.

Since the CELA Placement test is used to determine English proficiency, it is not available in Spanish.

The CELA Placement test is scored by the teacher administering the test.

These scores enable educators to:

- determine the level of English proficiency at the time of arrival to the district
- consider various instructional and/or service options for the student.

If the CELA Placement score is low, this signifies that the student needs more support services in order to improve in English language acquisition and assist them academically. The individual districts develop policy around placing the students in the best program for their needs. All districts are not alike, so they may offer different programs, but they all have the common thread of identifying, assessing, and supporting English language learners in Colorado.

Conversely, if a student has a high CELA Placement score, this signifies that they may not need support services at all. However, districts can decide to use supplemental tests to build their body of evidence for a student.

