

English Language Proficiency Act Program (ELPA)

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the English Language Proficiency Act Program?

The English Language Proficiency Act Program is a state funded program that provides financial and technical assistance to school districts implementing programs to serve the needs of students whose dominant language is not English.

2. How is ELPA Funded?

It is funded on a per pupil basis. The formula is written in the statute. It is as follows: 75% of the total appropriation is allocated to A/B students. Twenty five percent of the total appropriation is allocated to C students.

3. How long does a student qualify for the ELPA Program?

An ELPA student qualifies for funding up to two fiscal years. However, the district is obligated to serve each student after the two-year limit.

4. Are preschool and half day kindergarteners counted as year on ELPA students?

The ELPA law section 220240104 states, "Establish language proficiency programs for K-12." ELPA does not include Pre-Kindergarten.

5. How do we assess monolingual students?

All assessments are designed to test pre-emergent levels of proficiency to fluent or advanced. Under ELPA law, all students **MUST** be tested regardless of the English language ability.

6. Clarification/FAQs from October 1, count regarding ELA students.

Please direct all October 1, questions regarding ELA student to Jan Rose Petro at (303) 866-6838 or petro_j@cde.state.co.us

7. Can teachers/school districts determine if students are A/B or C regardless of their testing score?

If a student tests at LEP or FEP level but teachers and/or administrator deny his/her English language or proficiency, yes, a teacher or administrator can make a decision based on observation that the student is in fact at an alternate English proficiency level.

8. What do we do if the language a student speaks is not listed in the Language Codes List?

Contact Morgan Cox at (303) 866-6784 or cox_m@cde.state.co.us

9. How do we get updates and news regarding ELPA?

Contact Morgan Cox at (202) 866-6784 or cox_m@cde.state.co.us to be added to the ELPA listserv and update any district personnel information.

10. What are the powers and duties of the school districts?

1. Identify, through the Home Language Survey, the W-APT and the observations and recommendations of parents, teachers, or other persons, a student whose dominant language may not be English.
2. Assess such students, in the district, whose dominant language is not English.
3. Certify to the department those students, in the district whose dominant language is not English.
4. Administer and provide program for students whose dominant language is not English.

11. What are the ELPS key dates?

1. October 1, Count date of number of eligible students.
2. October 31, Certified data due to CDE based on the October 1, count.
3. June 30, End-of-Year report due to CDE based on the preceding school year.