# English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) Summative Alternate ELPAC Parent and Guardian Notification Letter Template

California Department of Education • April 2025

**Directions:** Adapt this letter by using school letterhead and inserting school information where indicated in brackets.

Dear Parent/Guardian:

We know that your child brings many strengths with them to school, but also may need extra support in the classroom. As an English learner student, your child will take the Summative Alternate English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (Alternate ELPAC) as listed in their individualized education program.

The Summative Alternate ELPAC measures how much progress your child is making in learning English. On this test, your child may use their preferred way of communication such as sign language, eye gaze, pointing, gestures, alternative communication devices, or other alternate modes to understand and express information.

Your child will take the Summative Alternate ELPAC every spring to measure their progress until they are fluent in English.

The testing schedule is listed below:

**[*Insert school testing schedule*]**

You are an important part of your child’s education. To make sure your child feels comfortable taking the test, you can do the following:

* Explain to your child that this test is used as a tool to help them learn, and that they should not be anxious or scared.
* Remind your child that you and their teacher want them to try their very best and are there to help, every step of the way.
* Explore the practice tests with your child on the CAASPP and ELPAC Practice and Training Tests web page   
  <https://www.caaspp-elpac.org/resources/preparation/practice-and-training-tests>, so they can become familiar with the platform and setup of the test.

You will receive your child’s results at or before the beginning of the next school year. Test results will identify areas where your child is doing well or needs more help, so you can better support their learning at home and teachers can better support their learning in the classroom.

To learn more about this test, go to the ELPAC Starting Smarter website at <https://elpac.startingsmarter.org/> or review the California Department of Education Parent Guides to Understanding web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/parentguidetounderstand.asp>.

If you have questions, please contact **[*insert name of school contact*]** at **[*insert phone number and/or email address*].**

Sincerely,

**[*Insert name of local educational agency superintendent or school principal*]**

**[Superintendent/Principal]**