

How can I help my child get ready for ELDA?

Make sure your child understands his or her first language; this will improve your child's English. Speak to your child about how learning English will help him or her take full advantage of educational opportunities and how knowing two languages will help him or her succeed.

For more information, contact:

- your child's teacher,
- your school administrator,
- your school district,
- the Louisiana Department of Education's Help Desk at 1-877-453-2721, or
- the *ELDA Assessment Guide* at <http://www.louisianaschools.net/topics/elda.html>.



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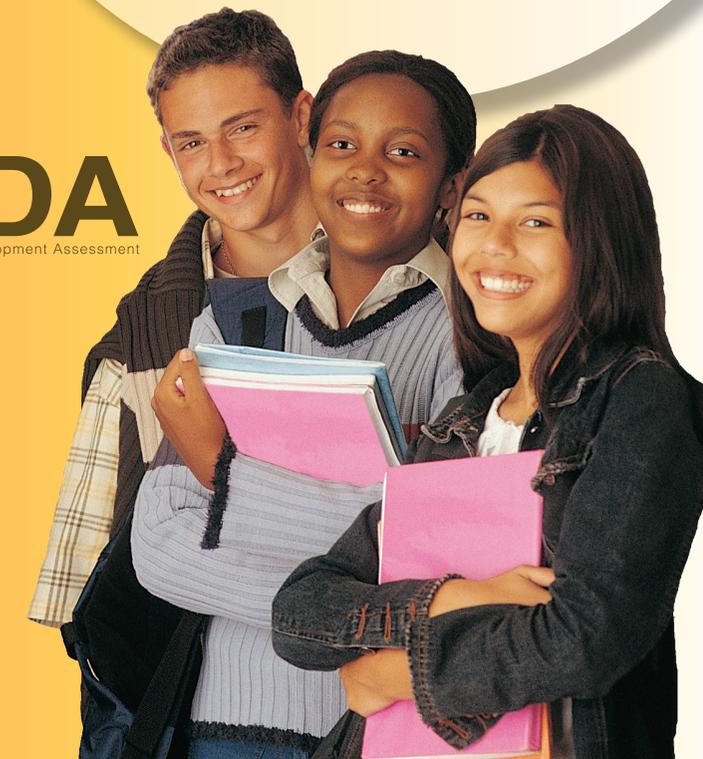
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A Parent's Guide

English Language Development Assessment

2013



Writing • Reading • Speaking • Listening

What is ELDA?

The English Language Development Assessment (ELDA) measures your child's English language proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. ELDA also helps educators in designing English language instruction to help your child achieve English proficiency and to successfully learn math, English language arts, science, and social studies content.

Who takes ELDA?

Students who have been identified as limited English proficient are required to participate in ELDA.

Why do we have ELDA?

The Elementary and Secondary School Act of 2001, No Child Left Behind, requires yearly assessment of English proficiency for all students who have been identified as limited English proficient. ELDA measures your child's progress in learning the English language and will help determine when your child has achieved full English proficiency.

What does participation in ELDA mean for my child?

The information ELDA provides will be used to ensure your child receives appropriate English language instruction and accommodations needed to understand the content areas while he or she is learning English.

When will my child take ELDA?

ELDA is given each year during a testing window of several weeks, usually from mid-February through the end of March. ELDA has been shortened at grades 3 through 12 so it will take less time for students in these grades to take the test.

How often will my child be assessed with ELDA?

Your child will participate yearly in ELDA until he or she is no longer identified as limited English proficient and is considered fully English proficient.

Who will give ELDA to my child?

School personnel who have received special training give the test to students.

How will I find out my child's ELDA scores?

A report that includes how your child performed in listening, speaking, reading, and writing and an overall English proficiency level is sent to your child's school. You will receive a copy of the report from the school.

Who else will know my child's ELDA score?

Individual student scores are NOT reported to the public. Only your child's teachers and school/district personnel will know your child's ELDA scores so they can design an appropriate educational program to meet your child's language and academic needs.

What happens when my child is no longer identified as limited English proficient?

Your child will no longer take ELDA. He or she will not receive specialized English language services, but will be monitored for two years. While your child is monitored, school staff may decide to again identify your child as limited English proficient only if they find that he or she is not performing well in school and specialized English language services are needed again.

