



Alternate **ASSESSMENTS**

School Year 2025-2026

Welcome, Alternate Assessment District Test Coordinator!

The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) has been notified that you have been appointed by your Superintendent or Charter Representative as the Alternate Assessment District Test Coordinator (DTC) for your LEA(s). You will be the point of contact for the following assessments: Alt ELPA Summative, Alt ELPA Screener, and MSAA. If there is a change in the Alternate Assessment DTC, an updated [Test Security Agreement \(TSA\)](#) must be submitted to the testing inbox at Testing@azed.gov.

Multi-State Alternate Assessment, MSAA, is an assessment designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. MSAA ELA & Mathematics are tested in grades 3-8 and 11, while MSAA Science is tested in grades 5, 8, and 11.

Alt ELPA Screener is designed to identify English learners or assess English language proficiency of English learners with the most significant cognitive disabilities. District Test Coordinators will need to submit the [Alt ELPA Screener Request Webform](#) to add eligible students for the Alt ELPA Screener. Students must have been determined by the IEP team to be eligible for alternate assessments and have one of the following requirements: the Home Language Survey (HLS) indicating a language other than English, sign language other than ASL, or missing an English language proficiency test. Students who participate in Alt ELPA Screener are tested in Grades K-12.

Alt ELPA Summative is an alternate English language proficiency assessment designed for English learners with the most significant cognitive disabilities. Eligible students in Grades K-12 will take the reassessment in late winter.

Alternate Assessment Eligibility

For the Alt ELPA Screener, eligibility needs to be determined within the first 30 days of enrollment or 14 days for transfer students. Students should be tested within 30 days of enrollment or 14 days for transfer students. If newly eligible students are not determined eligible within these timeframes, the student will take the AZELLA placement.

Alternate Assessment eligibility determination is a yearly, IEP team decision. IEP teams must determine eligibility for Alternate Assessments before November 28 to allow for suitable instructional time before test administration.

The [Eligibility Determination Form](#) must be completed and documented within the student's current IEP. Eligible students will need to be selected in the Student Selector Application for MSAA and Alt ELPA Summative prior to the November 28 deadline.

Webpages and Resources

The [Alternate Assessments DTC Handbook](#) includes roles and responsibilities for DTCs throughout the school year. A calendar with responsibilities and thorough instruction is provided for clarification. Please keep in mind that the Alternate Assessments DTC Handbook does NOT replace the test manuals that cover the specific areas and content of MSAA and Alt ELPA.

- [Alternate Assessment DTC Website](#)
- [The Assessments Bulletin](#)
- [Arizona State Specific Policy](#)
- [Alt ELPA \(Cambium\) Arizona Portal](#)
- [Alt ELPA | Arizona Department of Education](#)
- [MSAA | Arizona Department of Education](#)
- [MSAA Assessment System](#)

ADEConnect Access

Please have your Entity Administrator (EA) follow the steps below to add the Alternate Assessment DTC role to your ADEConnect account.

DTC Assignment by EA in ADEConnect:

1. Click the "User Management" tab.
2. Click "Add User" (if it is a new user without an account) or "Add/Remove ADEConnect Roles."
3. Add the same DTC name as listed on the Test Security Agreement form to your organization/district as the "Alternate Assessment: Test Coordinator." ADEConnect users are notified via email when the ADEConnect role has been assigned.

ADEConnect information for Entity Administrator (EA)

The designated district EA is responsible for ensuring that their ADEConnect users have the correct role assignment to access all necessary applications. ADEConnect EAs can visit the [ADEConnect FAQ page](#) for clarification on managing accounts.

Training & Test dates

Training is accessed in the [LMS portal](#) for Alt ELPA (Summative and Screener) and in the [MSAA platform](#) for MSAA. Training must be completed before administering the corresponding assessment.

Activity	Alt ELPA Screener	Alt ELPA Summative	MSAA
Test Window	August 4, 2025 – May 8, 2026	January 26 – March 13, 2026	March 9 – April 24, 2026
Training Opens	July 1, 2025	December 2025	February 17, 2026

If you have any questions, please email us at AlternateAssessment@azed.gov.