

Questions and Answers

What is the Home Language Survey?

The Home Language Survey is a document used in the State of California to determine if the student speaks a language other than English. At time of enrollment, parents have the opportunity to indicate if another language other than English is spoken by their child.

Why must I fill out the Home Language Survey?

The Home Language Survey is required by Education Code (EC306 [a]) and is the first step to determine the language fluency of students. We have 36 bilingual Home Language Surveys available on the English Learner Web site.

What is the English Test?

The English Test is called "English Language Proficiency Assessments for California" (ELPAC). It assesses the academic and social language fluency of the student. The test is divided into four (4) areas: Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. All students new to the Fresno Unified School District, which have indicated another language other than English is spoken, will take the ELPAC test upon entering our schools, and they also take it once every year until they reach re-designation.

What is the Primary Language Test?

There is one Primary Language Tests used in Fresno Unified School District. The test for Spanish speaking students is called the LAS-Links Español. This mirrors the ELPAC because it tests Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. For all other students, we use an informal assessment which is comprised of an interview with the parent/guardian of the student.

What is the process to have a student assessed?

Upon enrollment, the school will FAX a copy of the Home Language Survey to the Language Assessment Center. The parent and/or the school site can call the Language Assessment Center at 457-3928 to make an appointment.

How long does it take to complete the test?

The ELPAC takes between 1 - 2 hours, depending on the fluency of the student in English. The Primary Language test can also take between 1 – 2 hours depending on the students' fluency in the primary language.

Where is the test administered?

Both the initial ELPAC and the Primary Language Assessment are given at the Language Assessment Center located in the Department of English Learners at 2348 Mariposa, Fresno, CA 93721. Phone: 3928

What is the timeline between initial assessment and receiving the results of those assessments?

The tests are scored as soon as the student completes them, and the parent is provided unofficial test results as soon as the scoring is completed. At this time, the assessor will review the results for English, Primary Language, and the instructional programs available to meet the instructional needs of the student.