



Educator Recruitment

Call for Teacher Test Item Writers & Reviewers

West Virginia seeks experienced teachers and other educators for item writing and reviewing opportunity

[\[click here\]](#) to apply

The English Language Proficiency Assessment for the 21st Century (ELPA21) is a consortium of 11 states developing an assessment that measures English Language Learners' (ELLs') mastery of the communication demands of states' rigorous academic standards. Educator participation in the development of the assessment system is crucial to ELPA21's success. There are various points in the development of ELPA21 where input from teachers and other experienced educators is needed, the first of which is in the development and review of test items. ELPA21 is seeking educators to work with the selected item development vendor to write and review assessment items. Specifically, we are seeking classroom teachers with experience evaluating ELLs in the content areas and other educators with expertise in English language development such as district-level staff or college faculty. The test item development vendor, ETS, will select classroom teachers and other educators to contract as test item writers and reviewers.

ELPA21 is being developed through a federal grant awarded to Arkansas, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Nebraska, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, Washington, and West Virginia. The Oregon Department of Education is the lead state agency, and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) is the project management partner. ELPA21 will be administered online, and will include a summative assessment plus a screener at each of the six grade band levels of K, 1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8 and 9-12. The test will assess the four language domains: listening, reading, writing, and speaking.

We expect the project to require approximately 170 educators as item writers and reviewers across the 11 states. Contracted item writers will attend a short course in best practices in test item writing provided by the contracted vendor; this course must be attended in person, will last one or two days, and is likely to be offered in a central location during the second trimester of 2014. Travel and substitute teacher costs for the training days will be covered by ETS. Items will then be developed and submitted remotely. Payment will be from ETS and will be at competitive market rates. There are additional opportunities for teachers to serve as item reviewers. The item review process will include reviews for content, passage, and sensitivity. No formal test item experience is necessary, but familiarity with ELLs and teaching content areas to them is essential. Informal or classroom test item writing experience is valuable.

Interested? Please [\[click here\]](#) to fill out a survey with your name, contact information, and experience for consideration. Please contact your ELPA21 state representatives, Robert Crawford at rcrawford@access.k12.wv.us or Mami Itamochi at mitamochi@access.k12.wv.us for more information.