# ELSTAR: the English Learner State Accountability Resource

7/10/2019

# Attendee Poll

**What is your role and organization?**

- State or district staff supporting ELs (e.g., Title III)
- State or district staff supporting assessment and accountability (e.g., Title I)
- Other state or district staff
- Staff from Institutes of Higher Education, research organizations, or technical assistance organizations

# Warm Up Poll

**How much do you know about ELSTAR?**

- I don't know anything about ELSTAR.

- I heard about ELSTAR at a meeting or conference.

- Our state used a previous version of ELSTAR to examine state data.

# Goals for today's webinar

By the end of the webinar, participants will know how to navigate and use the ELSTAR to analyze state-level data on English Learners (ELs).

# Agenda

1. ELSTAR Background

2. ELSTAR Overview

3. ELSTAR Demonstration

# ELSTAR Background

# ELs in State Assessments and State Accountability Systems

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) includes important provisions related to the inclusion of ELs in state accountability systems:

➢ Long-term goals for increases in the percentage of ELs making progress in achieving English language proficiency (ELP), as measured by the statewide ELP assessment

➢ Measurements of interim progress toward meeting long-term goals

➢ A timeframe by which ELs are expected to attain ELP

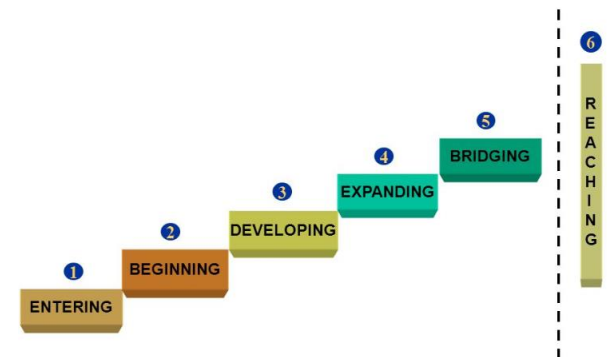➢ The use of ELP as a **school-based** measure in the state accountability system

# ELs in State Assessments and State Accountability Systems

In setting realistic timelines for the length of time it takes ELs to attain ELP, states can take into account individual and contextual characteristics that influence time to attainment.

Research studies have determined several individual and contextual characteristics that relate to EL students' progress toward and attainment of ELP including:

- Initial level of ELP
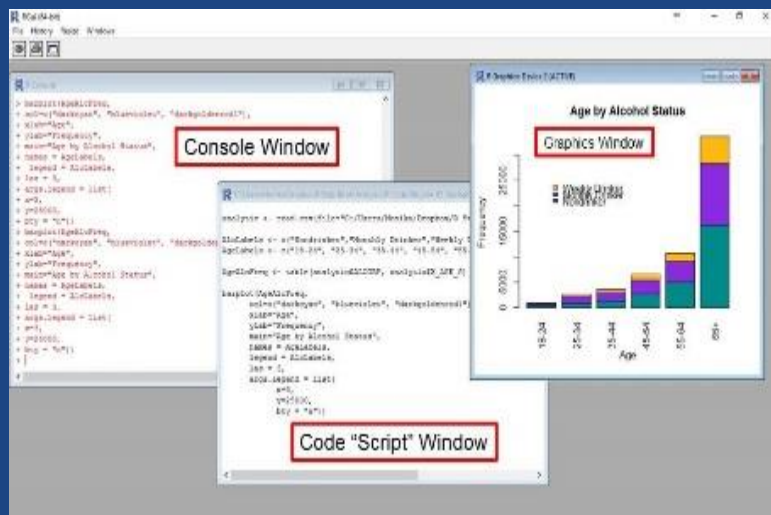- Grade or age at school entry
- Time in the school system

# ELs in State Assessments and State Accountability Systems

Improved data collection and analysis over the past decade has helped state educational agencies (SEAs) to examine longitudinally and better understand the pace at which ELs develop ELP.

Many states are currently leveraging these data to develop empirically grounded expectations for meeting the requirements of the ESEA. The ELSTAR is designed specifically to support states in examining data on ELs as part of these endeavors.

# ELSTAR Overview

# ELSTAR



- The ELSTAR is a statistical analysis tool developed to support states and districts in analyzing EL data.

- ELSTAR can be used to:
  - Explore EL progress in attaining ELP
  - Analyze the influence of individual and contextual variables on EL student growth and attainment

# ELSTAR v2.0



**English Learner State Accountability Resource** | Introduction | User Guide | ELSTAR Tool

## Welcome to the English Learner State Accountability Resource!

The English Learner State Accountability Resource (ELSTAR) is a statistical analysis tool to support state education agency (SEA) leaders in making data-based decisions about English learner accountability, checking the validity and reliability of the ELP indicator, and technical assistance.

Use ELSTAR to run analyses such as:

- Exploring the statewide distribution of EL students and performance on content area and English Language proficiency assessments
- Determing what assessment results reveal about your English proficient performance standard
- Investigating trends in actual and expected annual ELP growth
- Informing exit criteria standards based on trends in time to achieve English Language proficiency

To start using ELSTAR, select the **User Guide** or **ELSTAR Tool** tab at the top of the page.
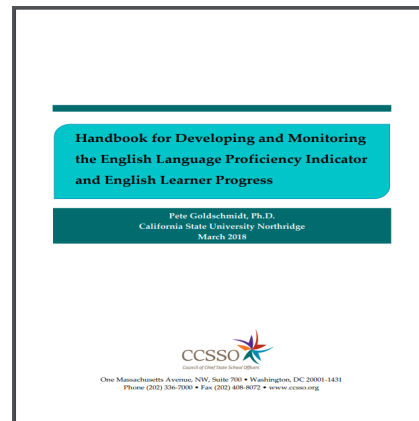
How to cite this work:

Slama, R., Lee, M., Goldschmidt, P., & August, D. (2018). *English Learner State Accountability Resource (ELSTAR)*. American Institutes for Research: Washington, DC.

- ELSTAR version 1.0 was developed and shared with a small group of states in 2018.

- ELSTAR version 2.0 enhances the capability of the original resource by allowing states to add and analyze their own variables.

- The ELSTAR tool was developed using the open-source software called  R.

# The ELSTAR Tool

- The ELSTAR tool is aligned with the [Handbook for Developing and Monitoring the ELP indicator and English Learner Progress](#) (CCSSO, 2018)

- It was developed as a companion to the Handbook to support states in developing an ELP Indicator, monitoring the functionality of the ELP Indicator, and evaluating the impact of EL programs on school and student success.

# ELP Indicator Handbook

The CCSSO ELP Indicator Handbook describes:

- Procedures for developing an ELP Indicator that can be incorporated into a statewide accountability system
- Procedures for monitoring functionality of the ELP Indicator within the accountability system and its ability to provide useful descriptive information
- Procedures for evaluating the impact of EL programs on school and student success.

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Source: Goldschmidt, P. (2018). Handbook for Developing and Monitoring the English Language Proficiency Indicator and English Learner Progress. Washington DC: Council of Chief State School Officers.
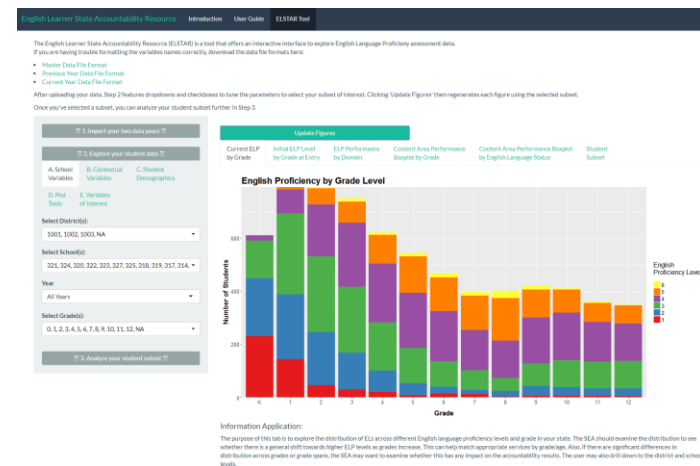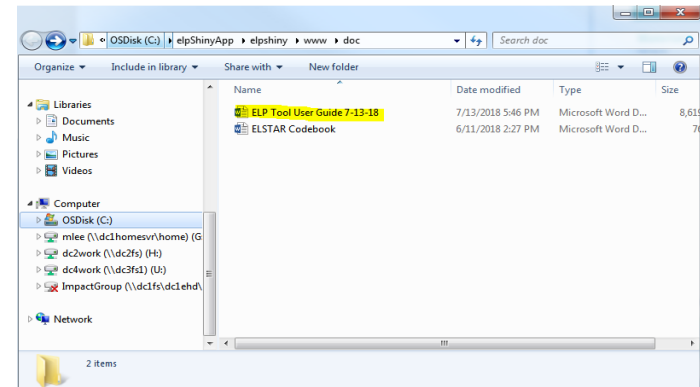


Handbook for Developing and Monitoring the English Language Proficiency Indicator and English Learner Progress

Pete Goldschmidt, Ph.D.
California State University Northridge
March 2018

CCSSO
Council of Chief State School Officers

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# ELSTAR Demonstration

# State Support Network

ITA supports related to the ELSTAR include:

- General information related to the ELSTAR

- Support using the ELSTAR, including
  - downloading the ELSTAR
  - preparing state data for import into the ELSTAR
  - exploring state data with the ELSTAR

To explore ITA contact Aaron Butler ([abutler@air.org](mailto:abutler@air.org))

# Resources

- Accessing the ELSTAR Tool https://statesupportnetwork.ed.gov/resources/english-learner-state-accountability-resource-elstar

- Questions?

    - If you have questions about this tool or would like to request support or technical assistance, please contact the State Support Network at statesupportnetwork@air.org.

**State Support Network**
Partnering for School Improvement