

Early Learning Assessment (ELA) Reporting of Reason Codes

There are cases when a teacher will not be able to determine a score for a child on a skill, knowledge or behavior. In these cases, the teacher will enter an “N” score in the bridge document for the unscored skill, knowledge or behavior. A score of “N” will then be calculated at the Learning Progression level within the Bridge Document.

Programs that use EMIS to report child data are required to enter a reason code anytime a Learning Progression score of “N” is reported. There are a number of reason codes to select from within EMIS if an “N” score is reported for a Learning Progression. A list of the allowable reason codes, and an explanation of what they mean, can be found in the table below. Currently, there is no column on the bridge document that is available to record reason codes. As a result, programs must develop an internal communication process to assure that teachers are accurately reporting reason codes to their EMIS coordinator anytime an “N” score is reported for a Learning Progression.

Only one reason code can be reported for each Learning Progression and score of “N”. If multiple Learning Progressions are scored as an “N”, a different reason code can be selected for each “N” score.

Programs that use the EAS system to report ELA scores are not required to report a reason code for an “N” score in the Fall 2016 assessment window. However, please be advised that the EAS system will be updated for the Spring 2017 assessment window, at which time reason codes for “N” scores will also be required to be entered. The options for the reason codes within EAS will be the same as those available in EMIS and are provided in the table below.

| Assigned Letter | Reason Code | Meaning of Reason Code |
|-----------------|--|--|
| A | Medical Reason | The child has an on-going medical reason that prevented the child from being assessed. |
| B | Parental Refusal | The parent/guardian refused to allow the child be assessed. |
| D | Suspension/Expulsion | The child was suspended or expelled during the assessment window. |
| F | Other (reason not listed) | Any other reason than those identified in the other allowable reason codes. |
| J | Student moved in or out of district before assessment administered | Student was not enrolled in the district at the time of the assessment. |
| M | Medical Emergency | Circumstances beyond the Local Education Agency’s control prevent a child from being assessed at any time during the assessment window due to a significant medical emergency (e.g., child is hospitalized due to an accident). Ongoing medical conditions should be reported using the A – Medical Reason code. |
| R | Parent requests results not be reported to the state | Parent allows child to be assessed, but does not want results reported. |
| S | Non-Scorable item | Student did not exhibit any skills, knowledge or behaviors that resulted in a score being able to be recorded. |