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Frequently Asked Questions

Basics

What is eleot?

The eProve™ Effective Learning Environments Observation Tool® (eleot®) is a learner-centric classroom observation tool that comprises 30 items organized in seven environments aligned with the AdvancED Standards and Indicators and based on a review of widely used observation instruments and the most current research on effective learning. The eleot provides useful, relevant, structured and quantifiable data on the extent to which students are engaged in activities and/or demonstrate knowledge, attitudes and/or dispositions that are conducive to effective learning.

The environments are:

- Equitable Learning
- High Expectations
- Supportive Learning
- Active Learning
- Progress Monitoring and Feedback
- Well-Managed Learning
- Digital Learning

What makes eleot different from other classroom observation tools?

The eleot:

- Focuses observations on the most important educational stakeholder: the student/learner.
- Does not require face-to-face training or multiple-day professional development.
- Was intentionally built to be an intuitive, easy-to-use, educator-friendly tool.
- Has online, asynchronous training modules and an online inter-rater reliability certification process.
- Encourages and recommends that observers ask students about aspects of their classroom experience to gather more evidence that then informs the observers' ratings.

In what ways can eleot be used?

The eleot provides an aggregate picture of classrooms across an entire school but can also be used formatively and reflectively at grade level, in content-specific ways (e.g., to examine the overall performance of sixth grade math teachers), longitudinally for a specific classroom or in other ways based on the needs of the user.

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What are learning environments?

A learning environment means the context in which student learning occurs within a classroom setting. The eleot captures multiple learning environments under seven broader themes: Equitable learning, high expectations, supportive learning, active learning, progress monitoring and feedback, well-managed learning and digital learning.

Is eleot a tool to evaluate or measure individual teacher performance or quality?

No. Just as the AdvancED Standards for Quality are used to provide school/system/organization-level ratings through performance, the aggregated mean rating for each environment from all observations conducted is what is reported, NOT individual classroom data.

How much does eleot cost?

The cost of an annual individual school license is \$400. A school system or corporation purchasing two or more licenses for their schools receives a discounted price of \$360 per license. Each license includes three registrations for the online eleot training and certification course. Additional trainings can be purchased for \$75 each.

Can I purchase eleot for just a portion of the schools in my system/corporation and still receive a discount?

Yes. As long as you are purchasing for two or more schools, you will receive the discounted price of \$360.

Is there a cost to the school system in addition to the school license fee?

No additional cost is incurred by the system when purchasing licenses for their schools.

What does the system solution include?

Systems purchasing eleot receive an eleot license for each school, with unlimited use of eleot for one year and three registrations for online certification training per school. The eleot system administrator will have access to each of the licensed schools, including the ability to upload teacher rosters, assign observers, conduct observations, view reports and export observation data in order to aggregate them offline, and conduct system-wide analysis. We're currently working on enhancing the systems solution to provide additional online reporting capabilities and other features.

As a system, I want to purchase eleot for my schools at the discounted rate, but some of my schools already have purchased eleot at the individual rate. What should I do?

Contact AdvancED Customer Service at 888.413.3669, ext. 5720 or helpdesk@advanc-ed.org, and they will assist you in transitioning your school(s) to the system model at the discounted price and issue you a credit.

How have other schools and systems used state and federal funds to pay for eleot?

Because eleot is a powerful tool for professional development, peer learning, and continuous improvement, many schools use their Title I, Title II, or School Improvement Grant funds to purchase this app.

Features

If I purchase eleot, is there a limit to the number of people who can conduct observations in my school/system?

No. Each eleot license includes unlimited users, observations, reports and other functions. Each license does include three certification trainings, which is encouraged but not required. Additional training can be purchased within the app.

What is the expected length of time for the observation?

Observations are conducted for a minimum of 20 minutes. Observing for a longer period of time is optimal but not required.

Can notes be captured in eleot during the observation process?

Yes. In addition to item ratings, notes can be answered at the item level. Future updates will include the ability to take notes at the observation level as well.

Do I need an Internet connection to conduct observations with the app?

No. The eleot app can be used without an Internet connection. The app auto-saves your work even when you are not connected. Your work will sync automatically when you reopen the app when you have connectivity.

Can I upload a faculty roster?

Yes. The eleot administrative functions allow you to upload a roster of instructor's names and emails. The observer then will be able to pick the name of the instructor from a list inside the app without having to manually enter it.

Can observation results be exported?

Yes. Authorized eleot administrators can export raw observation data in CSV format using the reporting feature.

What types of reports are available?

An observation summary report can be generated using on any combination of grade levels, subjects, instructors, observers, lesson segments and/or date range. This summary report can be viewed on screen, printed, saved as PDF or exported in CSV (comma-separated values) format. The raw data used to generate the report can also be downloaded in a stacked or unstacked CSV format.

Who can see our eleot results?

Individual observation results are visible only to the observer and any authorized eleot administrator for that institution. AdvancED does not maintain or track data from individual observation results. AdvancED uses only aggregated, de-identified eleot data for research and product development purposes.

Does eleot support other languages?

Currently, the eleot app and all associated functions and reporting are available only in English. A hardcopy version of eleot is available in Spanish. Please contact our Help Desk at 888.413.3669, ext. 5720 or helpdesk@advanc-ed.org for more information.

Does AdvancED provide support after eleot is purchased?

Yes. For assistance or questions about eleot, please contact our Help Desk at 888.413.3669, ext. 5720 or helpdesk@advanc-ed.org.

Can I send feedback to the teacher from the app once the observation is complete?

Yes, you can email the Observation PDF directly to the Instructor. In the Observation Details under the date, start and end time, select the Email PDF to Instructor link, and then check the items you would like included. You also can send a copy to yourself or simply download the Observation PDF.

Training

What kind of training is available for eleot?

Each eleot license includes three registrations for the online asynchronous eleot training and certification course. This in-depth training provides both text and video examples of the environments measured by eleot. To become eleot certified, one must complete a 20-minute virtual classroom observation via video provided in the online certification course and obtain a minimum of .90 agreement with expert ratings.

AdvancED Experts are also available to provide face-to-face eleot training and workshops. Contact AdvancED at contactus@advanc-ed.org to discuss additional training needs.

Is training required to use eleot?

The eleot app is intuitive and user-friendly; however, we do encourage users to become eleot certified, as the training will enhance the tool's effectiveness. Being a certified observer ensures that you have the knowledge and skill level to conduct valid and reliable observations using eleot and to accurately rate each item in the seven environments with less observer bias. Training is provided through eleot to users selected by the administrator. Users are certified after successful completion of the training, and training for additional users can be purchased based on the school's needs.

How do I participate in eleot certification training?

Users with administrator permissions can purchase and assign eleot training seats to selected individuals under Account Settings in the app. Each eleot license includes three complimentary training seats.

Do all observers have to be certified?

No, but to ensure the validity and reliability of your observations, AdvancED highly recommends that all observers be certified. However, for all AdvancED review processes (including external accreditation, diagnostic and special reviews), observer certification is a requirement.

Can additional online eleot training be purchased?

Yes. Additional training seats can be purchased from the Account Settings page on the eleot administrator panel at any time for a cost of \$75 per additional registration.

Can eleot training be purchased without buying the app?

No. At this time eleot training is available only with the app.

How do I access the online eleot training and certification course?

You will receive an automated email with login information from Canvas once an eleot administrator has assigned you an online training seat. If you do not receive or misplace the email, access the training course at: <https://advancedorg.instructure.com/login> by entering your email address and ASSIST password. Need assistance? contactus@advanc-ed.org.

Accreditation

Do I need to be an accredited school/school system/corporation to purchase and use eleot?

No. Any institution, regardless of its accreditation status, can use eleot to monitor and improve student engagement.

Are the items aligned with the AdvancED Standards and Indicators?

Yes. All items are aligned to one or more of AdvancED's Indicators. The most prevalent Indicators aligned to the items are found in Standard 3, Teaching and Assessing for Learning.

Can eleot results be used as External Review evidence for our accreditation process?

Yes. The eleot results provide External Review Teams with valuable observation data that provide a picture of the collective learning environments across a school or system. The results can be used to corroborate information obtained from interviews, artifacts or evidence, student performance data, and stakeholder feedback data. Schools also can use eleot after their External Review to implement their Required Actions and Improvement Priorities as a part of their continuous improvement process.

Research

Is there research on eleot?

Yes. The eleot was developed by an internal and external group of educators who examined research related to effective classrooms as well as different measures of effective teacher practice. A published whitepaper provides an analysis of the data of over 45,000 direct classroom observations as well as their results.

What does AdvancED do with eleot data?

AdvancED conducts regular psychometric analyses of eleot data to ensure that the observation tool is performing as designed, to guide recommendations for future enhancements, and to confirm the reliability and validity of the measure's ability to accurately reflect classroom practices across a school on a given day. The result of extended psychometric review reveals that the performance of eleot is robust across multiple subjects and grades as well as across multiple environments. In the future, the AdvancED research team will examine the relationship of eleot scores to other global outcomes of interest including student academic, social/emotional and behavior outcomes. AdvancED will use only aggregated, de-identified eleot data for research and product development purposes. AdvancED does not maintain or track data from individual observation results.

Is eleot a valid and reliable tool?

In order for observation data to provide accurate results, high levels of validity and reliability must be maintained. AdvancED follows the Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing (SEPT) to ensure that observations meet stringent criteria and to ensure ethical use and maximal utility. To date, data collected from over 45,000 classroom observations has established the overall reliability and validity of eleot related to test content, response processes and construct validity. Face validity based on test content has been established through expert judgments of the theoretical relationship between the seven environments and the 30 items describing aspects of those environments. The overall reliability of the measure is .94 using Cronbach's Alpha, which is considered a very strong level of reliability. To assess construct validity, a confirmatory factor analysis of the measure revealed the root mean square error of approximation (RMSEA) as .068 indicating an adequate fit of the model to the data.
