

EDUCATION FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS**Definitions**

English learner means a student who does not speak English or whose native language is not English and who is not currently able to perform ordinary classroom work in English, also known as a limited English proficient or LEP child. (Education Code 306)

English language classroom means a classroom in which the language of instruction used by the teaching personnel is overwhelmingly the English language, and in which such teaching personnel possess a good knowledge of the English language. (Education Code 306)

English language mainstream classroom means a classroom in which the students either are native English language speakers or already have acquired reasonable fluency in English. (Education Code 306)

Sheltered English immersion or *structured English immersion* means an English language acquisition process in which nearly all classroom instruction is in English but with the curriculum and presentation designed for students who are learning the language. (Education Code 306)

Bilingual education/native language instruction means a language acquisition process for students in which much or all instruction, textbooks, and teaching materials are in the student's native language. (Education Code 306)

Identification and Assessment

Upon enrollment, each student's primary language shall be determined through use of a home language survey. (5 CCR 11307)

Within 30 calendar days of their initial enrollment, students who are identified as having a primary language other than English, as determined by the home language survey, and for whom there is no record of results from an English language development test shall be assessed using the English Language Proficiency Assessment for California (ELPAC) or English Language Proficiency Initial Assessment for California. (5 CCR 11511)

All students shall have sufficient time to complete the ELPAC as provided in the directions for test administration. (5 CCR 11516)

Any student with a disability shall take the ELPAC with those accommodations for testing that the student has regularly used during instruction and classroom assessment as delineated in the student's individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 plan that are appropriate and necessary to address the student's individual needs. (5 CCR 11516.5)

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education under Section 504)

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The district shall notify parents/guardians of their child's results on the ELPAC within 30 calendar days following receipt of the results from the test contractor. (Education Code 52164.1; 5 CCR 11511.5)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

Parents/Guardian or the LEA may request a classification review prior to the Summative ELPAC administration. If requested, LEA will complete a classification review and notify the parent/guardian of results. If the student is classified as an EL, the Summative ELPAC must be administered every spring until the student is reclassified as English proficient (i.e. RFEP). If the student is classified as IFEP, the ELPAC administration process stops.

Before students are enrolled in a program for English language learners, parents/guardians shall receive information about the program and their opportunities for parental involvement. This information shall include the fact that an individual student's participation in the program is voluntary on the part of the parent/guardian. (Education Code 52173)

Not later than 30 calendar days after the beginning of the school year, each parent/guardian of a student participating in, or identified for participation in, a language instruction program supported by federal Title III funds shall receive notification of the assessment of his/her child's English proficiency. The notice shall include all of the following: (Education Code 440; 20 USC 6312)

1. The reason for the student's classification as English language learner
2. The level of English proficiency
3. A description of the program for English language development instruction, including a description of all of the following:
 - a. The manner in which the program will meet the educational strengths and needs of the student
 - b. The manner in which the program will help the student develop his/her English proficiency and meet age-appropriate academic standards
 - c. The specific exit requirements for the program, the expected rate of transition from the program into classrooms not tailored for English language learner students, and the expected rate of graduation from secondary school if Title I funds are used for students in secondary schools
 - d. Where the student has been identified for special education, the manner in which the program meets the requirements of the student's IEP

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4. Information regarding a parent/guardian's option to decline to allow the student to become enrolled in the program or to choose to allow the student to become enrolled in an alternative program
5. Information designed to assist a parent/guardian in selecting among available programs, if more than one program is offered

Parent/guardians also shall be notified of the results of any reassessments. (Education Code 52164.3)

At the beginning of each school year, parents/guardians shall be informed of the placement of their children in a structured English immersion program and shall be notified of an opportunity to request for mainstream placement. (Education Code 310; 5 CCR 11309)

The principal shall consider all placement requests made pursuant to Education Code 311(c) for students with special needs and shall submit a rationale of the decision regarding the waiver to the Superintendent or designee. When determining whether or not to recommend the approval of the waiver request, the principal shall assume that the facts justifying the request attested by the parent/guardian are a true representation of the child's condition.

Each request shall be considered on its individual merits with great deference given to parental preference for student placement.

The principal or designee shall act upon all parental requests within 20 instructional days of submission to the principal.

All parental requests shall be granted unless the principal and educational staff have determined that an alternative program offered at the school would not be better suited for the overall educational development of the student. (5 CCR 11309)

(cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)

(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)

In cases where a parental request is denied, the parent/guardian shall be informed in writing of the reason(s) for the denial and advised that he/she may appeal the decision to the Board if the Board authorizes such an appeal, or to the court. (5 CCR 11309)

Reclassification/Redesignation

The district shall continue to provide additional and appropriate educational services to English language learners for the purposes of overcoming language barriers until the English language learners have: (5 CCR 11302)

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1. Demonstrated English language proficiency comparable to that of the district's average native English language speakers
2. Recouped any academic deficits which may have been incurred in other areas of the core curriculum as a result of language barriers

English language learners shall be redesignated as fluent English proficient when they are able to comprehend, speak, read and write English well enough to receive instruction in the regular program and make academic progress at a level substantially equivalent to that of students of the same age or grade whose primary language is English and who are in the regular course of study. (Education Code 52164.6)

The following measures shall be used to determine whether an English language learner shall be reclassified as fluent English proficient: (5 CCR 11303)

1. Assessment of English language proficiency utilizing the ELPAC as the primary criterion, and objective assessment of the student's English reading and writing skills
2. Participation of the student's classroom teacher and any other certificated staff with direct responsibility for teaching or placement decisions
3. Parent/guardian opinion and consultation

Parents/guardians shall receive notice and a description of the redesignation process, including notice of their right to participate in the process. Parent/guardian participation in the process shall be encouraged.

4. Student performance on an objective assessment of basic skills in English that shows whether the student is performing at or near grade level

The Superintendent or designee shall provide subsequent monitoring and support for redesignated students, including but not limited to monitoring the performance of redesignated students in the core curriculum in comparison with their native-English speaking peers, monitoring the rate of redesignation, and ensuring correct classification and placement.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop a process to monitor the effectiveness of the district's program for English language learners. The district's program shall be modified as needed to help ensure language and academic success for each English language learner.

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Advisory Committees

At the district level when there are more than 50 English language learners in the district and at each school with more than 20 English language learners, parent/guardian advisory committees shall be maintained to serve the advisory functions specified in law. (5 CCR 11308)

Parents/guardians of English language learners shall constitute committee membership in at least the same percentage as their children represent of the total number of students in the school. (Education Code 52176)

The district's English language advisory committee shall advise the Board on at least the following tasks: (5 CCR 11308)

1. The development of a district master plan of education programs and services for English learners, taking into consideration the school site plans for English learners
2. The districtwide needs assessment on a school-by-school basis
3. Establishment of a district program, goals and objectives for programs and services for English learners
4. Development of a plan to ensure compliance with applicable teacher or aide requirements
5. Administration of the annual language census
6. Review of and comment on the district's reclassification procedures
7. Review of and comments on the written notification required to be sent to parents/guardians pursuant to 5 CCR 11300-11316

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

In order to assist advisory members in carrying out their responsibilities, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that committee members receive appropriate training and materials. This training shall be planned in full consultation with the members. (5 CCR 11308)

Regulation

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VACAVILLE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Vacaville, California