What is the process of identifying students for the Bilingual/ESL program?

All Students

Home Language Survey

Language spoken at home and by student = English

Language spoken at home and by student = English and any other language

Language spoken at home and by student = Not English language

Test

PreK—1st = Oral Language Proficient Test (OLPT)
2nd—12th = OLPT + Norm Referenced Standardized Achievement Test (NRT)

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LPAC Meeting

LEP

Non-LEP

General Education Classroom

Parental Notification

Placement: Bilingual Program

Placement: ESL Program

Parental Permission

No

Yes

Parent Conference

Bilingual

ESL

Parental Permission

Yes

No

Parent Conference

Yes

No

Placement: Bilingual Program

Placement: ESL Program

Parental Permission

Yes

No

Parent Conference

Yes

No

Placement: Bilingual Program

Placement: ESL Program

Parental Permission

Yes

No

Parent Conference

Yes

No

LEP Denial

Meets Exit/Reclassification Criteria

Non-LEP (LEP Code = F or S) (Monitor)

Non-LEP (LEP Code = F or S) (Monitor)
What is an English as a Second Language (ESL) program?

- ESL is an intensive English language instruction given by teachers trained in effective language acquisition strategies who work with English Language Learners.
- ESL instruction shall be commensurate with the student’s level of English proficiency and academic achievement.
- An ESL program provides intensive instruction that develops competency in the listening, speaking, reading, and writing of the English language.
- An ESL program uses the academic and cultural background of the student as a platform to provide the appropriate instruction in English.

What is the purpose of an ESL program?

- An ESL program develops academic language proficiency in English.
- An ESL program prepares the students to be successful in all academic subjects.
- An ESL program emphasizes the mastery of English language skills in all four domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, as well as, mathematics, science, and social studies, using research-based methodologies appropriate for second language acquisition.

Who is eligible for an ESL program?

- Students in prekindergarten through high school who speak or hear a language other than English in their home and who are learning English are eligible based on information from their Home Language Survey.
- Students will be assessed in language proficiency and based on their results, a recommendation for placement will be made by the Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC), and parent permission will be required for participation.

Will my child be taught the same subjects and learn the same skills as students in the regular program?

- Yes, all students in an ESL program will receive instruction in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) in English with linguistic accommodations based on their English language proficiency level using the ELPS (English Language Proficiency Standards).
- Yes, language arts, reading, mathematics, science and social studies are integral parts of the state mandated curriculum.
- Yes, students will have a meaningful opportunity to participate in art, music and physical education which are part of a balanced curriculum.

Who is responsible for teaching an ESL program?

- Teachers, who are highly qualified, specially trained in sheltered instructional strategies and certified to teach in ESL settings/classrooms/programs in a manner or approach that meets the special language needs of the students.

How is an ESL program different from English language arts instruction?

- The focus is on learning social and academic English within the context of all content area subjects.
- State-adopted ESL materials and ESL certified teachers support students to become proficient in English, learn the knowledge and skills in the TEKS, and reach their full academic potential.

How can parents help their child learn by participating in an ESL program?

- Parent approval is required to allow their child to participate and benefit from the program.
- Parents can participate as a member of the LPAC that helps determine how students are identified, placed, instructed and assessed.
- Parents can become involved at home by encouraging their child to achieve, providing him/her a place to study and showing interest in his/her schoolwork.
- Parents can volunteer and help in classroom activities.

Acronyms:

Limited English Proficient (LEP): A student is classified as limited English proficient when 1) a language other than English is used as the primary language in the home and 2) the student’s English language proficiency is determined to be limited by a Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC) or as indicated by a test of English proficiency. Most students identified as limited English proficient receive bilingual or English as a second language instruction, although not all do. Longitudinal high school completion rates are provided for students identified as limited English proficient: (a) in their last year in Texas public schools; and (b) at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools. [Source: 2007-2008 PEIMS Data Standards, 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §89.1225

Home Language Survey (HLS): (…)d(…) shall be used to establish the student’s language classification for determining whether the school district is required to provide a bilingual education or English as a second language program. If the response on the HLS indicates that a language other than English is used, the student shall be tested in accordance with §89.1225 of this title (relating to Testing and Classification of Students). Source: The provisions of this §89.1215 adopted to be effective September 1, 1996, 21 TexReg 5700; amended to be effective May 28, 2012, 37 TexReg 3822.

Texas Education Code$29.051 – State Policy Public Schools are responsible for providing a full opportunity for all students to become competent in speaking, reading, writing, and comprehending the English language. The mastery of basic English language skills is a prerequisite for effective participation in the state’s educational program.

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