

EDUCATION FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Definitions

English learner, also known as a limited English proficient student, 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. (Education Code 306)

Long-term English learner means an English learner who is enrolled in grades 6-12, has been enrolled in schools in the United States for more than six years, has remained at the same English language proficiency level for two or more consecutive years as determined by the California English Language Development Test (CELDT) or any successor test, and scores far below basic or below basic on the English language arts test of the California Standards Tests or any successor test. (Education Code 313.1)

English learner at risk of becoming a long-term English learner means an English learner who is enrolled in grades 5-11 in the United States for four years, scores at the intermediate level or below on the CELDT or any successor test, and scores in the fourth year at the below basic or far below basic level on the English language arts test of the California Standards Tests or any successor test. (Education Code 313.1)

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

Any student who is identified as having a primary language other than English as determined by the home language survey, and who has not been previously identified as an English learner by a California public school or for whom there is no record of results

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from an administration of an English language proficiency test, shall be assessed for English proficiency using the CELDT. The test shall be administered between 60 calendar days before the date of first enrollment in a district school and 30 calendar days after the date of first enrollment, but not before July 1 of that school year. (5 CCR 11511)

The CELDT shall be administered in accordance with 5 CCR 11511-11516.7.

Variations and accommodations in test administration may be provided pursuant to 5 CCR 11516-11516.7. Any student with a disability shall be allowed to take the CELDT 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. If he/she is unable to participate in the assessment or a portion of the assessment with such accommodations, he/she shall be administered an alternate assessment for English language proficiency as set forth in his/her IEP. (5 CCR 11516-11516.7)

Parental Notifications

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

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

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