



# UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT INFORMATIONAL ITEM

**TOPIC:** EI (REGULATION) – Languages Other Than English (LOTE) for Graduation Requirements in the Foundation HS Program

**SUBMITTED BY:** Dr. Carmen A. Pompa, Director of Bilingual/ESL/DUAL/Foreign Language

**OF:** Curriculum and Instruction Department

**APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION:** December 20, 2017

## Informational Report:

Presentation of the Administrative EI (REGULATION) for the Equivalent Proficiency Assessment (EPA) in accordance with Texas Administrative Code section 74.12 for graduation requirements in the Foundation High School Program.

2014-2015 TAC Section 74.11 was passed/TEKS were revised

2015-2016 LOTE Textbook Proclamation 2017

2016-2017 LOTE Adoption–UISD-Pearson *Auténtico* for HS Spanish/Houghton Mifflin *Bien Dit* for HS French

2017-2018 TAC Section 74.12–EPA requirement for sequential LOTE courses

LANGUAGES OTHER THAN  
ENGLISH (LOTE)

In accordance with Texas Administrative Code section 74.11, in order to receive a high school diploma, a student entering Grade 9 in the 2014-2015 school year and thereafter must complete the following:

- (1) The requirements of the Foundation High School Program as stated under subsection (c) of 19 TAC §74.11 and specified under 19 TAC §74.12;
- (2) Testing requirements for graduation as specified in Chapter 101 of 19 TAC; and
- (3) Demonstrated proficiency, as determined by the district in which the student is enrolled.

EQUIVALENT PROFICIENCY  
ASSESSMENT (EPA)

Chapter 114 Texas Essential  
Knowledge and Skills for  
Languages other Than English

19 TAC §114.39 to 114.43

NOTE: 19 TAC §74.12 Foundation High School Program, Board Policy EIF (Local), and Board Policy EIE (Local) were referenced in the development of Equivalent Proficiency Assessment Regulation.

Level I does not require a prerequisite and would be the first course in the sequence for which an equivalent proficiency assessment (EPA) may be administered.

Initiating at Level II and followed by all subsequent level courses, students must successfully complete the previous level course or demonstrate proficiency at the specified achievement level, as determined by the District.

Eligibility for demonstrating equivalent proficiency will be determined as early as the 8<sup>th</sup> grade as the student will be given a district developed equivalent proficiency assessment. This assessment will provide data to place the student in a LOTE class for Level 1 or Level 2. Higher levels of LOTE (3, 4, & 5) for the student will be based on teacher recommendation by the LOTE teacher of record once the student is in High School. After such recommendation, the student will be given the opportunity to take another district developed equivalent proficiency assessment, which fulfills requirements for the higher Levels.

The student's score will determine the proficiency level and allow the student to enroll in a subsequent course based on the attained proficiency level.

The student may only take the equivalent proficiency assessment for subsequent course eligibility once per semester.

Failing the EPA will not affect the student's grade or GPA and will only determine placement in appropriate LOTE course level.

The proficiency level assignment may not be appealed; however, the student and his/her parents may override the placement back to the next sequential course based on previous course completion.

The district developed EPA will consist of sufficient TEKS based questions to determine differentiated levels of language proficiency for appropriate course placement.

A valid assessment other than the equivalent proficiency assessment, as determined by the district may be used to meet prerequisite requirements and to establish a district approved baseline for the next appropriate course level.

#### TIMELINE

The equivalent proficiency assessment may be administered as early as the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, and/or at the beginning of a HS semester or towards the end of a HS semester.

At the beginning of the HS LOTE course with teacher recommendation, the EPA must be administered and scored within the first seven (7) days of the semester. The results will determine placement to the appropriate LOTE course within the same semester.

Towards the end of the HS LOTE course, the EPA must be administered and scored between the twelfth and fifteenth week. The results will determine the next LOTE course level for the subsequent semester.

Eligibility for subsequent course levels as determined by the score on the EPA must be communicated to the student's respective counselor immediately to ensure placement in the appropriate course.