

# DRAFT UPDATE

## Instruction

### English Learners

The District offers opportunities for resident English Learners to ~~develop~~achieve at high levels ~~of~~in academic ~~attainment in subjects~~English and to meet the same challenging State academic ~~content and student academic achievement~~ standards that all children are expected to ~~attain~~meet. The Superintendent or designee shall develop and maintain a program for English Learners that will:

1. Assist all English Learners to achieve English proficiency, facilitate effective communication in English, and encourage their full participation in school activities and programs as well as promote participation by the parents/guardians of English Learners.
2. Appropriately identify students with limited English language proficiency.
3. Comply with State law regarding the Transitional Bilingual Educational Program (TBE) or Transitional Program of Instruction (TPI), whichever is applicable.
4. Comply with any applicable State and federal requirements for the receipt of grant money for English Learners and programs to serve them.
5. Determine the appropriate instructional program and environment for English Learners.
6. Annually assess the English proficiency of English Learners and monitor their progress in order to determine their readiness for a mainstream classroom environment.
7. Include English Learners, to the extent required by State and federal law, in the District's student assessment program to measure their achievement in reading/language arts and mathematics.
8. Provide information to the parents/guardians of English Learners about: (1) the reasons for their child's identification, (2) their child's level of English proficiency, (3) the method of instruction to be used, (4) how the program will meet their child's needs, (5) how the program will specifically help their child learn English and meet age-appropriate academic achievement standards for grade promotion and graduation. ~~(56)~~ specific exit requirements of the program, ~~(67)~~ how the program will meet their child's individualized education program, if applicable, and ~~(78)~~ information on parent/guardian rights. Parents/guardians will be regularly apprised of their child's progress and involvement will be encouraged.

### Parent Involvement

Parents/guardians of English Learners will be informed how they can: (1) be involved in the education of their children, and (2) be active participants in assisting their children to attain English proficiency, achieve at high levels within a well-rounded education, and meet the challenging State academic standards expected of all students.; ~~(1) given an opportunity to provide input to the program, and (2) provided notification regarding their child's placement in, and information about, the District's English Learners programs.~~

#### Commented [APowell1]:

The policy and Legal References are updated to reflect new English Learner program requirements under ESEA, as amended by ESSA.

For purposes of this policy, *English Learners* is synonymous with the School Code definition, which means: (1) all students in grades Pre-K through 12 who were not born in the United States, whose native tongue is a language other than English, and who are incapable of performing ordinary classwork in English; and (2) all students in grades Pre-K through 12 who were born in the United States of parents possessing no or limited English-speaking ability and who are incapable of performing ordinary classwork in English (105 ILCS 5/14C-2, amended by P.A. 99-30).

**Note:** The Illinois Administrative Code definition of *English Learners* has not been amended since the effective date of P.A. 99-30 and still provides that *English Learners* means any student in preschool, kindergarten or any of grades 1 through 12, whose home language background is a language other than English and whose proficiency in speaking, reading, writing, or understanding English is not yet sufficient to provide the student with: (1) the ability to meet the State's proficiency level of achievement on State assessments; (2) the ability to successfully achieve in classrooms where the language of instruction is English, or (3) the opportunity to participate fully in the school setting (23 Ill.Admin.Code §228.10).

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LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §§6312, ~~6314, 6315, and 6318-6319 and 6801.~~  
20 U.S.C. §6801 et seq.  
34 C.F.R. Part 200.  
105 ILCS 5/14C-1 et seq.  
23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 228.

CROSS REF.: 6:15 (School Accountability), 6:170 (Title I Programs), 6:340 (Student Testing and Assessment Program)

ADOPTED: ~~December 9, 2015~~