

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY INSTRUCTION

The Nashua School District's policy for the instruction of students who are Limited English Proficient (LEP) is one of structured English immersion. The goal of this program is the acquisition of English language skills so that the English Language Learner (ELL) student can succeed in an English-only mainstream classroom. All instruction in the immersion strategy program is in English. The ELL Program uses techniques and methodology designed to teach English language skills, which may include listening, speaking, reading, writing, study skills, content vocabulary, and cultural orientation. Upon demonstrating English proficiency, ELL students are monitored for two years and then exited from the Program. The ELL Program is provided in magnet elementary and secondary schools to which the District provides transportation. Whenever possible, communications with parents/guardians will be in the primary home language.

Since the District receives federal funding for Limited English Proficient Programs, the following will be provided.

1. Upon registration, all students who have a language other than English entered on their Home Language Survey will receive a language proficiency placement assessment.
2. Parents will be notified of their student's eligibility for placement in the English Language Learner Program and their options associated with their eligibility for placement. Notification will include the reasons for identifying the child as LEP and the reasons for the child's eligibility in the specific program.
3. All participants in the English Language Learner Program will be assessed for language proficiency on a yearly basis, in accordance with Title III legislation. The assessment used will be at the direction of the State of New Hampshire, currently the ACCESS test.
4. Certification that teachers in the program are fluent in English as well as other languages used in instruction (if the district receives sub-grants).
5. All participants in the English Language Learner Program will take all No Child Left Behind (NCLB) state assessments, (currently NECAP) with the exception of students who arrived in the country after Oct.1 of the preceding academic year. These students are exempt from taking the state reading and writing assessments but they must take the math assessment
6. On an annual basis, parents will be notified of academic success and language achievement of their children:
 - A. Their child's level of English proficiency and how such level was assessed.
 - B. The status of their child's academic achievement.

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(continued)

- C. A description of the ELL Program and explanation of the delivery of services.
- D. Information as to how the program will meet their child's educational strengths, assist him/her to learn English, and meet age-appropriate academic achievement standards.
- E. Placement for monitoring status as defined in Equal Access.
- F. Exit requirements for the program will be determined by state and local recommendations. Students on a monitor status will be classified as ELL for two years
- G. If the child has a disability, a statement as to how the LEP will meet objectives of the child's Individual Education Plan (IEP).

References:

P.L. 107-110, No Child Left Behind Act of 2001
Equal Access, New Hampshire Compliance Manual for Instructing and Assessing English Language Students, Revised 2008

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