

District English Language Learners (ELL) Plan 2025-2028

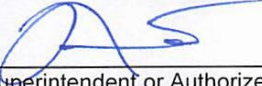
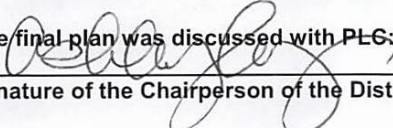
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Date Received by FDOE

Original signatures on Signature Pages are to be submitted to:

Bureau of Student Achievement through Language Acquisition
Florida Department of Education
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(1) NAME OF THE DISTRICT:	(2) CONTACT NAME/TITLE:	(3) CONTACT PHONE NO (EXT.): EMAIL ADDRESS:
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(4) MAILING ADDRESS: 652 Third Street Chipley, Florida 32428		(5) PREPARED BY: (If different from contact person) First Name: Last Name: Mailing Address: Phone No:
(6) CERTIFICATION BY SCHOOL DISTRICT The filing of this application has been authorized by the School Board and the undersigned representative has been duly authorized to submit this plan and act as the authorized representative of the district in connection with this plan. I, Thomas Register, do hereby certify that all facts, figures, and representations made in this plan are true and correct. Furthermore, all applicable statutes, rules, regulations, and procedures for program and fiscal control and for records maintenance will be implemented to ensure proper accountability.  _____ Signature of Superintendent or Authorized Agency Head <u>3/16/25</u> _____ Date Signed <u>03/10/2025</u> _____ Date of Governing Board Approval		
(7) Chairperson representing the District ELL Parent Leadership Council (PLC) Name of Chairperson representing the District ELL PLC: Contact Information for District PLC Chairperson: Mailing address: E-mail Address: Phone Number: Date final plan was discussed with PLC:  _____ Signature of the Chairperson of the District PLC <u>2-13-25</u> _____ Date Signed by PLC Chairperson		

BOARD APPROVED

MAR 10 2025

DISTRICT ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS PLAN ASSURANCES AND CERTIFICATION

School districts are required to abide by a set of assurances when developing and implementing programs and services to students classified as English Language Learners (ELLs), and are required to ensure school- and district-level personnel comply with all the requirements and provisions set forth in the laws, rules, regulations, and federal court orders listed below:

- The requirements set forth in Section 1003.56, Florida Statutes;
- The requirements set forth in Rules 6A-6.0902; 6A-6.09022; 6A-6.09091; 6A-6.0903; 6A-6.0907; 6A-1.0503, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), and other applicable State Board of Education Rules;
- The requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015;
- The requirements of the Consent Decree in the League of United Latin American Citizens et al. v. the State Board of Education, 1990;
- The requirements of the Florida Educational Equity Act, 1984;
- The requirements based on the Fifth Circuit Court decision in *Castañeda v. Pickard*, 1981;
- The requirements based on the Supreme Court decision in *Plyler v. DOE*, 1982;
- The requirements based on the Supreme Court decision in *Lau v. Nichols*, 1974;
- The requirements of the Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974;
- The Requirements of Section 504 Rehabilitation Act of 1973;
- The requirements of the Office for Civil Rights Memorandum of May 25, 1970;
- The requirements of the Title VI and VII Civil Rights Act of 1964; and
- The requirements of the Office for Civil Rights Standards for the Title VI Compliance.

By signature below, I, Thomas Register, do hereby certify that procedures, processes and services that are described herein shall be implemented in a manner consistent with the requirements and provisions of the requirements set forth above.



Superintendent's Signature

2/25/25

Date Signed

Section 1: Identification (Rule 6A-6.0902, F.A.C.)

Enrollment Procedures and Administration of the Home Language Survey (HLS).

Describe the Local Education Agency (LEA) registration procedures to register English Language Learners (ELLs). Responses should include the following:

The online Student Enrollment/Registration link is available on the District and school websites along with a link to access a paper copy option. The online enrollment form automatically loads into the District student management system. Upon completion of the Student Enrollment/Registration paper option, the school Data Processor enters in the District student management system all student demographic information, including native language, country of birth, immigrant student and date of entry into US school, which is provided by parent/guardian during the registration process.

How do LEA procedures compare to those followed for non-ELLs?

At the time of registration all parents/guardians complete a Student Enrollment/Registration form at their child's school which contains the Home Language Survey:

- (a) Is a language other than English used in the home?
- (b) Did the student have a first language other than English?
- (c) Does the student most frequently speak a language other than English?

If any of the three questions are answered "yes", the school's ESOL contact is notified by the registrar and the student is given the WIDA screener. The online enrollment form automatically generates an alert if any of the three questions are answered "yes".

Into what languages are the HLS translated?

The District HLS is only in English. ELL families are provided direct assistance from bilingual district and school staff. If this is not an option, we attempt to translate into that language using translation tools such as Google translate.

How does the LEA assist parents and students who do not speak English in the registration process?

Registration procedures are the same for all students. All parents must complete the Student Enrollment/Registration form and the Home Language Survey, as well as other pertinent student data and information. The district has two paraprofessionals fluent in Spanish employed at one of the elementary schools and at one of the middle schools. Both are available to help translate whenever needed. ELL families are provided direct assistance from bilingual school staff if needed during the registration process. Where available, community language facilitators may also be utilized to assist with translating

or interpreting registration documents, as well as the translation of transportation and other pertinent school information.

How do you identify immigrant students?

Immigrant student information, along with the DEUSS is also captured on the Student Enrollment/Registration form. The term immigrant children and youth means individuals who:

- (A) are ages 3 through 21; and
- (B) were not born in any State, the District of Columbia or Puerto Rico; and
- (C) have not been attending one or more schools in any one or more States for more than 3 full academic years.

Based on this definition, the student's immigrant code is Y and data element number is 131785.

How is Date Entered US School (DEUSS) obtained in the registration process?

At the time of registration, parents complete the Home Language Survey, as well as questions regarding birthdate of student, country of birth, and the DEUSS date---the month, day and year the student entered school in the United States (any of the 50 states and the District of Columbia, excluding U.S. territories and possessions) If a student is entering our schools from another district in Florida or state within the U.S., records are requested from the previous school, and the original DEUSS date is entered into our student information system-data element 197237.

Link to Washington County Home Language Survey in the Online FOCUS Parent Portal Registration. <https://washington.focusschoolsoftware.com/focus/auth/index.php>
Copy of Home Language Survey/Registration packet attached. The HLS is done online through the online registration process with a paper application option.

Section 2: English Language Proficiency Assessment (Rule 6A-6.0902, F.A.C.)

1. English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessment

What is the title of the person(s) responsible for administering the ELP assessment of potential ELLs in the LEA? (Check all that apply.)

- ☐ Registrar
- ☐ ESOL Coordinator/Administrator
- ☒ Guidance Counselor

2. Listening and Speaking Proficiency Assessment

List the Listening and Speaking (Aural/Oral) assessment(s) used in the LEA and procedures followed to determine if a K-12 student is an ELL.

WIDA Screener

Describe the procedures to ensure that the Listening and Speaking assessment(s) are administered within 20 school days of the student's initial enrollment.

The Home Language Survey is returned to the Guidance Counselor, and that date is recorded on the ELL Student Plan. The Guidance Counselor is responsible for administering the assessment within the 20-school day limit. Copies of this documentation are then sent to the Director of Curriculum/Instruction at the district office.

If the student is not tested in the required time, the parents are notified to explain the delay of the assessment. This letter or phone call may be conducted in the native language of the parent to ensure understanding. The delay will be documented on the Student ELL plan.

Reading and Writing Proficiency Assessment

List the Reading and Writing assessment(s) used in the LEA and procedures followed to determine if a student is an ELL in grades 3-12.

WIDA Screener is utilized for our Reading and Writing assessment for grades 3-12. If the student does not achieve a score of 4 on reading and a 4 overall, the student is classified as an ELL and coded as LY in Focus.

3. ELL Committee

Describe the procedures used when the ELL Committee makes an entry (placement) decision. What type of documentation is used to support these decisions?

Upon request of a parent or teacher, a student who is determined not to be an English Language Learner or any student determined to be an English Language Learner based solely on one reading or writing assessment may be referred to an ELL Committee. The parents' preference as to whether a student is determined to be an ELL or not to be an ELL shall be considered in the final decision. The ELL Committee may determine a student to be an English Language Learner or not to be an English Language Learner according to consideration of at least two (2) of the following criteria in addition to the entry assessment results:

- a. Extent and nature of prior educational or academic experience, social experience, and student interview,
- b. Recommendations and observations written by current and previous instructional and supportive services staff,
- c. Level of mastery of basic competencies or skills in English and heritage language according to local, state or national criterion-referenced standards,
- d. Grades from the current or previous years, or
- e. Test results other than the entry assessments

Section 3: Programmatic Assessment (Rule 6A-6.0902, F.A.C.)

Academic/Programmatic Assessment

Describe the procedures that have been implemented for determining prior academic experience of ELLs. Also, address the placement of ELLs with limited or no prior school experience(s) or whose prior school records are incomplete or unobtainable. Specify actions taken to obtain prior school records. Include the procedures to determine appropriate grade level placement for ELLs.

When student previous records are unattainable, parents are asked to provide contact information regarding prior educational experience. Students may be assessed for skills and school-readiness competencies in addition to English language assessments. The Guidance department makes a records request, and attempts are made to contact the student's previous schools in order to get as much information as possible regarding educational and testing history. ELLs are then placed accordingly, and academic success is monitored to ensure that accurate placement decisions are made. These procedures are documented on the programmatic assessment form and are maintained in the student's ELL folder.

Grade Level and Course Placement Procedures – Grades 9-12

Describe the procedures that have been implemented to determine appropriate grade and course placement. Descriptions must include the process used for awarding credit to ELLs entering high school in 9th-12th grades that have completed credits in countries outside of the United States, specifically addressing those students for which there is no documentation.

Per 6A.6.0902 section 3, part b, "The school district shall award equal credit for courses taken in another country or a language other than English as they would the same courses taken in the United States or taken in English. For foreign-born students, the same district-adopted policies regarding age-appropriate placement shall be followed as are followed for students born in the United States." Student placement is not based solely on English Language Proficiency; an academic skills assessment may be administered in the home language if possible.

Students must have documentation of completed courses to receive high school credit. Course transfer waivers may be given if documentation is provided. Documentation can be created using the programmatic assessment form in the event the student/parents cannot provide transcripts or documentation of prior educational experiences. School counselors and administrators will review transcripts and award credit for courses completed in another country where the course is similar in scope and sequence but may have a different course name. In the absence of transcripts or prior educational experience, diagnostic/placement tests and interviews may also be used as a guideline.

The age of the student will be taken into consideration as well. Parent/Guardian and student interviews as well as ELL Committee meetings will also be conducted to help determine placement. When feasible, translators/interpreters will be provided to attend these meetings. The school principal or designee, guidance counselor, teacher, parents, ELL Resource Teacher and/or district administrator may be included to determine appropriate placement. Each student will receive differentiated instruction at the agreed upon grade level placement to facilitate English language acquisition and academic achievement at the appropriate grade placement.

Explain the process for awarding credit to students transferring from other countries for language arts classes taken in the student's native language and for foreign languages the student may have taken (this may include English).

The school district shall award equal credit for courses taken in another country or a language other than English as they would the same courses taken in the United States or taken in English. Language Arts credits are awarded to students transferring from other countries for language arts classes taken in the student's native language and for foreign languages the student may have taken may be transferred as waivers following the guidelines outlined in the Student Progression Plan approved by the School Board.

What is the title of person(s) responsible for evaluating foreign transcripts? How are they trained? How is documentation maintained?

School counselors at each school serve as ELL coordinators and receive training during the school year to evaluate transcripts. When clarification is needed the district director of curriculum is contacted and will assist.

Re-evaluation of ELLs that Previously Withdrew from the LEA

Describe the procedures used for re-evaluating ELLs who withdraw from the LEA and re-enroll. Specify the length of time between the ELLs' withdrawal and re-enrollment after which a new English language proficiency assessment is to be administered. Include data reporting procedures.

If the time frame for re-entering the LEA from another school district in Florida, state or country has been longer than the calendar year, a current English language proficiency assessment will be administered to ELL's who have an affirmative response on the HLS

at the time of re-entry/registration. This information will help determine placement and current services, but the original HLS, entry, classification and DEUSS date remains the same.

For LYs transferring from one school district to another within a calendar school year, no new assessment is necessary and ESOL services continue as indicated by previous school records. All original reporting data stays the same. For out of state LYs new to FL, DEUSS date stays the same, but HLS, entry, classification date are changed to reflect Florida services. For students new to the country DEUSS date is the date of enrollment, and the appropriate HLS, classification and entry date must be reported accordingly. DEUSS date can never be after the classification and entry dates.

ELL Student Plan Development

Describe the procedures for developing the Student ELL Plan. Include the title(s) of the person(s) responsible for developing the plan, and updating the ELL data reporting elements. Also, include a description of when and how the plan is updated to reflect the student's current services.

An ELL student plan is developed with input from the guidance counselor, ELA/intensive reading teacher(s), and an administrator (or designee), bilingual (if applicable), parent/guardian and other interested participants. The guidance counselor or designated ELL contact, along with the English Language Arts (ELA) teacher, are responsible for completing the student ELL plan.

The plan will reflect the student's instructional program or schedule, and it will include documentation of the use of appropriate ELL strategies and services, which is included with all plans. The ELL plan will include specific accommodations for state assessments, and these accommodations will apply also to classroom assessments. Additional information from the WIDA Screener and current state assessment data is also included on the ELL plan.

The plan will be updated annually at the beginning of the school year and/or when services change. The plan must reflect the most current services being provided. The information from the plan will be maintained in the student information system and a paper-based, signed copy will be maintained in the student's ESOL folder/cumulative record folder for audit compliance purposes.

Describe the elements of the plan (e.g., home-school communication, student schedules and classes, progress monitoring, interventions, assessments and other evaluations). What is the teacher's role in development of the plan?

The elements of the student plan will include the student's name, date of entry, and current ACCESS for ELL scores and state assessment data. The plan will reflect the student's instructional program of 130, amount of instructional time or instructional

schedule, documentation of the use of appropriate ESOL strategies, and a description of all provided services. The teacher is notified of the aural/oral and reading/writing competencies assessed on the WIDA screener as well as other ACCESS scores. The student's academic progress may be reviewed, and records from previous schools are examined, if available. Student plan information will include previous and current teacher input through interviews to gain information on socialization and participation in the general classroom setting.

A copy of the ELL Student Plan is attached.

Section 4: Comprehensive Program Requirements and Student Instruction

Instructional Models

In addition to using required English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) strategies by teachers who teach ELLs, what instructional model(s) or approach(es) are used to ensure comprehensible instruction? Descriptions of each model can be found in the current Florida Department of Education (FDOE) database manuals on the FDOE website. (*Check all that apply*)

- ☐ Sheltered English Language Arts
- ☐ Sheltered Core/Basic Subject Areas
- ☒ Mainstream-Inclusion English Language Arts
- ☒ Mainstream-Inclusion Core/Basic Subject Areas
- ☐ Maintenance and Developmental Bilingual Education
- ☐ Dual Language (two-way) Developmental Bilingual Education

Describe how the instructional models are used in the LEA. Address how the LEA will monitor schools to ensure that instructional models are implemented with fidelity.

Because of our limited number of ELLs, our district provides instruction through inclusion in classrooms with non-ELL peers. Teacher lesson plans and observations by district and school administrators ensure that strategies are being implemented, and content is taught with fidelity.

Describe the process to verify that instruction provided to ELLs is equal in amount, sequence, quality, and scope to that provided to non-ELLs.

To ensure equal access to instruction, ELLs in grades K-12 class schedules are maintained on the student record system and on teacher schedules. Regardless of the instructional approach implemented, ELLs receive instruction that is aligned to state

standards, and is comprehensible, equal and comparable in amount, sequence, quality and scope as their non-ELL peers. Equal access evidence will be observed by school site administrators through classroom visits, lesson plans and teacher interviews. Although supplemental instructional materials can be used, textbooks for ELLs are the same as those used for non-ELLs. ELLs in grades 9-12 must have access to and receive credit towards graduation in core subject areas of English Language Arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and computer literacy.

How does the LEA determine if the instructional models are positively affecting student performance?

ELLs academic performance is monitored throughout the year to ensure academic and linguistic progress is being made. Administrative and support staff reviews instructional models' success through teacher observations, ELL participation, attendance, grades, and statewide assessment, specifically ACCESS for ELL. Teacher input is also requested. If the instructional model does not show that positive student performance goals are being met, then a different model may be considered.

How are ELLs assured equal access to all programs, services and facilities that are available to non-ELLs?

The school-based administrator(s) and counselor(s) are responsible for ensuring that ELLs have equal access to all school programs, services and facilities, and that ELLs are afforded the same rights as their non-ELL peers. The district ELL instructional specialist serves as an advocate for ELLs and their families to ensure equal access and will be responsible for providing information and training to school-based personnel, including bilingual paras regarding equal access to all programs and services for ELLs.

Describe the method(s) used in the LEA to document the use of ESOL instructional strategies and how this is monitored.

Teachers' lesson plans document instructional strategies for ELL students and are monitored by school administrators. Teachers are encouraged to receive additional training in the areas of Differentiated Instruction and ESOL strategies. Students are given support either individually or in small groups, based on student need, to target specific weaknesses identified by the ACCESS for ELL, IPT, FAIR, Florida statewide assessment in English Language Arts (ELA)/Reading, EOC, FAST progress monitoring, and Achieve 3000 (HS). Instructional strategies are further monitored through detailed notes on classroom observations and teacher interviews, and individualized student support and data from all the progress monitoring assessments.

How does the LEA and school(s) verify the delivery of comprehensible instruction to ELLs?

Each classroom teacher is responsible for incorporating ESOL strategies into daily lessons and must provide evidence in lesson plans which are checked by school

administrators during ongoing classroom walk-throughs, formal and informal teacher evaluations.

School administrators, counselors and ESOL resource teachers will meet with the teacher(s) of ELL students to conduct reviews for the purpose of monitoring the appropriateness of the student's program. Such reviews may include the following:

- A. Reviewing the student's grades in all subject areas.
- B. Monitoring of the student's level of performance in course areas, Reading, and Mathematics using state approved Progress Monitoring tools
- C. Monitoring of the student's performance on Statewide Assessments or norm-referenced tests.
- D. Classroom observations

What safeguards are in place to ensure that all ELLs are being provided equal access to programs and receiving comprehensible instruction? Include the school and LEA personnel responsible for ensuring comprehensible instruction.

School administrators will meet with the teacher(s) of ELL students to ensure equal access. Classroom observations and teacher interviews will be conducted, as well as instructional material evaluation for the purpose of monitoring the appropriateness of the student's program to ensure that comprehensible instruction is achieved. District ESOL staff also conduct monitoring visits and provides modeling and curriculum development support.

What progress monitoring tools are being used to ensure all ELLs are mastering grade level academic content standards, and benchmarks and the English Language Development (ELD) standards? (*Check all that apply*)

- ☒ Student Portfolios
- ☐ Other Criterion Referenced Test (Specify) _____
- ☐ Native Language Assessment (Specify) _____
- ☒ LEA/school-wide assessments (Specify) STAR Progress Monitoring and state assessments
- ☐ Other (Specify) _____

Student Progression

Have the LEA's standards and procedures for promotion, placement, and retention of ELLs been incorporated into the LEA's Student Progression Plan (SPP)? If no, where can this information be found?

☒ Yes, Please provide a link to the LEA's SPP with specifics to ELLs highlighted.
Link to [Student Progression Plan](#)

☐ No (Specify) _____

Describe how the Good Cause Policy is implemented in your LEA when ELLs who have been enrolled for less than two years (based on DEUSS) are exempted from mandatory third grade retention. Include how parents or guardians are notified of LEA good cause decisions.

As indicated in the district's Student Progression Plan, the Superintendent may exempt students in grade 3 from mandatory retention for good cause if ELLs have received less than 2 years of instruction (based on DEUSS) in an ESOL program. Decisions must be made by an ELL committee recommendation, including input from parents, teachers and support staff. Good Cause Exemptions for ELLs are communicated to the parents in their native language either in person via a translator if available or through translation into native language of a written communication.

Describe what role the ELL Committee has in the decision to recommend the retention or promotion of any ELL and what documentation is used to support these decisions.

An ELL committee is convened to review documentation and data prior to making a promotion/retention recommendation for an ELL. When determining promotion/retention for ELL's, information and documentation may include, but not be limited to classroom performance, benchmark testing results, statewide assessment data, progress towards English Language acquisition, progress monitoring tools, and parent/student interview. The committee makes a recommendation to the principal. The principal makes the final decision.

Section 5: Statewide Assessment (Rule 6A-6.09091, F.A.C.)

Statewide Assessment

Describe the process to ensure that all ELLs participate in Florida statewide assessment programs. Include how responsible staff is trained to administer assessments and maintain documentation of the following:

The District Assessment Director, along with the MIS director, generates and disseminates digital rosters of all ELLs who will be assessed at the school sites, as well as guidelines and materials that school-based testing supervisors use to cross reference and ensure that all ELLs are appropriately assessed. Train the trainers'

workshops and video trainings (WIDA website) provides for testing supervisors who, in turn train all school-based personnel who will administer assessments to ELLs with a specific emphasis on testing accommodations. A designated school counselor is the testing supervisor at all of the schools in Washington County. The Office of Assessment provides recording documents for schools to maintain and document ELL accommodations, as well as procedural policies and accountability data.

ELL students who are receiving services in an ELL program operating in accordance with an approved ELL plan, and who take the state mandated tests may be offered the accommodations. However, the exact combination of accommodations to be offered to any particular student shall be individually determined, considering the needs of the student and recommendations of the student's team. Accommodations for ELLs in the administration of Florida statewide assessment in English Language Arts/Reading, EOC and ACCESS for ELLs must follow the guidelines as specified in the respective assessment manuals.

Statewide content area assessments:

All ELLs will participate in statewide assessments. The ESOL Director works with the District Assessment Director, school based assessment coordinators and teachers to ensure that all ELLs participate in the Statewide Assessment program and are provided appropriate testing accommodations.

The ESOL teacher assures that the accommodations for statewide assessment which are indicated in the TAM and include flexible setting, flexible scheduling, flexible timing, assistance in the Heritage Language, and the use of the English-to-Heritage language dictionaries. Additionally, these accommodations are used within the ESOL classroom and with regular classroom assessment. The parents are notified of the different testing accommodations in a letter sent by the ESOL teachers. Parents may choose if flexible setting is the best testing option for their child.

ACCESS for ELLs assessment programs:

Students coded LY by the first day of the ACCESS for ELL test administration are tested for language proficiency. ACCESS for ELLs is a paper-based assessment for Grades 1–12: Students are administered the Speaking section of the test one-on-one with a teacher; the Listening, Reading, and Writing sections may be administered in a group setting. Kindergarten ACCESS for ELLs is a paper-based assessment for Kindergarten where students are administered all sections of the test, one-on-one with a teacher. Alternate ACCESS for ELLs is a paper-based assessment for students in Grades 1–12 who have significant cognitive disabilities where students are administered all sections of the test, one-on-one with a teacher.

What is/are the title(s) of the school-level person responsible for ensuring and documenting that ELLs are provided appropriate testing accommodations (per test administration requirements)?

School counselors
School based testing administrators
ESOL school contacts
Teachers administering assessments

Describe how parents of ELLs are notified of assessments and testing accommodations. How does the LEA ensure that parents understand Florida's statewide assessments policies, mandates and student outcomes? Please provide links to communications in parents' languages.

A testing calendar is available on the district's website. The calendar is updated or revised as testing schedules are updated by the state or by the district. Prior to the assessment dates, parents are notified of all statewide testing policies and mandates in a language they can understand, unless clearly not feasible. A letter is sent to parents of ELLs explaining the allowable testing accommodations. Parents are notified of outcomes on assessments through the FOCUS Parent Portal and individualized student score reports which indicate the performance level of the student as well as interpretive guides. These guides are available in multiple languages. Upon request by the parent or teacher, a parent/teacher conference may be convened with a translator present if needed, to discuss the assessment policies, mandates, and results.

Section 6: English Language Proficiency Annual Assessment (Rule 6A-6.0903, F.A.C.)

Describe the procedures to determine if ELLs are ready to exit the LEA's ESOL program. Include exiting procedures for all language domains (listening, speaking, reading and writing), grade-specific academic criteria and data reporting of status change.

Exit criteria are based on assessment scores per 6A-6.0903. For students taking any administration of the Kindergarten ACCESS for ELLs, the English language proficiency level shall be a 4.0 composite score or greater and at least 4.0 in the domain of reading. The exit code is H.

For students in K-2, the statewide English Language Proficiency Assessment is the only assessment required. Scores of "Proficient" at the applicable grade level on each statewide English Language Proficiency Assessment subtest administered annually.

For students in grades 3-9 taking any administration of the ACCESS for ELLs, the English language proficiency level shall be a 4.0 composite score or greater and at least 4.0 in the domain of reading and an achievement level of at least 3 on the Florida statewide assessment in English Language Arts (ELA)/Reading assessment. The exit code is I.

For students in grades 10-12 taking any administration of the ACCESS for ELLs, the English language proficiency level shall be a 4.0 composite score or greater and at least

4.0 in the domain of reading and a score on the Florida statewide assessment in English Language Arts (ELA)/Reading of 3 or higher or passing concordant score on the SAT or ACT. The exit code is J.

For students with significant cognitive disabilities taking any administration of the Alternate ACCESS for ELLs assessment, the proficiency level shall be a P1 composite score or greater and will be exited by an ELL/IEP committee.

Once the student meets exit criteria, the ESOL specialist notifies the data specialist of exit data and the student code is changed from LY to LF and is monitored for two years. Parents are notified of exit through a letter in the child's native language, unless clearly not feasible.

What is the title of person(s) responsible for conducting the exit assessments described above? (Check all that apply.)

- ☒ School/LEA based testing administrator
- ☒ ESOL Teacher/Coordinator
- ☐ Other (Specify) _____

When is an ELL Committee involved in making exit decisions? What criteria are used by the Committee to determine language and academic proficiency?

If assessment results do not fully capture the student's academic or linguistic needs, an ELL committee may be convened where input from parents, teachers and support staff is discussed and placement decisions made. An ELL Committee may recommend that the student be exited from the program with consideration of data other than statewide assessment such as student portfolios or alternative evaluations. An ELL committee can also meet to exit a student from the ESOL program if there is sufficient evidence to indicate that English Language Proficiency is not the issue interfering with the student achieving proficiency either on the Statewide English Language Proficiency exam or the Statewide Academic Assessment. The student may have another documented disability that is being met through an IEP or other student plan. Regardless of reason for exit, an ELL committee would review the student's academic and English language proficiency record and document at least two of the five criteria listed below to exit a student:

- a. Extent and nature of prior educational or academic experience, social experience, and a student interview,
- b. Recommendations and observations written by current and previous instructional and supportive services staff,
- c. Level of mastery of basic competencies or skills in English and heritage language according to local, state or national criterion-referenced standards,
- d. Grades from the current or previous years, or
- e. Test results other than the entry assessments

Describe the procedures if an ELL meets exit qualifications in the middle of a grading period.

Although ELLs usually exit the ESOL program when exit criteria is met through assessment, ELLs can be referred for exit at any time during the school year. Since ACCESS for ELLs and Florida statewide assessment in English Language Arts (ELA)/Reading data is normally used as the instruments to make the exit decisions, and this data is typically received during the summer, any exit decisions made in the middle of a grading period or school year would require an ELL committee decision based on a current data analysis and student evaluations. A current listening, speaking, reading and writing English proficiency assessment will be given, as well as review of report card grades, benchmark test scores and portfolio data. Stakeholder input from parents, teachers and support staff will also be requested. The exit code will be L, and the student code will change from LY to LF.

Section 7: Monitoring Procedures (Rule 6A-6.0903, F.A.C.)

During the required two-year monitoring period, what is the title of person(s) responsible for:

Conducting the follow-up performance of former ELLs?

Classroom teachers, ESOL Resource teachers, School Counselors

Updating the student ELL plan?

School Counselor (ESOL Coordinator) and Data processors

Reclassification of ELL status in data reporting systems?

School/District MIS staff

What documentation is used to monitor the student's progress? (Check all that apply)

☒ Report Cards

☒ Test Scores

☒ Classroom Performance

☒ Teacher Input

☒ Other (Specify) Progress Monitoring in Reading and Math

What are the procedure(s), including possible reclassification, that are implemented when the academic performance of former ELLs is not on grade level?

The performance of former ELLs (LF) will be reviewed to ensure academic progress

Per Consent Decree guidelines, reviews will occur as specified below:

1st report card after exiting the ESOL program;
at the end of the 1st semester;
at the end of the first year; and
at the end to the second year.

The procedures followed when the academic performance of former ELLs is not on grade level is:

- a) Student is referred to the ELL Committee.
- b) ELL Committee reviews report cards, student portfolios, attainment of Florida Standards, performance on district/state assessments, parent/teacher input, number of years the student has been enrolled in ESOL Program and language acquisition proficiency.
- c) ELL Committee may determine that the student continues in the regular program.
- d) ELL Committee may determine that the student needs to be reclassified as an ELL, coded LY and re-entered into the program or be referred for further evaluation.

The school counselor is responsible for initiating a new Student ELL Plan, providing the Data Processor with the student data to enter into the MIS system and ensuring the appropriate placement after the student has been assessed. Original student data stays the same. The student may be reported in the ELL program for an additional year or extended annually for a period not to exceed a total of six years based on an annual evaluation of the student's status. Lack of ELL funding eligibility does not relieve the district beyond the six years of state ELL program funding.

Compliance of ELL Plan and Student Performance

Describe LEA internal procedures for monitoring the ESOL program for compliance and student academic performance.

ESOL Teacher/Coordinator. Student progress is monitored in the ESOL folder and is based on the targeted skills identified during initial testing, ACCESS for ELL and academic assessment. Assessment results and targeted skills are kept in the ESOL folder and monitored throughout the course of the school year to demonstrate mastery of key English language acquisition concepts. The person responsible for maintaining these records is the ESOL Coordinator, ELL teacher or school counselor.

Teacher training records are monitored for compliance with ESOL requirements by the district-level personnel or certification specialist.

Student ELL plans and schedules are updated annually and monitored by the ESOL administrator to ensure that ELLs are provided with the appropriate program 130.

Comprehensible instruction is monitored through classroom observations and review of teacher lesson plans.

How do school sites, parents and stakeholders have access to the approved District ELL Plan?

ELL plans are available on the district's website. All schools provide the link to parents in the welcome back to school letter, as well as provided during PLC meetings. Parents can request copies of the plan at any time. Although the District ELL plan is in English, translations can be provided if necessary.

How does the LEA ensure that schools are implementing the District ELL Plan?

District ESOL administrators responsible for implementation of the District ELL Plan meet with school-based administrators at each school to make certain that appropriate instructional practices and procedures are in place. Classroom walk-throughs, observations and documentation of compliance items are also reviewed to ensure that schools are implementing the district plan.

Section 8: Parent, Guardian, Student Notification and Rights

Describe the procedures used and provide a link to the notice to parents of an ELL identified for participation in a language instruction educational program. Per the Every Student Succeeds Act and per state board rule, this notice must delineate:

1. the reasons for the identification of their child as an ELL and the need for the child's placement in a language instruction educational program;
2. the child's level of English proficiency, how such level was assessed, and the status of the child's academic achievement;
3. the methods of instruction used in the program in which their child is, or will be, participating and the methods of instruction used in other available programs, including how such programs differ in content, instructional goals, and the use of English and a native language in instruction;
4. how the program in which their child is, or will be, participating will meet the educational strengths and needs of their child;
5. how such program will specifically help their child learn English and meet age-appropriate academic achievement standards for grade promotion and graduation;

6. the specific exit requirements for the program, including the expected rate of transition from such program into classrooms that are not tailored for ELLs, and the expected rate of graduation from high school (for students in high schools);
7. in the case of a student with a disability, how such program meets the objectives of the individualized education program of the student; and
8. information pertaining to parental rights that includes written guidance—
 - a. detailing the right that parents have to have their child immediately removed from such program upon their request;
 - b. detailing the options that parents have to decline to enroll their child in such program or to choose another program or method of instruction, if available; and
 - c. assisting parents in selecting among various programs and methods of instruction, if more than one program or method is offered.

To meet ESSA compliance, districts are required to notify parents of an ELL identified for participation in the program no later than 30 days after the beginning of the school year. For those children identified as ELLs during the school year, the district shall notify the parents during the first 2 weeks of the child being placed in ESOL. Parents will be notified by letters, maintained in student folders and monitored by Title I. All letters, as well as all home-school communication, must be provided to parents in a language that they can understand.

Describe the procedures used by school personnel to provide assistance to parents or guardians of ELLs in their home language.

All verbal and written communication is provided to parents/guardians in their home language, whenever feasible. Translation services, specifically in less commonly spoken languages are also provided through bilingual staff and community volunteers which help builds relationships with our parents.

Describe parent outreach activities that inform parents of how they can be involved in their children's education and how they can assist their children to learn English and meet state academic standards.

The schools will host parent nights for orientation providing information on Florida statewide assessment in English Language Arts (ELA)/Reading testing, Family Reads and various other activities in which ESOL parents are invited. There are community agencies to provide additional services that include English Language classes, assistance with immunization and immigration information.

Check the school-to-home communications that are sent by the LEA or school to parents or guardians of ELLs that are in a language the parents or guardians can understand. (Check all that apply. Please provide links to all boxes checked.):

- ☒ Results of language proficiency assessment (ELL Student Plan)
- ☒ Program placement (ELL Student Plan)

- ☐ Program delivery model option(s)
- ☐ Extension of ESOL instruction
- ☐ Exit from ESOL program
- ☐ Post-reclassification of former ELLs monitoring
- ☐ Reclassification of former ELLs
- ☒ State and/or LEA testing
- ☐ Accommodations for testing (flexible setting)
- ☐ Annual testing for language development
- ☐ Growth in language proficiency (Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing)
- ☐ Exemption from FSA in ELA for ELLs with DEUSS less than one year
- ☐ Retention/Remediation/Good Cause
- ☐ Transition to regular classes or course change
- ☐ Invitation to participate in an ELL Committee Meeting
- ☐ Invitation to participate in the Parent Leadership Council (PLC)
- ☐ Special programs such as Gifted, ESE, Advanced Placement, Dual Enrollment, Pre-K, Career and Technical Education, charter schools, and student support activities
- ☒ Free/reduced price lunch
- ☐ Parental choice options, school improvement status, and teacher out-of-field notices
- ☒ Registration forms and requirements
- ☐ Disciplinary forms
- ☐ Information about the Florida Standards and the English Language Development (ELD) Standards
- ☐ Information about community services available to parents
- ☐ Information about opportunities for parental involvement (volunteering, PTA/PTO, SAC)
- ☐ Report Cards*
- ☐ Other (Specify) _____

We use state provided template letters in parents' home language for state assessments, and other documents as needed on a case by case basis. Templates are used and school letterhead and contact information is inserted. See WIDA example below.

<https://wida.wisc.edu/resources/access-ells-parent-letters-multiple-languages>

***If report cards are not available in other languages, please describe how the academic progress of an ELL is communicated to parents/guardians.**

Because of our limited number of ELLs, our report cards are only available in English, but bilingual staff will assist teachers in interpreting grades and student expectations.

Section 9: The Parent Leadership Council (Rule 6A-6.0904, F.A.C.)

What type(s) of Parent Leadership Council (PLCs) exist in the LEA? (Check all that apply. Please provide links or attachments to agenda membership and meetings.)

☐ LEA Level

☒ School Level (see attached agenda samples)

Please address the functions and composition of the PLC:

School Advisory Councils serve as the school level PLCs. The goals of the school level PLCs SAC committees are to acquaint parents of ELLs with school personnel and services available at the individual school sites; provide parents of ELLs with an opportunity to take an active role in the decisions that affect the education of their children and to consult with school personnel and give input on goals related to the program. Because of the very low number of ELL students in our district, we do not have a District PLC but work with our schools to include them on a council. Community leaders and ELL advocates are also invited to participate as members. One of the functions of the School Level PLC is to make recommendations for the District ELL plan, and review policies which are instrumental in the approval process.

The PLC is "composed in the majority of parents of limited English proficient students." If the PLCs in the LEA do not meet this condition, explain why and when compliance with the rule is expected.

Due to the small number of ELLs in our district, there are very few ELL parents in the PLC, but other district staff serve as advocates for our ELLs. Bilingual paraprofessionals are included on school SAC PLCs when available. Principals reach out to parents of ELL students personally to invite them to participate on the school SAC committees. Each School Advisory Council reviews the ELL plan.

How does the LEA involve the PLC in other LEA committees?

The PLC and other parent involvement groups help develop a school environment that encourages two-way communication between the home and the school and meets annually, but as needed Bilingual personnel are also available to discuss issues that promote school involvement and provide parents of ELLs with leadership training and opportunities to be represented on existing school and district advisory councils.

How is the LEA PLC involved in the development of the District ELL Plan?

The School Level PLCs provide input during the development of the ELL Plan and reviews the final District ELL Plan at a scheduled PLC (SAC) meeting. Translators are available to provide language assistance and clarification. PLC members may request

an emailed version of the plan if they cannot attend the meeting. Parental feedback is encouraged and will be addressed in subsequent meetings, if necessary. Upon completion of the review by the members of the PLC, the Chairperson signs and approves the District ELL Plan.

Does the LEA PLC approve of the District ELL Plan? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If no, please provide explanation for PLC's non-approval.

Section 10: Personnel Training (Rules 6A-6.0907 and 6A-1.0503, F.A.C.)

Describe how Category I teachers responsible for the English Language Arts and intensive reading instruction of ELLs who are required to obtain the ESOL endorsement/certification are notified of training requirements and opportunities. Include title of person(s) responsible for issuing the notifications and how the process is documented.

Personnel who will be the primary providers of English or Language Arts and reading courses to an ELL must be appropriately certified for the ESOL teaching assignment. Teachers can be in compliance through an infused ESOL endorsement in conjunction with a DOE-approved teacher preparation program, which is usually completed before employment. Teachers can also complete a DOE-approved district in-service add-on endorsement program by taking the 300-hour in-service of: a) Methods of Teaching ESOL, b) ESOL Curriculum and Materials Development, c) Cross Cultural Communication and Understanding, d) Applied Linguistics, and e) ESOL Testing and Evaluation. Teachers can also pass the ESOL subject area exam and complete 120 hours of ESOL training within three years. Prior ESOL training can be used and documentation is maintained in the teacher's personnel file. Staff members in the Office of Educator Certification will assist personnel who have completed the requirements for the ESOL Endorsement, through preservice, to file for the ESOL Endorsement through the Bureau of Educator Certification. Staff who has passed the ESOL K-12 subject area exam will assist individuals who possess degree majors in ESOL to file for the ESOL coverage with the Bureau of Teacher Certification.

School level principals, with the assistance of the Director of Curriculum, will be responsible for notifying personnel of their certification requirements and for monitoring them for compliance. The Director of Professional Learning will be responsible for providing personnel with information concerning in-service training, advertising and scheduling of classes. Much of the in-service training is provided by the Panhandle Area Educational Consortium. Weighted FTE 130 may be claimed for these teachers.

Describe how content area teachers of math, science, social studies and computer literacy are notified of ESOL training requirements (60 hours) and opportunities. Include title of person(s) responsible for issuing the notifications and how the process is documented.

School Level principals, with the assistance of the Director of Curriculum will be responsible for notifying personnel of their certification requirements and for monitoring them for compliance. The Office of Professional Learning will be responsible for providing personnel with information concerning in-service training, advertising and scheduling of classes. The Office of Professional Learning will schedule, monitor, coordinate, and deliver the in-service training. Weighted FTE 130 may be claimed for these teachers.

Describe how all other instructional staff are notified of ESOL training requirements (18 hours) and opportunities. Include title of person(s) responsible for issuing the notifications and how the process is documented.

All other instructional staff is notified of training requirements and opportunities by posting the ESOL training schedule from the Director of Professional Learning. The school principal is responsible for issuing and monitoring the notifications of all training presented on the District and school levels.

Describe the procedures used when Category I teachers are reported out of field. Include compliance procedures when claiming weighted FTE 130 for core courses.

The Principal reports Category I teachers who are out of field to the School Board for approval. A letter notifying parents of out of field status is sent to ELL parents in their native language, unless clearly not feasible. Category I teachers are considered out of field until the ESOL endorsement or certification requirements are met. Once assigned an ELL, Category I teachers must complete 60 hours of ESOL training within two years and at least 60 hours of ESOL training each consecutive year until the ESOL endorsement is complete regardless of ELL assignment. The ESOL endorsement must be added to existing teaching certificate. Teachers following these guidelines are considered in compliance, and weighted FTE 130 can be claimed. Although weighted FTE 130 may be claimed for teachers responsible for teaching Category II, core courses of Math, Science, Social Studies and Computer Literacy, teachers are not considered out of field and no notification letter or school board approval is needed. All teachers must document that ESOL strategies are being used to ensure comprehensible instruction.

Describe how the LEA provides the 60-hour ESOL training requirement for school-based administrators and the LEA's tracking system that will be implemented.

The LEA provides the 60-hour ESOL training requirements for school administrators by providing the appropriate training opportunities. The office of Professional Learning is responsible for coordinating, issuing, and monitoring the notifications of the training for school-based administrators. Administrators, including principals, assistant or vice principals, school-based curriculum and behavior supervisors have three years from school leadership assignment to complete the 60 hours, but prior ESOL coursework can be used. The process is documented through in-service electronic records and maintained in the personnel file.

Describe how the LEA provides the 60-hour ESOL training requirements for Guidance Counselors, and the LEA's tracking system.

The LEA provides the 60-hour ESOL training requirements for school counselors by providing the appropriate training opportunities through an online course which is continually offered. The Office of Professional Learning is responsible for coordinating, issuing, and monitoring the notifications of the training for school-based counselors who have three years from assignment to complete the 60 hours, but prior ESOL coursework can be used. The process is documented through PAEC (ePDC) in-service electronic files and maintained in the personnel file.

Describe the supplemental professional development offered by the LEA to ensure that instructional staff are informed of English Language Development standards and best practices.

ELL and content area teachers, as well as school administrators and bilingual paras are informed of supplemental ESOL training through the Office of Professional Learning. Staff can sign up for courses or activities that are provided by the school district, DOE or WIDA facilitators. Although these courses cannot be used towards the required ESOL training mandates, teachers can receive in-service points when coursework is completed.

If instruction is provided in a language other than English, describe the procedures that are used to assess teachers' proficiency in the other language and in English.

If and when the need arises, Washington County School district will partner with PAEC for assessment of the teacher's proficiency.

A bilingual paraprofessional or teacher is required at schools having 15 or more ELLs who speak the same language. Specify the eligibility qualifications required by the LEA for bilingual paraprofessionals. Explain the bilingual paraprofessional's job description and primary assignment.

Bilingual paraprofessional applicants must have an AA/AS degree or pass the ParaPro test. They must be fluent in English and appropriate native language as determined by interview, district screening and/or an oral and written exam. The job description will include but is not limited to: participation in in-service activities involving program procedures, curricular and assessment modifications and tutoring strategies; assisting in administering individual and group student tests in appropriate native language or in English; becoming a member of the ELL Committee and actively participate in developing the student plan; assisting the ELL Committee chairperson and the ESOL Resource Teacher with native language support; working with small groups of students, under the direction of the classroom teacher; acquainting parents with program personnel and services available at the individual school site. Currently, there is only one ELL para in the district.

Describe LEA procedures for training bilingual paraprofessionals in ESOL or home language strategies. Include how documentation of training is maintained.

Bilingual Education Paraprofessionals are provided with in-service on an ongoing basis during pre-planning, orientation, early release days, summer institutes, small group area meetings, student identification and assessment procedures, cross-cultural differences and similarities, parent involvement, tutoring techniques, curriculum development and accommodation, and strategies for working with ELLs. The process is documented through PAEC (ePDC) in-service electronic files and maintained in the personnel file.

Describe the procedures to determine the bilingual paraprofessional's proficiency in English and in the heritage language of the students served.

Please provide an assurance letter from the district superintendent that the district is in compliance with all ESOL training requirements.

Letter attached.

Section 11: Extension of Services (Rule 6A-6.09022, F.A.C.)

Describe LEA procedures used to determine extension of services, including appropriate timeline based on DEUSS. Explain the role of the ELL Committee and what supporting documentation is used in determining if continued ESOL services are necessary.

Three (3) years after the date of an ELL's initial enrollment in a school in the United States (DEUSS), an ELL Committee shall be convened annually to re-evaluate the

student's progress towards English language proficiency. The ELL Committee shall be convened no earlier than thirty (30) school days prior to the third anniversary of the student's initial enrollment date in a school in the United States, (DEUSS) and no later than the anniversary date, unless the student's anniversary date falls within the first two (2) weeks of any school year. Then, the ELL committee may convene no later than October 1. This process shall be completed annually thereafter.

Any student being considered for extension of services shall be assessed on at least one (1) Department-approved assessment instrument. The assessment shall be administered no earlier than thirty (30) school days prior to the student's anniversary date. The assessment may be any Department-approved assessment that covers all four (4) domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

If the student's anniversary date falls between the release of the statewide English Language Proficiency assessment and applicable statewide standardized assessment scores in a given school year and October 1 of the following school year, the student's statewide English Language Proficiency assessment and applicable statewide standardized assessment scores will suffice, and a more recent assessment is not required.

The procedures followed when determining extension of services is:

- a) Student is referred to the ELL Committee.
- b) ELL Committee reviews report cards, student portfolios, attainment of Florida Standards, performance on district/state assessments, parent/teacher input, number of years the student has been enrolled in the ESOL Program and language acquisition proficiency.
- c) ELL Committee may determine that the student continues in the regular program.
- d) ELL Committee may determine that the student be referred for further evaluation.
- e) ELL Committee may determine that the student needs extension of services

The ESOL Resource Teacher and ELL Chairperson are responsible for initiating a new Student ELL Plan, providing the Data Entry person with the student data to enter into the mainframe and ensuring the appropriate placement after the student has been assessed. Original student data, including DEUSS and entry date stay the same.

Listening and Speaking Proficiency Assessment

List the Listening and Speaking assessment(s) used in the LEA to determine if a student is English proficient for extension of services.

ACCESS for ELLs
WIDA screener

Reading and Writing Proficiency Assessment

List the Reading and Writing assessment(s) used in the LEA to determine if a student is English proficient for extension of services.

ACCESS for ELLs

WIDA Screener

Florida statewide assessment in English Language Arts (ELA)/Reading

State Required Progress Monitoring



Thomas Register
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**Washington County
District School Board**
"An Equal Opportunity Agency"
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District 5
Cheryl Ann Williams
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February, 25, 2025

To: Student Achievement through Language Acquisition Office

This letter confirms that the teachers in Washington County Public Schools are in compliance of applicable ESOL training requirements or working towards them within the mandated timeframe.

Sincerely,

Thomas Register
Superintendent, Washington County Public Schools

"Quality Education Today For A Better Tomorrow"