

## **EUT POLICY ON ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE**

### Introduction

English as a Second Language (ESL) services will be provided to all students of limited English proficiency who qualify according to guidelines described below. The legal basis for the program is established in the 1974 U.S. Supreme Court decision, Lau vs. Nichols.

Eligible pupils will work within their own school or at a site within the EUT system, either individually or in small groups according to those pupils' language proficiency. Pupils in the ESL program will not be enrolled in special education programs unless a disability has been identified through the Pupil Evaluation Team (PET) process.

A pupil will be dismissed from participation in the ESL program when he/she is testing successfully according to his/her ability and has an appropriate level of proficiency in the English language, as determined by the Language Assessment Committee (LAC).

### Responsibility of the Principal

The principal shall review home language surveys to identify potential LEP pupils in the school. A file shall be established for each potential LEP pupil. The file shall contain a copy of the home language survey and any related documents.

Should potential LEP pupils be identified, the principal shall establish a Language Assessment Committee (LAC). The LAC shall consist of not-less-than three members, one of whom shall be the principal.

### Language Assessment Committee

The purpose of the LAC is to facilitate the identification, placement and educational design of each pupil who is Limited English Proficient. To achieve this objective, the LAC shall:

1. Notify the parents in their native language whenever possible of the date and nature of LAC meetings, pupil testing dates, etc.
2. Carry out three-year monitoring of pupil progress for each LEP pupil.
3. Meet with the entire school staff when needed to provide information on LEP programs and pupils.
4. Develop an evaluation program for each LEP pupil that utilizes multiple criteria to determine the appropriate placement (grade level) and educational programming (length of time, time of day, pull out or in class, summer programming, tutoring, adult volunteer, etc.) that best meets the individual needs of the pupil.
5. Recommend modification of ESL support services as necessary.
6. Reclassify a pupil from LEP to FEP (Fully English Proficient) as necessary.
7. In cases of NEP (Non-English Proficiency) status, questions of age or grade level shall be determined by the LAC following a meeting with the parents.

8. Arrange for informal and formal assessments of English language proficiency through the utilization of contracted personnel who are appropriately certified and licensed. The assessment of primary level pupils shall address listening and speaking competency, and English language readiness skills. For pupils in grades three through twelve, the assessment shall address the pupil's oral skills, and reading and writing abilities.

#### Educational Placement of LEP Pupils

Data obtained from the language assessment and educational records shall be used by the LAC to determine appropriate placement. These data may include:

1. Home Language Survey
2. Interviews.
3. Review of available documents.
4. Language proficiency assessment activities.

#### Reclassification of LEP Pupils

Prior to the reclassification of an LEP pupil to FEP status, a minimum of three evaluation activities shall be conducted. These activities may include:

1. An evaluation of general language proficiency by observation of oral performance in both formal and informal settings.
2. The administration of a criterion-referenced test.
3. A student and parent interview
4. Review of academic achievement records.
5. Review by LAC and the development of a transitional plan
  - a. The LAC shall monitor the progress of each reclassified pupil through annual review.
  - b. The annual review shall consider the academic, social, and psychological progress of the pupil.
6. Parents shall be provided with a written notice of the reclassification in the parents' native language whenever possible. The notification of reclassification shall include a statement of the parents' right to challenge the reclassification of their child.

Adopted March 2022