
Note: Title 1 of The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), requires districts to conduct effective outreach to inform parents of English learners about how to be involved in their children’s education by providing notices and information in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents can understand.

The Texas Education Agency and the Statewide Parent and Family Engagement Initiative’s [Title I, Part A Parent and Family Engagement Handbook](#)¹ has information regarding family engagement requirements. Additional resources, including TEA’s templates for family engagement plans, can be found on [ESC Region 16’s website](#).²

The US Department of Education [Dear Colleague Letter addressing English Learner Students and Limited English Proficient Parents](#)³ and [Chapter 10](#)⁴ of the [English Learner Tool Kit](#)⁵ offer guidance on strategies for meaningful communication with limited English-proficient parents. In addition, the fact sheet, [Information for Limited English Proficient \(LEP\) Parents and Guardians and for Schools and School Districts that Communicate with Them](#),⁶ answers common questions about the obligations of schools when communicating with parents and guardians who do not speak, read, or write English proficiently because it is not their primary language.

Language Identification

An English learner or student with limited English proficiency is also known as an emergent bilingual student. The District will develop and implement a process for determining if parents and guardians are limited English proficient (LEP) and, if so, what is their primary language.

Parents or guardians are provided with a home language survey at the time of enrollment to inquire whether there is a language other than English spoken at the home. The Home Language survey is translated according to the District translation procedure.

Interpretation and Translation Services

To the extent practicable, the District will provide a LEP parent or guardian who seeks language assistance with written translation of information communicated to non-LEP parents. Whenever such written translations are not practicable, the District will ensure that LEP parents or guardians are provided oral translations of the written information. For such purposes, the District will arrange for access to qualified and trained interpreters and translators who have

knowledge of specialized educational terms and concepts [EHBE (LEGAL) and EHBE (LOCAL)].

The District will inform LEP parents or guardians about the availability of free language assistance services, including qualified interpreters and translators by the following methods:

The Welcome Center supports LEP parents or guardians with information regarding school and community resources, health-care services and social services agencies.

To ensure that LEP parents or guardians have adequate notice of and meaningful access to information about programs, services, and activities in a language they can understand, the District will:

- Translate written communications, when needed, such as information regarding progress reports, report cards, and permission slips; and
- Provide translation or interpretation services, when needed, for meetings, such as parent/teacher conferences, IEP meetings, and disciplinary proceedings.

¹ Title I, Part A Parent and Family Engagement Handbook:

<https://www.esc11.net/cms/lib3/TX21000259/Centricity/Domain/489/Title%20I%20Parent%20and%20Family%20Engagement%20Handbook.pdf>

² Region 16 Website: <https://www.esc16.net/page/title1swi.home>

³ US Department of Education Dear Colleague Letter, English Learner Students and Limited English Proficient Parents:

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/letters/colleague-el-201501.pdf>

⁴ Chapter 10 of the English Learner Tool Kit:

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oela/english-learner-toolkit/chap10.pdf>

⁵ English Learner Tool Kit: <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oela/english-learner-toolkit/index.html>

⁶ Information For Limited English Proficient (LEP) Parents and Guardians and for Schools and School Districts that Communicate with Them:

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/dcl-factsheet-lep-parents-201501.pdf>