

**Where can I obtain
additional information on
ESL programs?**

Texas Education Agency

Division of Special Programs

1701 North Congress Avenue

Austin, Texas 78701-1494

(512) 463-9734

www.tea.state.tx.us/curriculum/biling



All KISD schools offer ESL services



ESL Program Mission Statement

Keller ISD is committed to providing an effective ESL program which supports the development of the cognitive, affective, and linguistic domains of the limited English proficient student. It is Keller's mission to achieve the highest standards of performance by providing exceptional educational opportunities for all students.



**ESL
English as a
Second
Language**



Keller Independent School District

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What is English as a Second Language?

English as a Second Language (ESL) is intensive English language instruction by teachers trained in recognizing and working with language differences. State law requires school districts to provide ESL:

- In elementary schools when there are fewer than 20 Limited English Proficient (LEP) students of the same language enrolled in the same grade level in the district and;
- In middle schools and high schools with LEP student enrollment.

What is an ESL program?

- An **ESL** program provides intensive instruction in listening, speaking, reading, writing, and comprehending English.
- An **ESL** program uses the academic and cultural experience of the student as a platform to provide the appropriate instruction in English.
- An **ESL** program teaches language arts, mathematics, science and social studies using strategies and methodologies appropriate for second language acquisition.

What is the purpose of an ESL program?

- An ESL program develops competence in English.
- An ESL program prepares students to be successful in all academic subjects.

Who should be enrolled in an ESL program?

Students in pre-kindergarten through high school who speak or hear a language other than English in their home and who have difficulty with English are eligible for the ESL program.

Will my child be taught the same subjects and learn the same skills as students in the regular program?

- All students in ESL must receive instruction in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) in English using strategies and methodologies appropriate for them.
- Language arts, reading, mathematics, science, and social studies are integral parts of the state mandated curriculum.
- Music, physical education, health and art are all parts of the balanced curriculum that children in the program are required to receive.

Who is responsible for teaching in an ESL program?

Teachers must be specially trained and certified to teach in ESL programs and meet the special language needs of these students.

How is an ESL program different from English language arts instruction?

- Teachers are appropriately certified by the state to teach ESL.
- State-adopted ESL materials are provided to help students learn through proven methods.
- Instruction focuses on learning English for effective participation in other classes.

How can parents become involved in the ESL program?

- Parental approval is required for students to participate in the program.
- Parents can volunteer for classroom activities.
- Parents can encourage their child at home to achieve, provide a place to study, and show interest in schoolwork.
- Parents can ask their child's teacher or principal about becoming a member of the Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC) that determines how students will be taught.