

1 Great Falls School District

2  
3 **INSTRUCTION**

2500

4  
5 English Learner Program

6  
7 In accordance with the Board's philosophy to provide a quality educational program to all  
8 students, the District shall provide an appropriate planned instructional program for identified  
9 students whose dominant language is not English. The purpose of the program is to increase the  
10 English proficiency of eligible students, so they can attain academic success. Students who are  
11 English Learners (EL) will be identified, assessed, and provided appropriate services.

12  
13 The Board shall adopt a program of educational services for each student who is identified as an  
14 English Learner (EL). The program shall include bilingual/bicultural or English as a Second  
15 Language (ESL) instruction.

16  
17 The Superintendent or designee shall implement and supervise an EL program which ensures  
18 appropriate EL instruction and complies with applicable laws and regulations.

19  
20 The Superintendent or his/her designee, in conjunction with appropriate stakeholders, shall  
21 develop and disseminate written procedures regarding the EL program, including:

- 22
- 23 • Program goals.
  - 24 • Student enrollment procedures.
  - 25 • Assessment procedures for program entrance, measurement of progress, and program  
26 exit.
  - 27 • Classroom accommodations.
  - 28 • Grading policies.
  - 29 • List of resources, including support agencies and interpreters.
- 30

31 The District shall establish procedures for identifying students whose language is not English.  
32 For a student who is identified as an English Learner (EL), assessment of the student's English  
33 proficiency level must be completed to determine the need for English as a Second Language  
34 instruction or Academic English Supports.

35  
36 Students whose dominant language is not English should be enrolled in the District, upon proof  
37 of residency and other legal requirements. Students shall have access to and be encouraged to  
38 participate in all academic and extracurricular activities of the District.

39  
40 Students participating in EL programs shall be required, with accommodations, to meet  
41 established academic standards and graduation requirements adopted by the Board.

42  
43 The EL program shall be designed to provide instruction which meets each student's individual  
44 needs based on the assessment of English proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and  
45 writing. Adequate content-area support shall be provided while the student is learning English,  
46 to assure achievement of academic standards.

1 The EL program shall be evaluated for effectiveness as required, based on the attainment of  
2 English proficiency and shall be revised when necessary.

3  
4 At the beginning of each school year, the District shall notify parents of students qualifying for  
5 EL programs about the instructional program and parental options, as required by law. Parents  
6 will be regularly apprised of their student’s progress. Whenever possible, communications with  
7 parents shall be in the language understood by the parents.

8  
9 The District shall maintain an effective means of outreach to encourage parental involvement in  
10 the education of their children.

11  
12 Cross Reference:  
13 [English Learner Guidance for School Districts](#)

14  
15 Legal Reference:  
16 Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964  
17 Equal Education Opportunities Act as an amendment to the Education  
18 Amendments of 1974 Bilingual Education Act  
19 20 U.S.C. §§ 7401, et seq., as amended by the English Language  
20 Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Achievement Act  
21 10.55.806 ARM English Learners

22  
23 Policy History:  
24 Adopted on: March 25, 2024  
25