

## What is a One-Way Dual Language Immersion Program?

One-Way Dual Language Immersion is a bilingual program that includes instruction in both English and Spanish that helps students excel academically while becoming bilingual, biliterate, and multicultural.



## Program Specifics

Waco ISD's One-way Dual Language Program is a 50:50 model that promotes bilingualism, multiculturalism, and biliteracy in both English and Spanish. Students attain full literacy in the primary (L1) and secondary language (L2). Students also learn core-area academic content in English and Spanish based on the Language of Instruction (LOI) in a research-based instructional model that honors both languages.

## Research and Dual Language Immersion Programs

- Research has demonstrated that out of all Bilingual models, Dual Language programming closes the achievement gap between ELs and their native English English-speaking peers and promotes high levels of achievement (Collier, 1995).
- Numerous studies have shown that individuals who are exposed to two languages at an early age, on average, outperform their monolingual peers on tests of cognitive function in adolescence and adulthood.
- Students who participate in Dual Language programs are less likely than their peers to drop out of school (Thomas & Collier, 2009).

## One-Way Dual Language Immersion Program

## Waco ISD



*"The time has come to consider biliteracy, the new threshold for literacy achievement in the new millennium."*

*-Maria de la Luz Reyes*



## Program Goals

1. **Biliteracy:** Students who are biliterate and can read and write in the two program languages.
2. **Multiculturalism:** A deep appreciation and understanding of diverse cultures.
3. **Bilingualism:** A high-quality standards-based education that promotes proficiency in both program languages.
4. **High levels of Achievement:** High levels of student academic outcomes which result in increased graduation rates and decreased dropout rates.

## Program Qualifications

Students whose parents indicate a language other than English on the Home Language Survey are assessed for English language proficiency in accordance with state requirements 89.1225 (b) and (f). Only students who qualify as Emergent Bilinguals through the Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC) are eligible to participate in Waco ISD's One-way Dual Language Immersion Program.

### Can a child who is receiving other services participate in a Bilingual Education Program such as One-Way Dual Language Immersion?

Yes, students who receive services in other programs, such as special education, 504, response to intervention, and gifted/talented or advanced academics, may also participate in the Bilingual Education Program. The LPAC, in conjunction with other student service committees, meets to discuss and coordinate services based on the educational needs of your child.



## Instruction in a One-Way Dual Language Immersion Classroom

Emergent Bilinguals participating in a One-Way Dual Language Immersion Program receive high quality literacy and academic content instruction in their primary language as well as English from teachers who are certified in bilingual education. At least half of the instruction is delivered in the students' primary language for the duration of the program.

### What are the benefits of bilingual education?

Academic instruction is provided by teachers who

- Are proficient in the primary language of your child, as well as English; and
- are trained in second language acquisition methods and how to adapt instruction to meet the specific language needs of your child.

Research indicates that children who participate in a bilingual education program

- build on a literacy foundation in their primary language to acquire stronger cognitive and academic skills in English;
- are more likely to develop a bicultural identity, become biliterate, and have higher self-esteem; and
- may use their bilingual skills to access competitive job opportunities in a global world.

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