

PROGRAM GOALS

AND

ESL PLACEMENT

The major goals of the program for English Language Learners (ELLs) are:

- to attain English proficiency;
- to develop high levels of attainment in core academic subjects; and
- to meet the same challenging state academic standards as all children are expected to meet. (No Child Left Behind Act of 2001)

The Jefferson Parish Public School System has established the following plan to accomplish these goals.

1. Alternative policies and procedures are designed to identify, diagnose, and efficiently place ELLs immediately upon registration.
2. An instructional plan with an appropriate curriculum is implemented for English language learners.
3. Native language support in content areas when practicable and available, is provided in order for the ELLs to access instruction in a language they can understand while they are learning English.
4. Professional development opportunities based on scientifically designed research are provided for teachers of ELLs.
5. Professional development opportunities based on scientifically designed research are provided for bilingual paraprofessionals to support effective instruction.
6. Instruction and psychosocial support are provided to address the distinctive process of ELL acculturation and adaptation that ultimately leads to academic success.
7. Annual diagnostic language testing is used to determine appropriate language instruction placement.
8. Annual academic testing determines adequate yearly progress.
9. Parent and community participation in the education of ELLs is promoted.

INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES

The instructional objectives listed below articulate the language competencies ELLs need to become fully proficient in English (from the *ESL Standards for Pre K-12 Students, 2006*).

- English language learners communicate for social, intercultural, and instructional purposes within the school setting.

- English language learners communicate information, ideas, and concepts necessary for academic success in the areas of
 - language arts
 - mathematics
 - science
 - social studies.