Entering the English Learner (EL) Program

When a language other than English is marked on the Language Usage Survey, which is completed during enrollment, the student will be given the OELPS - Ohio English Language Proficiency Screener to determine their English proficiency level.

Students are measured in four areas: Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking. Students qualify for English services by scoring a 3 or lower in one or more of the four areas. Permission for these services must be given by the student's family. Each year the student is enrolled, the permission form will be sent home until the student demonstrates English Language Proficiency per the OELPA test give in February.

Exiting the English Learner (EL) Program

In order to exit the EL program in Ohio, students need to demonstrate proficiency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening/understanding English. Every year the students in the EL Program participate in the OELPA (Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment). Students demonstrate proficiency by scoring all 4s and 5's.

Upon exiting the program, students will be monitored for success for two years. If the academic curriculum becomes too challenging, the students may return to the program for additional support.

School Contacts

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Types of Services

Students who are served in the English Learner (EL) Program receive services in one of two settings:

Small Group

Students work with the EL teacher in a small group setting to address their language needs. High School students may be eligible for an ELA class designed specifically for EL students.

Inclusion

Students work in the general education classroom with additional support from the EL teacher.

Once the school district implements a language program for the EL students, the district must monitor student progress on a regular basis as well as take steps to modify the program if it is determined that the student is making reasonable progress.

Proficiency Levels

Students learning a new language achieve proficiency at different rates. Ohio has established five proficiency levels to categorize student learning at different development stages of their English language development:

These stages are:

- ★ 1 Beginning
- ★ 2 Early Intermediate
- ★ 3 Intermediate
- ★ 4 Early Advanced
- ★ 5 Advanced

The OELPA results each year measure a student's proficiency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Student scores range from 1 to 5. Students will receive an overall score of emerging, progressing, or proficient. When a proficient score is achieved, the student will exit the EL program but will continue to be monitored for 2 years.

Program Purpose:

EL (English Learners) Services have three major goals for students:

1. To attain English language proficiency in reading, writing, listening and speaking

2. To understand and use English in an academic setting

3. To understand and use English in a social setting

Additional Program Services:

- A. Translation for families and students
- B. EL Student Plan outlining specific accommodations for the general education classroom and state testing
- C. Family mentorship program