

What does English Learner (EL) mean?

"English Learner" (EL) means any student in preschool through grade 12, whose home language background is a language other than English and whose proficiency in speaking, reading, writing or understanding English is not yet sufficient to meet grade level standards.

How does a student qualify as an English Learner?

- A Home Language Survey is completed for every student when they enter the school district.
- "Home Language" means the language *most typically used in the home* by the student and/or by the student's parents or legal guardians.
- When students indicate another language besides English is spoken in the home on the Home Language Survey, the student is screened for English proficiency.
- The screener scores determine English proficiency and eligibility for an English Learner program. The test administrator will explain the criteria.
- English Learners will take the ACCESS test of English proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing once a year. The results of the ACCESS test determine if a student will continue to qualify for an English Learner Program the following year.
- English Learners will no longer be eligible for services and exit the Bilingual program if they receive an **Overall Composite Score of 4.8 or above on ACCESS.**

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EAST AURORA SCHOOL DISTRICT 131

REACH YOUR FULL POTENTIAL!



Program Options for English Learners

Mission: Our purpose is to educate and empower all students to reach their full potential through language acquisition.

Vision:

Students will attain the Seal of Biliteracy and become global citizens.

We will:

- Build capacity for professional knowledge
- Implement consistent research-based EL models
- Celebrate language learning
- Value heritage language

Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE)

At East Aurora School District 131, the Transitional Bilingual Education Program is for Spanish-speaking English learners who qualify for full-time language services based on the established district criteria. The end goal of this program is for students to reach a high level of language and literacy development in English, and high academic achievement in English. Students who qualify for this program receive instruction in Spanish and English, complemented with ESL pedagogy and instructional strategies embedded. Instruction does transition to the language of instruction being completely in English.

Transitional Program of Instruction (TPI)

The Transitional Program of Instruction (TPI) is for English learners who speak another language that is not Spanish. The program provides support to help students succeed in academic subjects and acquire English.

Dual Language Program (DLP)

The Dual Language program is designed to ensure that all students become bilingual, biliterate and multicultural with the ability to meaningfully engage with their learning in an increasingly global society. Instruction provides students literacy and content instruction in both English and Spanish at a 50-50 ratio. The goal is to prepare students for the future with abilities to listen, speak, read, and write in both English and Spanish, as well as develop an appreciation for different cultures.

The program is a two-way model: approximately 50-65% of the students in a classroom meet the district criteria as Spanish-speaking English learners who qualify for full-time bilingual services. The other 35-50% of students in a classroom are (1) students who meet the district criteria for Sheltered English instruction or (2) students who don't qualify as English learners, and are English proficient. Parents must apply for this program and students are chosen through a lottery. Students begin in kindergarten and continue in this program until 5th grade even if they are no longer considered English Learners.

Students are placed in programs based on the screener score criteria for their grade level. Below are the Full-Time options for services.

*Some exceptions may occur as needed on a per student basis.

Bilingual Education

Kindergarten: Oral Proficiency Level = 1.0-3.4

Grade 1: Literacy Proficiency Level = 1.0-3.4

Grades 2-3: Literacy Proficiency Level = 1.0-2.9

Sheltered English Instruction

Kindergarten: Oral Proficiency Level = 3.5-4.9

Grade 1: Literacy Proficiency Level = 3.5-4.9

Grades 2-3: Literacy Proficiency Level = 3.0-4.9

All 4th & 5th Grade students eligible for services receive **Sheltered English Instruction**.

Early Childhood student placement is based on the PRE-IPT Oral Proficiency Level and the age of the child.

Middle School & High School student placement is based on years in program and entry Literacy Score.

Bilingual Education

Instruction is in Spanish and English with ESL strategies embedded. The goal of this program is to have students acquire English and transition into English-only instruction. Although there is a larger portion of Spanish instruction in the beginning, it is used only to assist in the transition into English.

Sheltered English Instruction

Sheltered English instruction is delivered utilizing the Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP). The SIOP Model is a research-based and validated instructional model that has proven effective in addressing the academic needs of English learners throughout the United States. It consists of eight interrelated components. Using instructional strategies connected to each of these components, teachers are able to design and deliver lessons that address the academic and linguistic needs of English learners.

Part-time Instruction Options

English as a Second Language (ESL)

Part-time ESL instruction can be delivered in a variety of settings. The EL student receives instruction in English for at least half of their day in general education. They may receive English Learner services through:

Push-in model: An ESL or Bilingual certified teacher pushes into the classroom to deliver ESL instruction to one or more students.

Pull-out model: The EL student leaves the general classroom for a period of time to receive instruction from an ESL or Bilingual certified teacher.

ESL or Bilingual Aide: An ESL or Bilingual Teacher's Aide delivers instruction under the guidance of the classroom instructor to one or more students in their classroom.

Consultation: An ESL or Bilingual certified teacher consults regularly with the EL student's general education teacher to monitor the progress of the student and suggest strategies to advance the student's language