

IMPORTANT ACRONYMS

BICS - Basic interpersonal communication skills
CALP - Cognitive academic language proficiency
EFL - English as a foreign language
ELL - English language learner
ESL - English as a second language
ESOL - English for speakers of other languages
HLS - Home language survey
L1, L2 - First language, second language
LEP - Limited English proficient or limited English proficiency
PSSA - Pennsylvania System of School Assessment
PHLOTE - Primary home language other than English
SIOP - Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol
SLA - Second language acquisition

HELPING CAP STUDENTS TO SUCCEED IN ENGLISH AND BEYOND



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ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE



WHAT DOES ELL MEAN?

English Language Learners (ELL) are any student whose Home Language Survey (HLS) identifies them as having another language beside English spoken in their house. An ELL is also defined as having sufficient difficulty speaking, reading, writing or understanding the English language and whose difficulties may deny such individual the opportunity to learn successfully in classrooms where the language of instruction is English or to participate fully in our society.

WHY DO WE HAVE AN ESL PROGRAM?

It is mandatory for all Pennsylvania districts and charter schools to provide a program for English Language Learners. The program must be (1) based on sound educational and language learning theory; (2) implemented with sufficient resources and staffed by appropriately prepared personnel; and (3) periodically evaluated.

English as a Second Language

HOW ARE ELLS PLACED IN THE PROGRAM?

Based upon the Home Language Survey, students are assessed using the WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT) or all four language domains: Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. If the student scores above a composite proficiency of 4, he/she does not qualify for the program.



Other exemptions include:

- Final grades of B or better in all four core classes: English/Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies;
- Scoring Basic or above on TerraNova and/or PSSA;
- Having a NO ESL determined from the school a student may have transferred.

HOW ARE ELLS EXITED FROM THE PROGRAM?

- Scoring Basic or better on PSSA and/or TerraNova
- Scoring a composite proficiency of 5 or better on Tier C of ACCESS test
- Grades of C or better in all four core classes- English/Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies



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CAN PARENTS OPT-OUT OF THE ELL PROGRAM FOR THEIR CHILD?

A parent may **NOT** seek to have his or her child excused from CAP's ELL program unless the instruction conflicts with the family's religious belief.

WHAT TYPES OF SERVICES DOES THE ESL PROGRAM INCLUDE?

Push-in, whole group

Pull-out small groups

Bilingual assistants

In-service professional development to faculty members

Encouraging parental involvement

