

Services/Programs for English Learners

Policy 342.7

Waunakee Community School District

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The Waunakee Community School District shall provide appropriate programs and services for students who are identified as English learners (EL) and are enrolled in District schools. The purpose of these programs and services will be to help students acquire English language skills that will enable them to benefit from the instructional program at the Waunakee Community School District (WCSD) and to meet established academic standards.

If a sufficient number of English learners from the same language group are identified, bilingual-bicultural programs and services must be offered. Once state requirements are met, these programs and services are provided as required by State Law.

Students with English learning (EL) needs shall be identified according to WCSD English Learner identification guidelines, which are in accordance with the processes identified in the *Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction English Learner Policy Handbook* and state law. Once identified, English learners shall receive an English proficiency level. Service delivery shall be determined after careful data analysis to identify student needs. The degree of curricular and instructional modification and accommodation, type of supportive services and their duration shall be individually determined based on student needs. Specialized instructional materials and techniques designed to teach English to speakers of other languages shall be used in the District. English learners shall be provided with full access to supportive services available to other students in the District.

Parents/guardians of English learners shall be notified of the students' English language assessment results and of educational programs and services available to help their child improve their English language skills and academic achievement. Parents/guardians of English learners will be provided a Notification of Service Delivery and Parental Rights, which is reviewed on an annual basis. Parents/guardians will be notified when/if changes in service delivery are made. Notifications shall be provided in the parent/guardian's native language to the extent possible. These notifications shall be made consistent with legal requirements and in such a manner as to ensure that the student's parent or guardian understands them.

English learners shall be assessed academically in accordance with legal requirements and established District procedures. Decisions regarding the administration of statewide academic assessments to English learners, including any testing accommodations, shall be made according to State and District guidelines on a case-by-case basis. The results of statewide and District academic assessments and alternative assessments shall be used consistent with District policies in making programmatic decisions. Academic assessment results may not be used as the sole criterion to re-classify an English learner from an English as a second language or bilingual-bicultural education program or to determine if grade promotion, eligibility for courses or programs, eligibility for graduation or eligibility for participation in postsecondary education responsibilities.

The English language proficiency of English learners shall be assessed annually according to Federal and State requirements. Reclassification/exiting decisions shall also be made according to WCSD procedures that are aligned in the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction *English Learner Policy Handbook*.

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Procedure:

Enrollment Procedure:

1. All new students are required to register at the Waunakee Community School District Registrar's office, 905 Bethel Circle, Waunakee. All families must provide proof of residency and complete a student enrollment form and a Home Language Survey for each student.
2. Answers to questions on the Home Language Survey will determine the need for English language proficiency screening.

English language proficiency screening and identification procedures shall be conducted according to WCSD procedures, which are aligned to the *Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction English Learner Policy Handbook*.

Having another language spoken in the home or in another setting is not an automatic identification of a student as having English language learning needs.

Programming and Progress Monitoring:

1. English Learner (EL) teaching staff provide support for English learners under a variety of service models. Services are defined in the Notification of Service Delivery and Parental Rights and require consent of parent/guardian.
2. EL teachers and general education teachers will monitor progress of current English learners including two years after English learners have exited programs and services. Staff will meet with parents/guardians and students when students are not making expected progress. If during that time, it is determined that the student was exited from the EL program prematurely, the student shall be placed back in the program.
3. If an English learner is suspected of having special education needs, all required procedures for screening and evaluation under the District Multi-Level Systems of Support (MLSS) process and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) apply. A consideration in determining eligibility for special education services will be the student's patterns of language acquisition and whether or not they are typical of bilingual learners. The EL staff shall collaborate with special education and student services staff in order to determine whether or not assessments should be conducted in languages other than English.

LEGAL REF: 115.95 Wisconsin Statutes
 115.96 Wisconsin Statutes
 115.97 Wisconsin Statutes

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118.13 Wisconsin Statutes
118.30 Wisconsin Statutes
121.02(1)(r) Wisconsin Statutes
212.02(1)(s) Wisconsin Statutes
PI 8.01(2)(r) Wisconsin Administrative Code
PI 14 Wisconsin Administrative Code
Elementary and Secondary Education Act Part A-Subpart 1
Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
34.C.F.R. 200.06(f)

CROSS REF: 310 Instructional Goals
342.1 Programs for Children with Disabilities
342.3 Title I Comparability
345.1 Grading Systems
345.4 Promotion/Retention of Students
345.5 High School Graduation Requirements/Procedures
346 Student Assessment Program
411 Equal Educational Opportunities
420 School Admissions
422 Admission of Non-REsident Students

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