



# MOKULELE ELEMENTARY ENGLISH LEARNERS



## Welcome to the English Learners Program!

The statewide English Learners (EL) Program provides language support to students whose first or native language is not English. Schools are legally bound to comply with federal (Title III), state laws and rulings of the Office of Civil Rights, the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) court decisions, and Hawaii Board of Education policies and administration rules.

### OUR MISSION

The EL Program's mission is to provide every language minority student with equal educational opportunities to maximize his/her potential as an educated, productive and contributing citizen. To accomplish this, the program strives to facilitate the use of instructional approaches and methods which address students' specific language and cultural needs, while ensuring that students are taught the same challenging content and achieve the high levels of standards desired for all students.

### IDENTIFICATION OF EL STUDENT

When students are enrolled in our public schools, parents complete an **SIS-10W enrollment form**. A response of anything other than English for one or more of the following identifies a student as a potential EL program student:

- Student's first acquired language
- Language most often used at home
- Language most often used by the student

Students can also be referred by a teacher, parent or counselor. If a language other than English is documented through the home language survey, then the student is eligible for the program.

### ASSESSMENTS OF POTENTIAL EL STUDENT

Once the student is identified as a potential EL Program student, an assessment process is begun and must be completed within the first 30 calendar days of the start of the school year or within 14 calendar days if the student enters during the school year. The student is given an English language proficiency test in listening, speaking, reading and writing. A student may also be administered a Native Language Proficiency (NLP) test which rates the student's oral proficiency in his/her native language.



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## ASSESSMENT TIMELINE

1. Administration of the **W-APT** (Kindergarten or first semester 1<sup>st</sup> grade students, or **WIDA Screener** (Second semester 1<sup>st</sup> grade students through 12<sup>th</sup> grade); and
2. Place students appropriately within the schools evidenced based EL Program with both qualified EL and grade level/content teachers considering students' ELP levels. The English Learners Program designates three proficiency categories:
  - Beginning or Non-English Proficient (NEP) – Students have limited or no proficiency in understanding, speaking, reading and writing English.
  - Intermediate or Limited-English Proficient (LEP) – Students are functionally proficient in understanding and speaking English but limited in reading and writing skills.
  - Proficient or Fully-English Proficient (FEP) - Students are proficient in the four basic language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) but may be experiencing academic difficulties in the content areas.

Note, parent consent is not required to assess language proficiency.
3. Notify parents of EL Program services.

## PARENT NOTIFICATION

The school sends home the parent notification letter to notify parents of the EL Program placement and services provided within 30 calendar days from the start of the school year; or 14 calendar days if the student arrives after the start of the school year.

## INSTRUCTION

Curriculum and instruction must provide the support necessary for EL students to have access to the full range of content and services offered to all students. The primary instructional focus is to help them make a transition to the mainstream classroom and perform successfully. EL Program students need to develop language skills and literate behaviors which will enable them to succeed in meeting Hawaii Common Core Standards and HCPS III which are required of all public school students in the State of Hawaii. These standards include English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science and five other content areas.



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## **TRANSITIONING FROM EL PROGRAM**

To exit from the EL Program into regular program participation is based upon the annual English Language Proficiency (ELP) assessment, the ACCESS for ELLs®. Students who function at the Bridging ELP level with an Overall PL score of 5.0 meet the exit criteria.

## **MONITORING EL STUDENT**

The school will ensure that students transitioning from the EL Program will participate meaningfully in the school's core education program. Students are monitored for **two** full academic school years after meeting the EL exit criteria.

## **WIDA - WORLD-CLASS INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN AND ASSESSMENT**

### **ACCESS FOR ELLs**

The HDOE joined the WIDA Consortium and Hawaii State Board of Education adopted the WIDA Standards in May 2009, the [ACCESS for ELLs](#)® also became the state-approved annual English language proficiency assessment. Educators use ACCESS results, along with other WIDA resources, to make decisions about students' English academic language and to facilitate their language development.

Students' scores reflect proficiency levels ranging from Level 1 (Entering) to Level 6 (Reaching).

- General information about WIDA may be found at: <https://wida.wisc.edu/>
- Resources on WIDA ELD Standards are available on the WIDA website under Teach, Teaching with the Standards at: <https://wida.wisc.edu/teach/standards>



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## PARENT RESOURCES

### SCHOOL-HOME ASSISTANTS

School-Home Assistants in Central District provide bilingual support to parents and students in eight languages (Tagalog, Visayan, Spanish, Korean, Samoan, Chuukese, Marshallese & Ilokano). They help parents understand school policies and expectations, translate school notices and forms, and interpret during conferences and Special Education evaluations. School-Home Assistants also help by showing parents how to facilitate their children's learning at home and serve as communication support between schools, EL families and community resources.

## EL WEBSITE RESOURCES

<https://www.eslamerica.us/grammar.html>

An English language website to practice conversation, vocabulary, grammar, reading, and more AND all of it has sound so you can listen while you practice.

<https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/>

Online portal with free digital picture books printed in English but with narration available in over 40 languages, including Tagalog, Samoan, and other common EL home languages.

<https://www.funbrain.com/>

There are over 100 interactive activities here to help kids from preschool to grade 8 develop skills in English literacy. There is a wide variety of books children can read directly on the website.

Even the arcade games allows children a chance to practice their reading in order to play games successfully. All the games are safe for kids, and they encourage children to manipulate the keyboard and mouse so they can learn to be independent on the computer.

**Tip for home use:** Have your child pick a game from the arcade section and practice reading instructions so they can complete games independently.

