



## **English Learner (EL) Enrollment Guidelines for Continuity of Learning**

With the potential of schools being closed for a longer period, school systems must establish a process to register any new students so that they can participate in the continuity of learning.

### **Definition of Provisional ELs**

As it is not feasible to administer the English language proficiency screening test, provisional ELs will be those eligible to receive English language development (ELD) services.

### **General Guidelines for Staff at Local School Systems (LSSs) Registering Provisional ELs**

- Based on the home language survey, students will be placed in English language development programs (e.g., ESOL, ESL, or EL classes.).
- LSSs may reach out to parents/guardians to ask follow up questions about the home language survey using interpreters.
- If parents/guardians can provide proof that their child was released from an English language development program or their child did not need such service, these students will not be placed in the English language development program.
- If parents/guardians cannot provide proof as mentioned above, their child will be placed in an ELD program.
- Provisional ELs may be designated as such:
  - Newcomer/beginner
  - Intermediate/advanced
- LSSs waive the parent notification letter and accommodations forms for those students who will be enrolled as provisional ELs.
- Once schools reopen, provisional ELs will be evaluated by using the established EL identification criteria.

### **Statements to Share with Parents/Guardians**

- In this unprecedented time, we are implementing a modified EL identification process so that your child has access to appropriate resources, learning packets, or virtual learning.
- Your child is provisionally eligible to receive English language development services based on the results of the home language survey.
- When schools reopen, EL identification testing will be administered to determine the eligibility for English language development services.

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### **Suggested Questions for LSSs**

#### **General Questions**

- Where are you coming from?



- Are you transferring from another school system within the United States or outside the United States?
- When did you leave your school?

Questions for Students Coming from Outside the United States

- When did your previous school year begin and end?
- If enrolling in high school, do you have a transcript from your previous school?
- Did you study English in your home country?

Questions for Students Coming from Within the United States

- If you are transferring from within the United States, were you in an English language development (ELD) program such as ESOL?
- How many years have you been in an ELD program?
- Do you have any documentation about your English proficiency level?
- Have you ever exited from an ELD program?