

ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL) ENGLISH LEARNERS (English Learners)

Albemarle County Public Schools welcomes students from linguistically and culturally diverse backgrounds, believing they enrich the school community. The school division maintains that speakers of languages other than English hold the same rights, privileges, and responsibilities as all other students. Therefore, an equal educational opportunity will be provided that complies with Title V of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Equal Educational Opportunity Act of 1974 (EEOA).

~~A Limited English Proficient (LEP)~~ An English Learner (EL) ~~student~~ is one who may or may not have been born in the United States, whose native language is a language other than English, or one who comes from an environment where English is not the dominant language and, as a result, has sufficient difficulty in speaking, reading, writing, or understanding English so as to limit the opportunity to learn successfully in classrooms where English is the language of instruction.

A student's English language proficiency will be assessed to determine placement in English language assistance programs. The goal of the ~~ESOL-English for Speakers of Other Languages~~ program in the division is to integrate students for whom English is not their first language into the educational and cultural mainstream through appropriate curricula and instructional, as well as assessment strategies, that address the needs of individual students and their families.

Generally

The Albemarle County School Board ~~shall~~ provides programs to improve the education of English Learners ~~limited English proficient children~~ by assisting the ~~students children~~ to learn English and meet Virginia's challenging academic content and ~~student~~ academic achievement standards.

Assessments

The Albemarle County School Board ~~will~~ annually assesses the English proficiency of all English Learners. ~~students with limited English proficiency.~~

Notification

The Albemarle County School Board ~~will~~, not later than 30 days after the beginning of the school year, informs a parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) ~~or the parents of an English Learner qualifying for the ESOL program with information that includes: a limited English proficient child identified for participation in, or participating in, a program for limited English proficient students of~~

- the reasons for the identification of their student child as an English Learner ~~limited English proficient and~~ in need of supplemental linguistic services and placement in a language instruction education program;
- the student's child's level of English proficiency, how that level was assessed, and the status of the child's academic achievement;
- the method of instruction used in the program in which their student child is, or will be, participating, and the methods of instruction used in other available programs, including how such programs differ in content, instruction goals, and use of language in instruction; English and a native language in instruction;
- how the program in which their student child is, or will be, participating will meet his/her ~~the~~ educational strengths and needs ~~of the child;~~
- how such program will specifically help their student child learn English, and meet age-appropriate academic achievement standards for grade promotion and graduation;
- the specific exit criteria requirements for the language instruction education ~~such~~ program, the expected rate of transition into general education classrooms without supplemental linguistic support, from such program into classrooms that are not tailored for limited English proficient children, and the expected rate of graduation from high school (including four-year adjusted cohort graduation rates and extended-year adjusted cohort graduation rates for such program) ~~secondary school for such program;~~
- in the case of a student child with a disability, how the language instruction education ~~such~~ program complements his/her ~~meets the objectives of the~~ individualized education program ~~of the child;~~ and
- information pertaining to parental rights that includes written guidance
 - detailing the right that parents and legal guardians ~~have to~~ have to decline the services of, or remove their student from the language instruction education program, and their child immediately removed from such program upon their request and the options that parents have to decline to enroll their child in such program or to choose another program or method of instruction, if available, and
 - assisting parents and legal guardians in selecting among various programs and methods of instruction, if more than one program or method is offered by the school division.

For a student child who has not been identified as an English Learner prior to the ~~for participation in a language instruction education program prior to the~~ beginning of the school year, the School Board ~~shall~~ provides the notice detailed above within two ~~2~~-weeks of the student child being placed in the program.

The information described above ~~is will be~~ provided to parents in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language that the parent can understand.

In accordance with the Code of Virginia §22.1-5.D, the Albemarle County School Board accepts and provides programs for English Learners (English Learners) who entered school in

Virginia for the first time after reaching their 12th birthday and who have not reached the age of 22 on or before August 1 of the school year. No tuition is charged to such students if state funding is provided for such programs.

Adopted: July 1, 1993

Amended: February 22, 1999; October 11, 1999, June 28, 2007; March 8, 2012; March 12, 2015

Legal Ref.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended § 22.1-5

20 U.S.C. §§ 6311, 6312, 6825, ~~7012~~

Cross Ref.: IGBC, *Parent and Family Engagement*