

ENGLISH LEARNER (EL) ANNUAL NOTIFICATION

Dear Parent/Guardian:

We are writing to inform you that your child, _____, Student ID# _____, will **continue to be identified as an English Learner (EL) in the 2020-2021 school year**. As such, _____ will continue to receive support through a Language Instruction Educational Program (LIEP), commonly known as **English as a Second Language (ESL)**.

The goal of ESL is to help your child learn English in order to meet age-appropriate academic standards for grade promotion and graduation. Each winter, ELs take the ACCESS test, which measures students' progress towards English proficiency. **Your child's latest ACCESS results are on the back of this letter.** In 2020-2021, the ACCESS test will be administered in January and February, 2021.

In order to be reclassified (exit) from ESL, your child must meet reclassification (exit) guidelines set by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). While each student will learn language at a different rate, all students should, at a maximum, be expected to exit from ESL within six years. You can see the exact reclassification (exit) criteria on PDE's website at www.education.pa.gov.

Generally, students may be reclassified if they (1) achieve a minimum ACCESS score of 4.5, and (2) are recommended for reclassification by teachers or a school-based team. If you are receiving this letter, your child did not meet the requirements for reclassification in 2019-2020, and therefore will continue to receive ESL services this school year.

If you have any concerns or questions about ESL, please contact your child's Principal or teacher. In accordance with federal law, parents of ELs have the right to refuse some ESL services. If you would like to refuse services, please let your child's Principal or teacher know so that they may schedule a meeting with the Office of Multilingual Curriculum and Programs (OMCP).

We look forward to continuing to work with you in supporting the academic achievement of your child.

Sincerely,

Allison W. Still
Deputy Chief

Student Name:			
District ID #:		PA State ID #:	
SY 20-21 Grade Level:		Current Homeroom #:	
Current School:			

Initial Placement in ESL Data	
Date Placed in ESL	
Initial Placement Score	
Years in ESL	

ACCESS or Alt. ACCESS for ELs® Test Data	
Test Date	
Test Administered	
Composite Score	
Language Domain Scores	Listening
	Reading
	Speaking
	Writing

How to Interpret ACCESS for ELs Scores:

ACCESS for ELs measures students' ability to understand and produce English within school settings. The four sections of the test are Listening, Reading, Speaking, and Writing.

Students receive two types of scores (also referred to as "proficiency levels"): domain scores, and a composite score. Domain scores indicate how the student performed on *each section* of the test, while the composite score indicates how the student performed on the test *overall*.

Scores range from 1.0 to 6.0. A score of 1.0 can be thought of as a "beginner" score, while a 6.0 can be thought of as an "advanced" score.

Note that some ELs with Individual Education Programs (IEPs) may take an alternative version of the ACCESS called the Alternate ACCESS for ELs, or Alt. ACCESS. On Alt. ACCESS, scores are reported as a letter and number combination, for example A2 or P1. A score beginning with the letter "A" can be thought of as a beginner score, while a "P" can be thought of as a more advanced score.