



Department of Instructional Supports

English as a New Language Services (ENL)

What are English as a New Language (ENL) instructional services?

English as a New Language instruction (ENL) is a program to help your child succeed in school. ENL teachers help children develop English language skills, cultural awareness and academics in English. ENL instruction must be provided by a teacher with New York state certification in teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) for grades K-12 or certification in Bilingual Education (BE) for grades K-6.

Depending on your child's English proficiency, ENL instruction will include a range of settings. Your child may:

- attend class with other students who are also English Language Learners/Multilingual Learners.
- receive small group instruction, called "stand-alone ENL".
- receive ENL instruction along with subject areas that include English language arts, math, science and/or social studies.

If my child is eligible for services, how much ENL instruction will my child receive?

For kindergarten through grade 8, students who score at the beginning levels of English (Entering or Emerging on the NYSITELL) receive at least 360 minutes per week of ENL instruction.

For grades 9–12, students scoring at the Entering level receive at least 540 minutes per week of ENL instruction, and students at the Emerging level receive at least 360 minutes per week of ENL.

For beginning English students, part of the required ENL instruction is integrated with ELA instruction at your child's grade level. For students at higher levels of English, ENL instruction may also be integrated with other subjects (math, science, or social studies).

For kindergarten through grade 12, students with intermediate to advanced levels of English (Transitioning or Expanding on the NYSITELL) receive at least 180 minutes per week of ENL instruction. Part of the required ENL instructional time for Transitioning students must be integrated with English Language Arts (ELA) at your child's grade level.

Students at the Expanding level must receive all 180 minutes of required ENL instruction integrated with a subject area (ELA, math, science, or social studies).

As a parent/guardian, may I refuse ENL services for my child?

Students who need help in English are required to receive ENL instruction. ENL services are not optional. However, if a bilingual program is available in your school district, you may decide to have your child attend the Dual Language program. English instruction is included in the Dual Language program. Dual Language programs have classes in both your child's languages.

What bilingual services could my child receive?

In a dual language instructional program, English Language Learners (ELL)/Multilingual Learners (MLL) receive:

- subject area (math, science, and/or social studies) instruction in the student's home language (Spanish),
- language arts instruction in the student's home language,
- specialized instruction to help your child learn English. Students must receive ENL instruction according to their level of English proficiency.

When are schools required to provide bilingual services?

School districts in New York state must provide a bilingual instructional program when:

- 20 or more students who speak the same language, and who are in the same grade, are in the school district.
- The school district must continue to offer the bilingual program to all students who are English language learners, if there were at least 15 students in their bilingual class during the previous year. However, for languages other than Spanish or Mandarin, a district may apply for a 1-year delay in starting a bilingual program.
- In Grades 9–12: 20 or more students who speak the same language, and who are in the same grade level.

What testing accommodations will my child receive as an ELL/MLL?

Your child may receive the following special services during state tests in the subject areas (math, science, social studies):

- Your child may use a bilingual dictionary or glossary, such as: www.p12.nysed.gov/biling/bilinged/bilingual_glossaries.htm.
- Your child may have extra time for taking the tests.
- Your child may take the test in a separate location in a small group or alone.
- Your child may have a subject test that is translated into his/her home language, when it is available. Both home language editions AND the English editions of the tests should be provided to your child.

- Your child may hear spoken or oral translations of the subject tests, when there is translation in writing available in his/her home language.
- Your child may write his or her responses in the home language.
- Your child may hear the listening part 3 times during the NYS English Language Arts test and the NYS Regents Comprehensive Examination in English.
- During their first year in the ENL program, students do not take the NYS English Language Arts test. Instead, your child will take the New York State English as a Second Language Assessment (NYSESLAT).