



English Learner Definition

Legislative Committee on Education

Federal:

- Legal Definition of English Learners (ELs)
 - Limited English Proficient (LEP) – legal term
- Initiative for Common Definition

Nevada:

- Statute
- Practice
- Opportunity

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EXHIBIT D - EDUCATION

Document consists of 8 pages.

Entire exhibit provided.

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Federal Definition of LEP

ESEA, 9101(25)

The term limited English proficient...means an individual —

- A.** who is aged 3 through 21;
- B.** who is enrolled or preparing to enroll in an elementary school or secondary school;
- C.** (i) who was not born in the United States or *whose native language is a language other than English*;
 - (ii)** (I) who is a Native American or Alaska Native, or a native resident of the outlying areas; and
 - (II) *who comes from an environment where a language other than English has had a significant impact on the individual's level of English language proficiency, or*
 - (iii) who is migratory, *whose native language is a language other than English, and who comes from an environment where a language other than English is dominant, and...*

Federal Definition of LEP

Continued... ESEA, 9101(25)

...and

- D.** whose difficulties in speaking, reading, writing, or understanding the English language *may* be sufficient to deny [them]:
- (i) the ability to *meet the State's proficient level of achievement* on State assessments;
 - (ii) the ability to *successfully achieve in classrooms* where the language of instruction is English; **or**
 - (iii) the opportunity to *participate fully in society*.

LEP/EL Classification Process

- Home Language Survey (HLS)
 - Identifies *potential* ELs for screening
 - ❖ Per Federal Definition (parts A-C)
- Proficiency Screener Assessment
 - Classifies students as EL *or* English Proficient
 - ❖ Per Federal Definition (part D)
- English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA)
 - Annual measure of ELs' Progress and Attainment
 - ❖ Reclassifies ELs as English Proficient (Program Exit)





Common EL Definition Initiative

State Consortium Participation **Note: Memberships Change!**

Academic / ELP	WIDA ASSETS	CCSSO ELPA-21	Stand-Alone
Smarter Balanced	DE, HI, ME, MI, MO, MT, NV, NH, NC, ND*, PA*, SC+, SD, USVI, VT, WI, WY	IA, KS, OR, SC+, WA, WV	AK, CA, CT, ID
PARCC	CO, DC, IL, KY, MA, MD, MS, NJ, NM, ND*, OK, PA*, RI, TN	AR, FL, LA, OH	AZ, GA, IN, KY, NY
Stand-Alone	AL, MN, UT, VA	NE	TX

*Listed as both Smarter Balanced and PARCC

+Listed as both ASSETS and ELPA 21

Each consortium is required to define the term EL in a uniform manner, across member states and consistent with the federal definition.



Common EL Definition Initiative

National Workgroup:

- Facilitated by Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO)
- Funded by the Carnegie Foundation
- Nevada is one of 7 selected states

WIDA Subcommittee on EL Definition:

- 34 member states
- Nevada chairs the committee

CCSSO Subcommittee on EL Definition:

- 20+ states
- Nevada is an active participant

EL Identification in Nevada

NAC 388.620 (NRS 385.080, 388.405)

Determination of primary language of pupil.



Districts are required to identify new enrolling students for screening as potential ELs if:

- (a) The pupil first spoke a language other than English;
 - (b) The primary language spoken in the home of the pupil is not English; or
 - (c) The language most often spoken by the pupil is not English.
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- **In Nevada, a positive response to any of these questions requires screening for EL.**
 - **Federal law requires Parents to be notified of classification within 30 days of enrollment.**



Opportunities for Nevada

Nevada is integrally involved in reshaping:

1. The EL Home Language Survey. We anticipate:
 - Tier 1 Questions to identify students in 3 categories:
 - ❖ Definitely Screen
 - ❖ Definitely Do Not Screen
 - ❖ Ask Tier 2 Questions to determine screening status.
2. Common EL Proficiency Performance Definitions:
 - PARCC and Smarter Balance must use common proficiency definitions for Accommodations.
3. Criteria for Reclassification as English “Proficient”.

Questions? -- Thank You!