



English Learners Program Checklist

Student Assessment System and Student Progress

The English Learners Program Checklist has been developed to help schools and districts assess the quality of services they provide to English Learners (ELs). The checklist can be used for self-evaluation, or it may be used by an outside evaluator in conjunction with observations and interviews. Research findings on the best practices and key elements for effective instruction of linguistically and culturally diverse students formed the basis for the items in this checklist.

Direction to complete the form:

Please assess each feature below by circling the appropriate rating and provide comments and evidence.

1 = not evident at all

4 = strongly evident

DK = don't know

Student Assessment System and Student Progress		
Question	Rating (circle one)	Comments
A home language survey is used to identify ELs.	1 4 DK	
Multiple criteria are used to identify and reassess the specialized support services needed by ELs.	1 4 DK	
Assessments of oral and written English language proficiency are conducted periodically, annually at a minimum.	1 4 DK	
Assessments of oral and written language proficiency are conducted periodically in the students' home languages, annually at a minimum.	1 4 DK	
Assessment is conducted through multiple informal and formal standardized measures.	1 4 DK	
The guidelines that outline the assessment process are clearly formalized by district policy.	1 4 DK	
Assessment information is disseminated to all persons working with ELs.	1 4 DK	
Assessment procedures are adequately modified for ELs with significant academic challenges	1 4 DK	

Student Assessment System and Student Progress		
Question	Rating (circle one)	Comments
Challenges observed in ELs are described and explained before they are diagnosed.	1 4 DK	
Special education explanations are considered only after several factors that may explain the reason for the student's challenges are explored.	1 4 DK	
When special education evaluations are warranted for an EL, they are conducted by qualified bilingual personnel.	1 4 DK	
Instruments selected for student assessment are appropriate for ELs and are substantiated with other assessment strategies.	1 4 DK	
Provision is made for ongoing assessment of content area concepts in a way that is meaningful to ELs in:		
Social studies	1 4 DK	
Science	1 4 DK	
Mathematics	1 4 DK	
Language Arts	1 4 DK	
EL progress is documented on an ongoing basis in academic English language proficiency for:		
Oral language development	1 4 DK	
Literacy	1 4 DK	

Student Assessment System and Student Progress		
Question	Rating (circle one)	Comments
EL progress is documented on an ongoing basis in home language proficiency for: Oral language development Literacy	1 4 DK 1 4 DK	
Information on EL progress is communicated among all teachers on a regular basis.	1 4 DK	
Information on EL progress is used to modify instruction on an ongoing basis.	1 4 DK	
Grading of ELs is fair and realistic.	1 4 DK	
Documentation of progress is directly aligned to school/district-adopted curriculum objectives.	1 4 DK	
Progress of ELs is interpreted in the context of bilingualism and second-language proficiency development.	1 4 DK	

English as a Second (or New) Language (ESL) Instruction/Home Language Instruction		
Question	Rating (circle one)	Comments
ESL curriculum objectives are well articulated for content-based oral language and literacy development.	1 4 DK	
Instruction in ESL is provided to students on the basis of individual needs as identified through assessment.	1 4 DK	
Content-based ESL instruction is provided on a regularly scheduled basis.	1 4 DK	
Student-centered teaching strategies represent a variety of methods, approaches, and techniques that respond to individual learning styles.	1 4 DK	
ELs have ample opportunity for meaningful classroom interaction with peers and the teacher.	1 4 DK	
Instruction is provided by approved or certified ESL or bilingual teachers (at the elementary level).	1 4 DK	
Instructional materials reflect the curriculum objectives.	1 4 DK	
Sufficient instructional and enrichment materials are available for the number of students served.	1 4 DK	