

English Language Learners

Helpful Terms

ELD/ESL: English Language Development/English as a Second Language; explicit English language instruction based on the Colorado English Language Proficiency (CELP) Standards and students' language proficiency levels. ELD/ESL instruction is provided by a qualified teacher in ELL-only groups for a minimum of 45 minutes as part of daily instruction.

Sheltered Instruction: An approach to teaching that makes grade-level content comprehensible for English Language Learners while they are developing English proficiency. Teachers make instruction comprehensible by adjusting their speech and instructional tasks and by providing appropriate background information and experiences. Teachers also develop students' ability to communicate in English within the content area.

ELL: English Language Learner; a general term for a student influenced by a language other than English who is not yet fluent in English.

NEP: Non-English Proficient; an English Language Learner whose overall proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing is at the Beginning or Early Intermediate stages; this level includes students who are just beginning to understand and respond to simple routine communication through those who can respond with more ease to a variety of social communication tasks.

LEP: Limited English Proficient; an English language Learner whose overall English proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing is at the Intermediate or Advanced stages; students at this level are able to understand and be understood in many to most social communication situations, are gaining increased competence in the more cognitively demanding requirements of content areas, but are not yet ready to fully participate in academic content areas without linguistic support.

FEP: Fluent English Proficient; a student who was formerly ELL but who has acquired fluent English proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

CELP Standards (also called WIDA Standards): English Language Proficiency (ELP) standards adopted by Colorado. These standards model the language ELLs need to learn in all academic areas: social and instructional language and the language of language arts, science, math, and social studies.

W-APT: WIDA-ACCESS Placement Test; an initial assessment of language proficiency given to ELLs upon enrollment in Adams 12.

ACCESS: Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners is a secure large-scale English language proficiency assessment given to Kindergarten through 12th graders who have been identified as English language learners (ELLs). It is given annually to all English Language Learners in Colorado to monitor students' progress in acquiring academic English.

