



State of Kansas ESOL Fact Sheet

Who are Kansas's English language learners (ELLs)?

ELLs are immigrants, refugees, migrants, children of military families, internationally adopted children, and US citizens. They come from various countries, but many are US citizens with Kansas as their only home.

What languages do Kansas' ELLs speak?

Approximately 80% of the ELLs also speak Spanish. Other languages include Vietnamese, Chinese, Khmer, Lao, German, Arabic and Korean, and many others.

Legal obligation to serve ELLs

The legal obligation to serve ELLs can be found in the Equal Education Opportunities Act of 1964, Plyler v. Doe, Castaneda v. Pickard, No Child Left Behind, and many others. ELLs also have the same rights to Advanced Placement, college preparation courses, Gifted and Talented programs, Special Education services, extracurricular activities, etc. as any other student.

How are ELLs in Kansas identified?

Every child enrolled in Kansas schools is to be given a Home Language Survey. If a language other than English is provided on the survey, students in grades K-12 are assessed for English proficiency using the LAS-Links, IPT, LPTS, or KELPA-P. Pre-K students may be assessed using the Pre-LAS or the Pre-IPT. Students scoring below "fluent/proficient" will receive ESOL services.

KIDS

Once a student has been identified as an ELL, s/he is entered into the KIDS system in the appropriate fields. Information gathered from KIDS is used to determine funding and to report program information.

Individual Learning Plan (ILP)

Each ELL has an ILP listing student information, linguistic strengths and challenges, as well as any accommodations that may be needed. The ILP

should serve as a guide for instruction and support, and a record of progress.

How to serve ELLs

An ESOL endorsed teacher or a paraprofessional working under the direct supervision of an ESOL endorsed teacher provides ELLs with the language support needed to access the regular curriculum and to improve English proficiency. Language support is offered through various program types including dual language, ESOL class period, modified instruction, and others.

KELPA

Each spring all ELLs are given the Kansas English Language Proficiency Assessment (KELPA). This assessment is required in order to measure the student's yearly progress in acquiring English.

Funding

The State of Kansas provides funding to districts with ELLs to help them provide quality instruction to students and professional development to staff to meet the needs of ELLs. Funding is provided using a weighted formula based on the base state aid per pupil and the number of contact minutes (instructional time) a student receives with an ESL endorsed teacher.

For more information, please contact:

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Or visit the [ESOL webpage](#).

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