



What does ELL instruction look like?

- ELL students will take an **English Language Development (ELD)** class taught by the ELL teacher. This class focuses on academic language to help them in other classes.
- The class will help students develop their writing, speaking, and reading skills.
- Some schools provide after-school support for ELL students.

What about graduation credits?

Students will earn elective credit for their ELD class. ELL students who are proficient in their native language can also take a World Language Proficiency Test to earn foreign language credit.

Why does being in the ELL Program help your child succeed academically?

“Researchers found that students who received focused second-language instruction made more than five times the gains of students who did not.”

- Saunders and Goldenberg, from *Improving Education for English Learners: Research-based Approaches*, 2010, 2013

How are our district ELL students doing?

Our ELL students are exiting the ELL program at some of the **highest** rates in Washington state. Our students show excellent growth in learning English and doing well in school.

How do I get more information?

Please contact your school’s ELL teacher or counselor, or call the ELL office at (425) 837-7093. You can request an interpreter.



ISSAQUAH SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECONDARY ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELL) PROGRAM

ELL = English Language Learner

Home Language Survey

English/November 2018

of Public Instruction (OSPI)

is given to *all* students enrolling in Washington schools.

Grade:	Date:
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Parent/Guardian Signature _____

All parents have the right to information about their child's education in a language they understand.

- In what language(s) would your family prefer to communicate with the school?

- What language did your child learn first?

- What language does your child use the most at home?

1. When is a student tested for the ELL Program?



When a child enrolls in a Washington state school, parents fill out the **Home Language Survey**. (The Home Language Survey is available in other languages. Ask your school.)

If #2 or #3 is a language other than English:

- The student is given an English language **Placement Test**.
- It is a short test given by school staff. It tests listening, speaking, reading and writing.

2. How does a student qualify to receive ELL instruction?

The **Placement Test** will place students at one of these **levels**:

- Emerging (Levels 1 or 2)*
- Progressing (Level 3)*
- Does not need ELL services*

Parents will be notified by letter about their child's test results.



Emerging and Progressing ELL students will receive ELL instruction from an ELL teacher during the regular school day. See back of brochure for more information.

3. How are an ELL student's language skills monitored?

Students take an Annual Test in February or March of each year.

It is called the ELPA21 Test:

- The test will show their language growth and current ELL Level.
- It is a longer test, given on a computer.
- Students will take a practice test in class.
- Here is a link to the practice test: <http://wa.portal.airast.org/>

4. How does a student exit the ELL Program?

If a student scores as Proficient (Level 4) on the Annual Test, they will **not** receive ELL services the following school year. They **exit** the ELL Program.

The Proficient student will be "monitored" for 2 years – the teachers will make sure the student is meeting standards, and they will offer support if the student is not meeting standards.