Introduction To English Learner (EL) Program Models

School Year 2026-2027 Statewide English Learner Administrator Conference,
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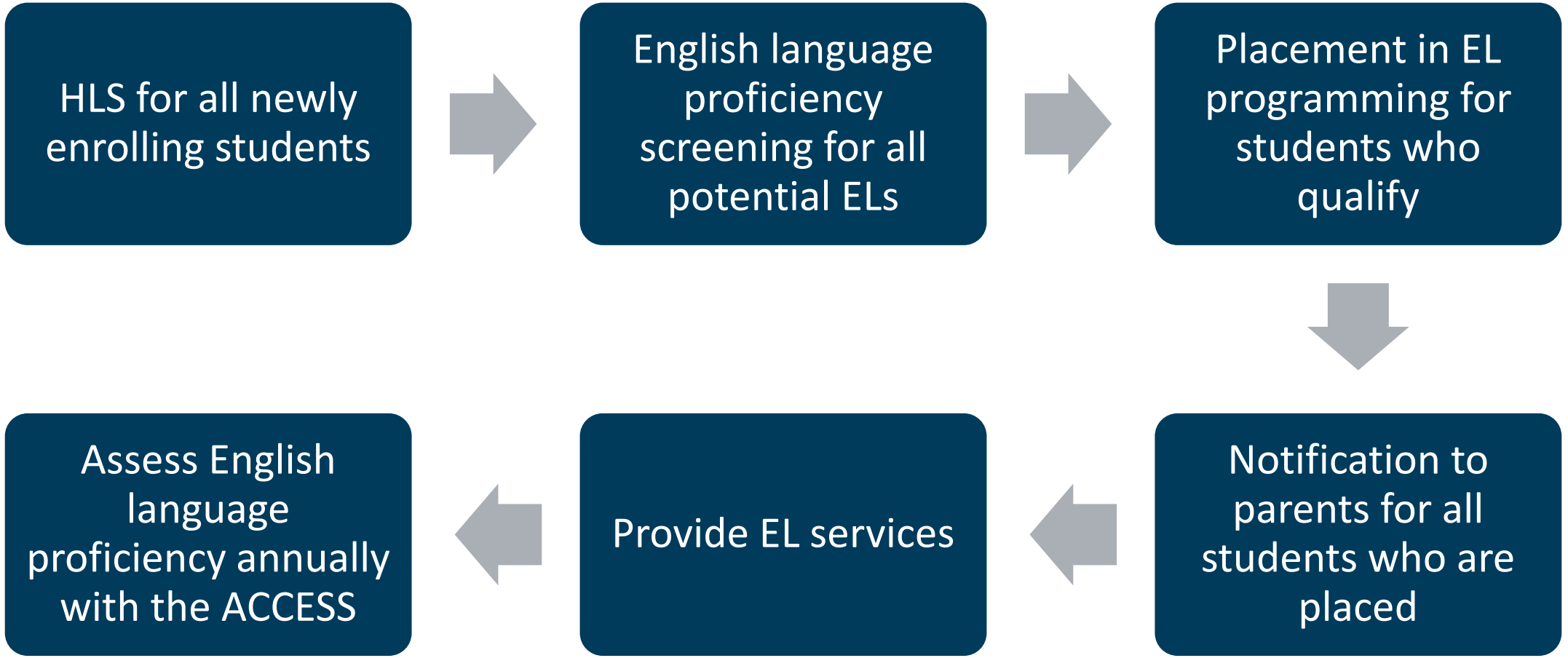
Jen Lee, Supervisor, ISBE Multilingual/Language Development Department

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Program Structure and Requirements

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Steps for EL Program Compliance



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Key Terms

- EL = English Learner
- TBE = Transitional Bilingual Education
- TPI = Transitional Program of Instruction
- HLS = Home Language Survey
- WIDA = Approved organization that provides Illinois with EL professional development, standards, screeners, and assessments

When is Programming Required

- TBE vs. TPI
  - Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE): For attendance centers with 20+ ELs who share the same language
  - Transitional Program of Instruction (TPI): For attendance center with groups 19 or fewer ELs who share the same language

TPI Programming

TPI must include:

- Home language support to extent necessary. Enables the student to keep pace with age or grade peers in achievement in the core academic content areas.
- Instruction in English as a second language (ESL).
  - ESL instruction can be push-in, pull-out, or taught within the greater lesson.
  - ESL instruction must use the WIDA English Language Development Standards.

TPI May include:

- Language arts in the home language.
- Instruction in history, culture, geography, of the territory that is the native land of students or their parents + history, culture of the United States

Types of TPI Programming

TPI Self-Contained

- All students in have qualified for EL services.
- Multiple languages could be represented in one room.
- Teacher provides and is endorsed for ESL and appropriate content areas
- Instruction is given in English and can be provided in the home language (based on the needs of the student).

TPI Collaborative

- EL students and non-EL students are in a classroom together.
- ESL teachers collaborate with classroom teachers to meet the needs of the students.
- EL students receive services through
  - Push-in
  - Pull-out
  - Co-teaching

TBE Programming

TBE must include:

- Instruction in home language and in English (Math, Social Studies, Language Arts, Science)
- Instruction in English as a second language (ESL).
  - ESL instruction must use the WIDA English Language Development Standards.
- Language Arts taught in the student's home language (if Spanish, Spanish Language Arts Standards must be used)
- Instruction in history, culture, geography, of the territory that is the native land of students or their parents + history, culture of the United States
- Instruction can be push-in, pull-out, or taught within the greater lesson.

Types of TBE Programming

TBE Self-Contained

- Instruction that is only for ELs from the same language background in a self-contained classroom with the goal of English proficiency.
- Typically core academic subjects are initially taught in the home language of the ELs and in English with a gradual shift to instruction in English.
- The goal is to assist students in English language development through connections and continuing development of the home language.

TBE Collaborative

- Serves ELs from the same language background and non-ELs and/or ELs from various language backgrounds in the same classroom.
- Core academic subjects are initially taught in the home language of the EL and in English through a co-teaching, pull-out or push-in model with a gradual shift to instruction in English only.
- The goal is to assist students in English language development through connections and continuing development of the home language.

TBE Full Time Versus Part Time

- A TBE part-time placement is only used when it is beneficial to the student.
- Part-time programming at minimum must include ESL instruction.
- Part-time placement includes only aspects of a TBE Full-Time Program
- Documentation must be maintained in the EL Cumulative file for the rationale of placement

ISBE's Part-Time Rationale Template

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Notification of Placement Letters to Parents

- Sent annually in English and the student's home language
- ISBE has templates for these letters.
- They are mailed within 30 days of the school year beginning or within 14 days of enrollment in the program.
- They are sent to new and continuing students.
- A copy is maintained of both letters in the student's EL Cumulative Folder.
- Notification letters update; there is no longer a "three-year requirement."

Placing Students in Programming in SIS

- Students are placed by need.
- Even if a district doesn't have a certified teacher, students are placed.
  - Students in this situation are placed in TPI with no class periods per week and no services provided.
- Placing students ensures that they are included in funding counts and data reports.

EL Placement - Status	TPI
Class Periods Provided per Week	None
EL Services Provided	None of the Above

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Thank you!

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