



Illinois
State Board of
Education

Multilingual Department

March 26, 2021

Announcements

New subscribers: Please visit www.isbe.net/subscribe and select "Multilingual Newsletter," along with any other topics or newsletters of interest to you, to begin receiving messages from the Multilingual Department. If you subscribed to the Multilingual Listserv prior to February 1, 2021, your email address has been retained on that list. To unsubscribe from the Multilingual Listserv, visit www.isbe.net/subscribe and resubmit your subscription preferences leaving "Multilingual Newsletter" unchecked. Each new submission of the subscription preferences form will override any previous submissions.

NEW! Illinois Advisory Council on Bilingual Education

The Illinois State Board of Education is seeking applications for members in the Illinois Advisory Council on Bilingual Education (IACBE). If you are interested in applying for consideration to IACBE, please send a letter of interest with your curriculum vitae/resume to multilingual@isbe.net by **April 30, 2021**. For more information on IACBE, [click here](#).

NEW! Illinois State Board of Education Special Education Department Guidance Document: Qualified Interpreters

[This document](#) is intended to provide non-regulatory guidance on the subject matter listed above.

Reminder: EL - eGMS - COVID - Student Information System Data Entry Update

All English Learner (EL) data is due for the Population of the eGMS Ceiling Calculator by 4 p.m. on April 27, 2021. This is the Student EL data only, **not** EL Screener data. It is very important that this data is correctly submitted for all students marked EL in the Student Information System (SIS) as it will be used to calculate EL-Evidence-Based Funding.

Districts are educating students remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We understand the limitations of providing EL services when students are remote. When reporting EL students in SIS for school year 2021, please continue to enter the services the students would normally receive. EL Placement – Status, Class Periods Provided Per Week, and EL Services Provided should be entered as if the student was in-person.

To determine if your district is missing Student EL data, log into SIS and run the EL Detail Report. This report is under "Reports." Choose the Bilingual Section and run the **EL Detail Report** (NOT Screener Report). You can also run the EL Detail Report from the SIS District Status Panel in the Data Completion Status box.

Take time and view your EL Detail Report to check columns D, E, G, K, L, and M. Any missing EL data for particular students needs to be submitted correctly to SIS by 4 p.m. April 27, 2021.

The EL data includes the following:

- Date First Enrolled in District/LEA
- New Arrival to U.S.

- EL Placement- Entry Status
- Date Student Enrolled or Re-entered to Receive EL Services
- Class Periods Provided per Week
- EL Services Provided

If you have any questions regarding submission of Student EL data, please call the ISBE Help Desk at (217) 558-3600

Option 3. For EL policy issues regarding the eGMS Ceiling Calculator, please contact the ISBE Multilingual Department at Multilingual@isbe.net.

NEW! FY 2022 Consolidated District Plan Now Available in IWAS

The Fiscal Year 2022 Consolidated District Plan (CDP) is available in the electronic Grant Management System (eGMS) through the ISBE Web Application Security (IWAS) system.

All eligible applicants must create and submit the Consolidated District Plan by selecting "Year: 2022" and choosing "Create Application." If a checkbox appears, the applicant must select "Yes" before creating the CDP.

The CDP allows grantees to answer one set of planning questions to meet the requirements for the included federal formula grants. The grantee's narrative responses from the previous year's CDPs will prepopulate, where applicable. The collection and coordination of this information streamlines individual FY 2022 grant applications.

An IWAS user who wishes to create and submit the CDP must have their access and approval level approved by the superintendent of the Local Education Agency (LEA). Contact the program consultant/department listed below for technical assistance on individual pieces of the plan.

Foster Care: kulmer@isbet.net

Special Education: (217) 782-5589, kbeachy@isbe.net, jgreen@isbe.net, or klessen@isbe.net

Multilingual: multilingual@isbe.net

Title Grants: (217) 785-1969 or title@isbe.net

NEW! ISBE Launches Family and Community Engagement Webpage

The Family and Community Engagement Department would like to announce the launch of the ISBE Family and Community Engagement [webpage](#). The webpage showcases ISBE's Family Engagement Framework Guide, as well as useful information and resources for parents/caretakers, educators, and school district administrators. The website was designed and developed to reflect the needs expressed by families across Illinois through data gathered at our Statewide Family Convening, as well as from statewide family advocacy groups. The purpose of the website is to serve as a resource to foster school/family/community dialogue and partnerships to ensure equitable outcomes for children across Illinois, as outlined in our Strategic Plan.

ISBE-Sponsored Workshops

FREE UPCOMING SY 2021 WIDA WORKSHOPS AND WEBINARS- [More Information & Register Here!](#)

Webinars

TOPIC	DATE	LOCATION
Uncovering and Leveraging Students' Home Literacies in the Classroom	Online Meeting March 30, 2021	International Consortium for Multilingual Excellence eWorkshop (ICMEE)
NEW! Language Specialist: Engaging Multilingual Newcomers	Start/Enroll Date: April 9 Webinar 1: April 16 Webinar 2: April 23 Webinar 3: April 30 Time: 1 - 2:30 p.m.	Webinar Series
Learning through Two Languages for School Leaders	Start Date: May 1, 2021 Online Meeting: May 14, 2021	ICMEE
Considerations when Educating Bilingual Learners with Identified Learning Disabilities	Start Date: May 1, 2021 Online Meeting: May 14, 2021	ICMEE

IRC-ISBE FREE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING!

The Illinois Resource Center (IRC) offers **free professional learning** opportunities to Illinois educators with support from the Illinois State Board of Education. IRC-ISBE free professional learning opportunities are [here](#)! Make sure to consider these dates as you plan for the school year. [Click here](#) to access archived professional learning sessions.

WIDA Early Years

Resources and tools are available for early childhood educators who serve multilingual children. **WIDA Early Years eLearning** resources focus on supporting young multilingual children in early care and education settings. The early care and education community in Illinois has [free access to these resources](#), which are provided through Early Childhood Professional Learning and ISBE. Go to <https://www.eclearningil.org/about-us/wida-early-years> for a description of eLearning resources available, FAQs, and instructions for creating a user account for WIDA Early Years eLearning.

New micro-offerings from WIDA Professional Learning now available!

WIDA has launched a new series of micro-offerings to help educators navigate the unique challenges of teaching during the pandemic. The 30-45-minute courses are free and open to anyone. They are designed for

educators who work with multilingual children and youth across a variety of settings. The following micro-offerings are now available in the “Supporting Multilingual Learners During COVID-19” series:

- Distance Learning with Multilingual Learners in Mind
- Tending to Multilingual Learners’ Social-Emotional Well-Being
- Consideration for Evaluating Online Resources for Multilingual Learners

Access all three courses on the [Distance Teaching and Learning webpage](#).

EQUITABLE ACCESS TO EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE: FRAMING SERVICES FOR ENGLISH LEARNERS IN ILLINOIS

The Multilingual Department, in conjunction with the Illinois Resource Center, has developed a technical assistance website based on the six elements from *Equitable Access to Educational Excellence: Framing Services for English Learners in Illinois*. The technical assistance website contains resources within each of these six areas and can be found [here](#).

Screening and Testing

Provisional Screening and Identification of English Learners

NEW! Provisional Screening and Identification: ACCESS for ELLs Eligibility FAQ

ELs who were identified through the provisional process must take ACCESS for ELLs. [This document](#) answers some of the many questions regarding ELs who are eligible to take the ACCESS language proficiency assessment for 2020-21.

NEW! Provisional Identification and Placement Procedures During Remote Learning Situations Update

[Click here](#) to view the March 2021 update of the *Provisional Identification and Placement Procedures During Remote Learning Situations* document.

Guidance on Completion of English Learner Record of Provisionally Identified Students

Since October 15, 2020, new guidance from the ISBE Multilingual Department has instructed districts to complete EL demographic information, including the EL indicator and program information located in SIS, after a student was identified as an EL via provisional screening. This guidance revision was announced after receiving additional guidance from the U.S. Department of Education. This change is to ensure that a district’s ELs are counted for state and federal funding (e.g., Evidence-Based Funding, Title III formulaic grants). For more information, [click here](#).

ACCESS

NEW! ACCESS for ELLs Letter to Bilingual Families

The ISBE Multilingual Department has created parent letters for families of English Learners that address the rationale for assessing students in person using the ACCESS for ELLs for the spring and fall 2021 windows. Spanish, Arabic, Polish, Tagalog, and Urdu translations of the letter are coming soon! To view the letters, [click here](#) under the “ACCESS Resources” drop-down bar.

ACCESS for ELLs and Other Assessment Guidance

The ISBE Assessment Department has developed guidance to support school districts with spring 2021 assessment administration, including ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS, during the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information, [click here](#). Additionally, if you would like more timely information concerning ACCESS or other

assessments, consider signing up for the Assessment Department listserv or for current, weekly announcements at www.isbe.net/subscribe.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES

**National Association of English Learner
Program Administrators
Virtual Conference**

For more information and registration, [click here](#).