



Illinois State Board of Education

James T. Meeks, Chairman
Dr. Christopher Koch, State Superintendent

Division of English Language Learning (DELL)

Dell e-broadcast 2015-279

April 15, 2015

Dear Program Directors:

Comprehensive Planning

FY16 Grant Application—Reminders

Please note that the second part of the FY16 grant application—The FY15 ELL-TBE/TPI and Title III (state TBE and TPI, federal Title III LIPLEPS and Immigrant Program)—will be available on IWAS in May. The submission deadline for the application is June 30, 2015.

We have scheduled an instructional webinar for May 14, 2015—we will send another announcement about registering for the webinar closer to the date.

FY15 Grant Application Amendments

Please remember that the deadline for submitting grant amendments for the state TBE/TPI funding is May 31, 2015. The deadline for the Title III LIPLEPS and Immigrant Education funding grant amendments is July 31, 2015.

Individuals Sought to Serve on the Illinois Advisory Council on Bilingual Education (IACBE)

State Superintendent of Education is seeking individuals to serve on the Illinois Advisory Council on Bilingual Education (ILCS 5/14C-13).

New members would serve a three-year term of office, beginning on September 1, 2015. New members will be expected to attend four meetings per year, as well as actively participate in additional meetings and special projects.

If you are interested in serving on the Illinois Advisory Council on Bilingual Education, please email a cover letter and resume to the Division of English Language Learning: dell@isbe.net, before the close of business on May 15, 2015. Successful candidates selected to serve on the IACBE will be notified by the State Superintendent in August.

Please contact Tina Paduck, DELL Principal Consultant, with any questions: tpaduck@isbe.net.

Department of Education—Chapter 2 of the EL Tool Kit is now available

[The English Learner Tool Kit](#) is intended to help state and local education agencies (SEAs and LEAs) in meeting their obligations to English Learners (ELs). The tool kit should be read in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights' and the U.S. Department of Justice's Dear Colleague Letter (DCL) "English Learner Students and Limited English Proficient Parents," published in January 2015, which outlines SEAs' and LEAs' legal obligations to ELs under civil rights laws and other federal requirements.

There will be chapters of the EL Tool Kit; each chapter is aligned to reflect one section of the DCL. Each EL Tool Kit chapter contains an overview, sample tools, and resources relevant to the topic of the chapter. Each individual chapter will be released over the next few months as it is completed.

Assessment

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Implementation in 2015-2016

Information about upcoming ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Implementation in SY 2015-2016 and Spring webinars for online trainings has been posted at <http://www.isbe.net/bilingual/htmls/access.htm>.

Other important updates and resources to help districts transition to this new online assessment can be found under the 2015-2016 ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 tab.

Community & Family

Tenth Annual Statewide Summit for Bilingual Parents: A conference for members of Bilingual Parent Advisory Councils and parents of English Learners (ELs)

Don't forget to register for the Summit which takes place this year on Saturday, May 9, 2015 at the Hilton/Chicago Oak Brook Hills Resort and Conference Center located at 3500 Midwest Road in Oak Brook, IL.

The deadline to register is **Thursday, April 30, 2015**.

The registration brochure and registration form is available: http://www.thecenterweb.org/irc/pages/f_events-summit.html.

Professional Development

WIDA PD for 2015-2016 School Year

We are pleased to share a catalog of free workshops that ISBE DELL has planned for the 2015-2016 school year presented by the World Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) Consortium. You can review the topics and dates as well as information about the registration process on our Professional Development page in the PD Opportunities-at-a-glance section (or directly: <http://www.isbe.net/bilingual/pdfs/wida-prof-dev15-16.pdf>).

We plan to share the catalog of 2015-2016 ISBE DELL workshops that will be presented by the IRC in August.

Annual Fall Bilingual Program Directors' Meeting—[Save the Date: September 16-17, 2015](#)

Our Annual Bilingual Program Directors' Meeting will be held September 16-17, 2015 in Oak Brook, IL. Please save this date. In response to feedback, we are excited to announce we are now moving to a larger venue that will allow us to accommodate **up to two participants** from each district. Please plan your budget accordingly. See the [attached memo](#) for details.

DELL New Leadership Workshop for EL Program Directors—[Save the date: August 3-4, 2015](#)

DELL is planning to have a Two Day New Leadership Workshop for new EL Program Directors to be held in early August 2014 in the Bloomington/Normal area. The workshop will include a one day presentation by ISBE DELL staff on August 4, 2015 and an optional one day presentation by WIDA on August 3, 2015. We will publish the details as they become available, so please keep the workshop in mind for you or any administrator/coordinator in your district who might benefit from participating.

The New Leadership Workshop is geared to support English Learner (EL) Program Directors, Coordinators, and/or Administrators who are new to their position or the field of English learners, or have been working with the EL program for a short period of time. Previous participants have found this workshop helpful in gaining an overview of rules and requirements, administrative procedures related to the EL program (grants and compliance monitoring processes), as well as a program models and other considerations related to working with English Learners.

In the news

[Boston schools' language barriers persist](#) (*Boston Globe*; March 29, 2015)

[Education Department Pledges to Prioritize Needs of Language-Learners](#) (Education Weekly Blogs; March 25, 2015)