

•Oklahoma Bilingual Education/Title III-A•

WHO ARE THE STUDENTS WE SERVE?

Although most American school children speak English as a native language, an increasing number of students come from a home where a language other than English is spoken. As of June 2009, Oklahoma schools have served over 38,000 English language learners (ELLs). Many school districts in Oklahoma have very diverse student populations representing over one-hundred different language groups.

WHAT DOES THIS PROGRAM OFFER?

The Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) Bilingual Education/Title III-A Program continues to meet the needs of English language learners through two subgrants under *NCLB*: the Limited English Proficient (LEP) Subgrant and the Immigrant Subgrant. These formula grants are from the United States Department of Education (USDE). The total amount funded is based on the number of English language learners enrolled in Oklahoma districts each year. OSDE reserves five percent of the grant for technical assistance and professional development. Ninety-five percent of the grant is sent to eligible school districts through the LEP and Immigrant Subgrants.

HOW DOES MY DISTRICT QUALIFY FOR AN LEP SUBGRANT?

Any LEA that enrolled one or more English language learners during the previous school year is eligible. In addition, each LEA must meet the \$10,000 minimum award (number of LEP students multiplied by per student amount) or

join a consortium with other districts to meet the \$10,000 minimum award in order to apply.

HOW DOES MY DISTRICT APPLY FOR AN LEP SUBGRANT?

Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) must reapply each year for Title III-A funds in the District Consolidated Application and ensure compliance with Title III-A statute and regulations. In addition, LEAs must meet the requirements for identification and eligibility of students (annual LEP Survey), must develop an LEA plan, and must comply with evaluation and reporting requirements (Title III-A, Section 3114, 3115, 3116, 3121, and 3123).



HOW DOES MY DISTRICT APPLY FOR AN IMMIGRANT SUBGRANT?

The LEA must have an increase of at least 2 percent (total immigrant student population) and 20 immigrant students (annual LEP Survey) to qualify for an Immigrant Subgrant. LEAs must reapply each year and ensure compliance with Title III-A statute and regulations. Immigrant children and youth are those individuals who (a) are aged 3 through 21; (b) were not born in the United States; and (c) have not been attending one

or more schools in any one or more states for more than three full academic years.

WHAT SERVICES ARE PROVIDED TO STUDENTS IN THE BILINGUAL EDUCATION/TITLE III-A PROGRAM?

Services that are provided include:

- technical assistance.
- professional development.
- monitoring to school districts.
- assistance with developing high-quality language acquisition programs.
- implementing a district plan.
- training for identification, assessment, and placement of English language learners.
- strategies for teaching English language learner and immigrant students.
- assistance with WIDA® English Language Proficiency Standards.
- training for ACCESS® for ELLs Test administration.



WHAT IS BILINGUAL EDUCATION/TITLE III-A?

The purpose of the Bilingual Education/Title III-A program is to ensure that English language learners master English and meet the same rigorous standards for academic achievement that all children are expected to meet. The ultimate goal of the program is to bring the child, family, and teacher together to create a team to assist the child in making progress in learning language and subject knowledge.



WHAT IS WIDA®?

Oklahoma provides one of the three placement tests for English language learners: the ELL Pre-K Screening Tool. This placement test may be located by visiting <www.sde.state.ok.us>. Oklahoma is also a member of the World-Class Instruction Design and Assessment® (WIDA®) Consortium. WIDA® provides the remaining two of Oklahoma's three English language proficiency placement tests for students in Kindergarten through Grade 12 (W-APT™ and K-WAPT™). In addition, WIDA® provides the Kindergarten through Grade 12 spring assessment: the ACCESS® for ELLs Test. Learn more about WIDA® at <www.wida.us>.

OKLAHOMA BILINGUAL EDUCATION/TITLE III-A

For additional resources, including the Oklahoma State Policy regarding English language learners, visit the OSDE Web site: <www.sde.state.ok.us>.

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