

DISTRICT GUIDELINE
La Center School District

Guideline Title:	ELL Services for Multilingual Students Guidelines Worksheet
Effective Date:	August 28, 2024

DESCRIPTION: We provide teacher training and paraeducator support to ensure that our multilingual students who qualify for English Language Learner (ELL) services receive equitable access to education. By fostering English language development and promoting meaningful content engagement, we aim to bridge language barriers and create inclusive learning environments.

Our teachers play a critical role in offering personalized assistance, scaffolding lessons, and facilitating communication. Sheltered Instruction and Universally Designed Learning (UDL) training equip educators with strategies to make content comprehensible and accessible. Paraeducators support diverse linguistic needs, help students develop access strategies, and advocate for students. A trained SIOP Instructional Coach supports whole staff development and optional cohort and training opportunities for both teachers and paraeducators. Together, these efforts empower students to thrive academically, socially, and linguistically, building a strong foundation for their future success.

What is SIOP (Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol)?

SIOP is a research-based instructional model designed to make content material accessible to Multilingual Learners (MLs) while promoting their academic language development. The SIOP model provides teachers with strategies and a framework for planning and delivering lessons that integrate language objectives with content objectives, ensuring that students can successfully engage with grade-level curriculum. SIOP tools for lesson development support a UDL framework that aims to provide all students with equal opportunities to learn by addressing the diversity of learners' needs.

Assessments: Screeners and annual assessments

The WIDA (World-class Instructional Design and Assessment) screener is given within 30 days of enrollment. All students who qualify for ELL services are given an annual assessment during the WIDA open assessment window that typically runs from the end of January to March.

ELEMENTARY SUPPORTS:

Elementary students are in a cluster classroom with a teacher who holds an ELL endorsement and/or participates in the ELL Cohort professional development opportunities to implement sheltered instruction strategies into core content lessons. These students are also supported by a paraprofessional who partners with the homeroom teacher to provide English language development services and access to content.

SECONDARY SUPPORTS:

Middle school and high school students are clustered ahead of scheduling classes in every effort to put similar language acquisition needs in the same class to better serve students. Whole staff development includes SIOP tools for lesson development to support teachers in making content comprehensible. These instructional shifts support a UDL framework that aims to provide all students with equal opportunities to learn by addressing the diversity of learners' needs. Optional opportunities are provided to increase the depth and breadth of SIOP and UDL engagement strategies. These students are also supported by a paraprofessional who partners with at least one teacher of each student in class during the week and offers before-school tutoring twice a week to support students with strategies to access content, provide English language development services, and advocate for student needs as needed.

IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE:

- 2022-2023 - One paraeducator serving students K-12 five days a week. SIOP trainer hired to provide professional development.
- 2023-2024 - Additional services added to include one paraeducator serving middle school and high school students and one part-time paraeducator serving elementary students. SIOP trainer hired to provide professional development. Two teachers were sent to SIOP training for trainers to increase our ability to implement SIOP training across the year as part of our MTSS implementation of best practices. Middle school and high school students offered before-school tutoring with transportation to support students with strategies to access content and provide English language development services.
- 2024-2025 - Additional services added to include a SIOP Instructional Specialist to support ongoing teacher and paraeducator professional development. Services in classrooms continue with one paraeducator serving middle school and high school students and one part-time paraeducator serving elementary students. Middle school and high school students offered before-school tutoring with transportation to support students with strategies to access content and provide English language development services. Teachers in Math and English support before-school tutoring when needed and available.