EARNING CREDIT FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT COURSES

Responsible Office(s): Office of Academics: Department of English Language Development

PURPOSE

This Administrative Procedure shall establish protocols related to promotion to high school by providing equitable opportunities for students enrolled in English Learner (EL) courses to earn English and/or elective credit for EL courses in the Washoe County School District (District).

PROCEDURE

1. English Learners (EL)
    a. Short-Term English Learner (EL): An EL who has attended U.S. schools for less than 6 years, regardless of English language proficiency.
    b. Long-Term English Learner (EL): An EL who has attended U.S. schools for 6 years or more and may exhibit poor academic performance in core subject areas and/or on standardized achievement tests.
2. Short-Term English Learner (EL) Courses:
    a. ELs enrolled in the following courses may receive up to two (2) English credits toward promotion requirements:
        i. EL Beginning English (251)
        ii. EL Intermediate English (252)
        iii. EL Advanced English (255)
    b. If all three of the above courses are taken at the middle school level, EL Advanced English is an elective credit.
    c. ELs enrolled in the following courses will receive elective credit:
        i. EL Beginning Reading/Writing (253)
        ii. EL Fundamentals of English Language (716)
        iii. EL Fundamentals of English Literacy (717)
        iv. EL Intermediate Reading/Writing (254)
        v. EL Literacy Skills (250)
        vi. EL Cultures and Communities (763)
3. Long-Term English Learner (EL) Courses:
    a. ELs may receive one (1) English credit for either (but not both) of the following courses:
        i. EL Academic Language Development 6 (267)
        ii. EL Academic Language Development 7 (256)
        iii. EL Academic Language Development 8 (257)

b. ELs enrolled in either of the above courses must be concurrently enrolled in a grade level English course; these courses do not supplant grade level ELA courses (ELA 7, ELA 8, etc.).

4. A student may not earn middle school credit for the same EL course twice.
    a. The exception to this procedure is EL Literacy Skills (see Middle School EL Program & Course Descriptions for entrance and other course criteria).
    b. EL courses taken in middle school may be repeated for high school credit.
5. The EL teacher will document student progress toward course goals and objectives throughout the semester in order to determine if satisfactory progress is being made and credit in the course is merited.
6. The EL teacher will administer the EL common final each semester to students enrolled in EL English, EL Reading/Writing, and EL Academic Language Development courses, as directed by the Department of ELD and in accordance with Administrative Procedure 6405, Final Test Guidelines.
    a. Results of common finals will be weighted in the student's semester course grade in accordance with Administrative Procedure 6405, Final Test Guidelines.

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES & ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

1. This Administrative Procedure reflects the goals of the District's Strategic Plan and aligns with the governing documents of the District, to include:
    a. Administrative Regulation 6725, Limited English Proficiency
    b. Administrative Procedure 6231, Late Entry
    c. Administrative Procedure 6405, Final Test Guidelines: High School and Middle School
    d. Administrative Procedure 5540, Promotion to High School
2. The following documents support the implementation of this procedure (available from the Department of ELD or at http://www.washoeschools.net/Domain/80):
    a. Middle School EL Program & Course Descriptions
    b. Sample Schedule Plan for Short Term MS-HS ELs
3. This Administrative Procedure complies with:
    a. Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESAEA), part A, English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Achievement Act
        i. Title III, Language Instruction for English Learners, Every Child Succeed Act (ESSA) 2015 (formerly Limited English Proficient) and Immigrant students (Public Law 107-110)

b. Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VI, which prohibits discrimination based on race, color, or national origin.

REVIEW AND REPORTING

1. This procedure and supporting documents will be reviewed bi-annually in even numbered years.

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Revision	Modification
08/2008	1.0	Adopted as Accepted Practice
5/19/2012	2.0	Revised
07/14//2014	3.0	Revised: converted to Administrative Procedure
11/16/2016	4.0	Revised: Clarified language, omitted redundancies, aligned with existing Administrative Procedures
7/27/2018	5.0	Revised: Updated department name and EL terminology; updated course titles; aligned with other updated Administrative Procedures
03/02/2021	6.0	Revised: Updated course names and numbers; aligned with other updated Administrative Procedures