

META

Multicultural Education, Training and Advocacy, Inc. (META) is a California-based organization concerned with, among other issues, equal access to educational opportunities in all public schools for children classified as limited English proficient (LEP).

The Florida Department of Education and the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) signed a consent decree in 1990, which establishes requirements for the delivery of services to LEP students and provisions related to in-service requirements for instructional personnel.

The consent decree sets statewide standards for the proper identification, placement, and provision of programming for assessment and monitoring of performance of linguistic minority students. This includes the submission of a three year plan for serving these students as a condition of state funding, and the recruitment and training of appropriately qualified staff in bilingual and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes. All linguistic minority children are guaranteed understandable services under this plan, and equal access to all programs, including appropriate special programs for the handicapped, gifted and talented, and remedial instruction, as well as counseling and other services for gifted and talented, and remedial instruction, as well as counseling and other services for students at risk of dropping out. The plan requires the state to monitor its implementation on a regular basis for the indefinite future.

Florida Department of Education
Office of Multicultural Student Language Education
 Updated September 2006

TIMELINES FOR COMPLETION OF THE ESOL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

CATEGORY I	CATEGORY II	CATEGORY III	CATEGORY IV
Primary Language Arts/English, Developmental Language Arts, Intensive Reading, Reading ³	Social Studies, Mathematics, Science and Computer Literacy	All other subjects not included in Categories I or II	School Administrators ² & Guidance Counselors
REQUIREMENTS			
ESOL Endorsement: 15 semester hours or 300 in-service credit points ¹	3 semester hours or 60 in-service credit points	3 semester credit hours or 18 in-service credit points	3 semester hours or 60 inservice credit points.
OR			
K - 12 ESOL Coverage: Bachelor's or Master's Degree in TESOL and Basic Subject Area Coverage			
OR			
K - 12 ESOL Coverage: Passing Score on ESOL Subject Area Test; Basic Subject Area Coverage, and 120 hours/points in ESOL			
TIMELINES			
Experienced Teacher:	Experienced Teacher:	Experienced Teacher:	Hires prior to September 5, 2003
6 years or more allowed for completion of ESOL Endorsement. 3 years for K-12 ESOL Coverage obtained by a passing score on ESOL Subject Area Test.	1 year to complete	1 year to complete	3 years to complete from September 5, 2003
Beginning Teacher:	Beginning Teacher:	Beginning Teacher:	Hires after September 9, 2003
Same as above for experienced teachers	2 years to complete	2 years to complete	3 years to complete from date hired as school administrator or guidance counselor.

Notes:

¹ For ESOL Endorsement only - 3 semester hours or 60 in-service credit points within two years after the teacher first becomes responsible for the Language Arts instruction of a LEP student. 3 semester hours or 60 in-service credit points each subsequent year that the teacher continues to be responsible for the Language Arts instruction of a LEP student, until a total of 15 semester hours or 300 in-service credit points have been earned.

² All other administrators (district-level) are required to receive training in the terms of the Consent Decree, Cross-Cultural communications and delivery of comprehensible instruction. However, no specific number of inservice points or hours are required.

³ As described in K12 Memo 2006-121, Reading Endorsement for Teachers of Developmental Language Arts Courses in Grade 6-12 and as noted in the Florida Course Code Directory, teachers assigned to teach Developmental Language Arts or Reading to English language learners (ELLs) are required to obtain the ESOL Endorsement. It is also important to note that teachers assigned to teach Developmental Language Arts as an alternative to Intensive Reading are required to obtain the Reading Endorsement by beginning of the 2007-08 school year.

ESOL Inservice or Coursework must include all of the following areas:

- -Methods of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
- -ESOL Curriculum and Materials Development
- -Cross-cultural Communication and Understanding
- -Testing and Evaluation of ESOL
- -Applied Linguistics

Recertification Flexibilities:

- -ESOL in-service credit points and/or ESOL College credits count as in-field for recertification of any coverage

Banking of ESOL Points

- Any points earned in excess of 6 semester hours or 120 points within one validity period may be banked towards the renewal of a certificate in subsequent renewal periods.