

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Each school in the Garrett County Public School System, in collaboration with the Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs will provide English Language (EL) services to respond to the range of needs of eligible English language learners. EL is a specialized English language development instructional program for eligible English language learners who need to develop proficiency in the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing academic and interpersonal standard American English.

IDENTIFICATION AND COMPLETION

1. An English language proficiency assessment will be administered by qualified and trained assessors to all students whose home language is not standard American English at the time they initially enroll in GCPS to identify English language learners eligible for the EL program and determine their level of English proficiency.
2. Students participating in the EL program will be considered English proficient and designated as Reclassified English language learners upon meeting the criteria established by Maryland State Guidelines.
3. Performance of students who have exited from the EL program will be monitored by the English language learner team in each school and appropriate accommodations will be provided for a period of two years.
4. Identification and program completion procedures will be evaluated periodically and revised as necessary.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Services of the EL program will be offered to all eligible English language learners and will be designed to accommodate diversity in student backgrounds and levels of English language proficiency.
2. The expectation for success for students participating in the EL program will be consistent with expectations for all students in GCPS.

Additional information regarding EL in Maryland can be accessed at <http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/programs/Pages/English-Learners/index.aspx>