

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

Background

HPSD supports the provision of educational programs for students both recently arrived in Canada and Canadian born. The goal of programming for students who require assistance in learning English is to provide them with necessary educational programs and supports to enable them to communicate in English fluently and competently enough to complete their education.

Definitions

English as a Second Language (ESL) learners come from a range of cultural backgrounds and bring with them a variety of educational, social and personal experiences. They are children/students who:

- first learned to speak, read and/or write a language other than English;
- require English language instruction and supports to participate fully in the learning experiences provided in Alberta schools;
- may have recently immigrated to Canada or they may have been born in Canada and live in homes in which the primary spoken language is not English.

Procedures

1. ESL funding may be claimed for funded children/students who require additional English language supports and instruction to achieve grade level expectations in English and other subject areas.
 - 1.1. Funded children/students eligible for funding must be coded either:
 - 1.1.1. Foreign born 301; or
 - 1.1.2. Canadian born 303
2. The Principal shall ensure:
 - 2.1. students are identified and coded according to Alberta Education criteria;
 - 2.2. proper documentation is on file to support the code and funding of ESL students;
 - 2.3. a plan is in place to promote rapid integration into the school and community environment, which:
 - 2.3.1. actively supports the linguistic, cultural, emotional and academic needs of students;
 - 2.3.2. is based on collaboration amongst staff and service providers working with ESL students at the school.
 - 2.4. That Individual Student Plans:
 - 2.4.1. are in place for each student identified as ESL;
 - 2.4.2. reflect sound ESL and literacy pedagogical theory and research;
 - 2.4.3. are in accordance with Alberta Education's Program of Studies and the Alberta K-12 ESL Proficiency Benchmarks.

References

Education Act Sections 3, 11, 17(1), 53(2), 53(1), 197, 222
Funding Manual for School Authorities
Guide to Education ECS to Grade 12