

The Provision of An Equal Education Opportunity To Limited English Proficient Students

An Update

New Terms

ELL - English Language Learner - This term is now being used by the federal and state government to refer to second-language learners, ESL students. It extends to any reference to the second-language learner, programs, committees etc. Where formerly you would see the terms ESL or LEP used you will now see ELL Program, ELL committee, ELL students etc.

NCELA - The National Clearing House for English Language Acquisition (formerly NCBE - National Clearing House for Bilingual Education)

Updates

Title VI has basically become Title III under NCLB (No Child Left Behind) Reauthorization.

All OCR (Office for Civil Rights) injunctions stand regarding race, color, national origin and the same practices of discrimination are prohibited.

Read OCR anywhere you see Title VI in this document.

Educators do not agree on the most effective way to meet the language development needs of ELLs, however, the research into effective instruction is clear (see anything Krashen on second-language learners).

There is flexibility in choosing an approach to instruction however, Title III is clear that instructional methods and curriculum materials must be based in scientific research.

The Alabama State Department has formed a committee to establish standards for ELL instruction in Alabama. These were distributed in draft form on June 6th, 2003.

Districts must have a plan for the instruction of ELLs even if they have no ELLs in their district.

Districts must evaluate their ELL program at least annually.

Parent notification is an important new piece of federal regulations.