



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: October 13, 2021
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads
Route To: Bilingual/ESL Supervisors
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Educational Services
Deadline: January 31, 2022

English Language Learner Three-Year Program Plans 2021-2024

Pursuant to the regulatory requirements for Bilingual Education in New Jersey's [Bilingual Education Code](#) (N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.6), every three years school districts must submit a plan describing their district's program for English language learners (ELLs). The plan is an opportunity for educators to review the academic needs of their ELLs and the type of language assistance program and academic environment that would best address those needs.

ELLs are held to the same rigorous, standards-based curricula and high-stake assessments as their English-proficient peers as they are acquiring the English language and becoming acculturated to American schools. In developing the program plan, school districts are encouraged to keep in mind the challenges students face with cultural changes and acquiring a new language, and design programs that provide the language, foundational and grade-level skills that students need to make a successful transition to classes with their English-proficient peers.

The 2021-2022 school year is the beginning of a new three-year cycle ending in the spring of 2024. The plan format has changed from paper submission to submission by way of Microsoft Forms. Districts will complete the electronic Forms and upload Board-approved minutes of the plan to Homeroom. To assist with the transition to the new format, the Department will offer two trainings on November 8, 2021 (1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.) and November 9, 2021 (10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.). Registration is available on the NJDOE's [Events Registration Site](#).

In the interim, please direct questions to the Bilingual/ESL Unit, Office of Supplemental Educational Programs at ell@doe.nj.gov. We look forward to partnering with you to address the needs of your English language learners.

c: Members, State Board of Education

Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Commissioner of Education

NJDOE Staff

Statewide Parent Advocacy Network

Garden State Coalition of Schools

NJ LEE Group

New Jersey Teachers of English to Students of Other Languages/Bilingual Educators