### Home Language Survey (District Guide)

The survey is required for all LEAs. The home language survey (HLS) is the first of a multi-step process to determine a student’s identification as a multilingual learner. For students who transfer from another school district in NJ or from out of state, a home language survey must be completed. For the additional steps in the identification process for transfer students, see Chapter 7.

**Directions for Survey Questions. Start with Question 1 and continue until the HLS is complete. Select the answer for each question and follow the skip pattern to arrive at a decision. Proceed to Step 2, the Records Review Process only if the HLS decision indicates additional information is needed.**

1. **List all languages used in the student’s home.**
2. **Was the first language used by the student a language other than English?**

**Yes**

**No**

1. **Does the student speak or understand a language other than English?**

**Yes No – Go to Result B.**

1. **When interacting with others at home (e.g., parents, guardians, siblings) does the student understand or use a language other than English most of the time?**

**Yes**

**No – Go to Result B.**

1. **When interacting with others outside the home (e.g., friends, caregivers) does the student understand or use a language other than English most of the time?**

**Yes**

**No – Go to Result B.**

1. **Did they answer “Yes” to either Q.4 or Q.5?**

**Yes – Go to Result A.**

**No – Go to Result B.**

**Decision Point:**

* **Result A: The student is a possible multilingual learner. Proceed to Step 2, the Record Review for additional information.**
* **Result B: The student is not a multilingual learner. Do not proceed to Step 2, the Records Review; no additional information is needed.**