

Polk County School Board
New Charter Applicant Orientation
Overview of ESOL

Definition:

ESOL is the acronym for English for Speakers of Other Languages. Students who come into the school system speaking a first language other than English are often referred to as English Language Learners (ELLs).

Charter School Requirements:

1. Present a system to monitor completion of ESOL Certification for staff members.
2. Present a system for the identification of school personnel responsible for completing ESOL compliance paperwork.
3. Present a system to monitor the use of the ESOL Strategies by teachers who have ELL students in their classrooms.
4. Provide evidence of outreach/recruitment to linguistically and culturally diverse populations.
5. Provide a system for monitoring/tracking ELLs from initial testing to the 2 year follow up and exiting.

Annual Reports should include:

1. Number of LY, LP, and LF students attending during the past year.
2. Number of teachers with ESOL certification/endorsement.
3. Status of other staff in relation to ESOL certification.
4. What strategies are the teachers using for ELLs?
5. ESOL Para – schedule
6. Awareness of assessments – initial/anniversary/CELLA

ESOL Codes:

ZZ - The student tested FES and did not qualify for the program.

LP - A grade 3-12 student who scored FES on the IPT Oral test and never has been in the program. This student needs to take the Reading/Writing test. Does NOT need to be given IPT Oral test again.

LY - This student is in the ESOL program and must be tested yearly until he/she tests out. The CELLA may be used as this annual assessment. Teachers of this student must use and document their use of ESOL strategies and if they don't have the ESOL training, they must take the training required for their particular category.

LF - A student who has been in the ESOL program but has exited and is in the required 2-year follow-up period. Student does NOT need to be retested; however, s/he may need to take the CELLA.

LZ - A student who has been in ESOL, has exited ESOL and has gone through the 2-year follow-up period. Does NOT need to be retested.