

NOTIFICATIONS LEAs MUST PROVIDE TO PARENTS OF ELS UNDER ESEA.

Schools' Civil Rights Obligations to ELs and Limited English Proficient Parents

The parental notification must include (ESEA Section 1112(e)(3)):

- The reason for identification of the child as an EL;
- The child's level of English language proficiency, how the level was assessed, and the status of the child's academic achievement;
- Methods of instruction used in the program in which the child is, or will be, participating, and the methods of instruction used in other available programs, including how the programs differ;
- How the program will meet the educational strengths and needs of the child and help the child achieve English language proficiency, and meet academic standards;
- Exit requirements for the program, expected rate of transition to a classroom not tailored for EL students, and expected rate of high school graduation;
- In the case of a child with a disability, how the program meets the annual goals in the child's individualized education program (IEP); and
- Information regarding parents' right to withdraw the child from a program upon their request, and to decline enrollment or choose another program or method of instruction, if available. (ESEA 1112(e)(3)(A)).

School-related notices and documents containing "essential information" for parents

"Essential information" includes, but is not limited to:

- A. Report cards and other academic progress reports;
- B. Documents concerning academic options and planning;
- C. Documents concerning enrollment or registration;
- D. Documents concerning screening procedures requesting a student's language background, a parent's preferred language of communication, and the process for refusing all or only specific EL services;
- E. Requests for parent permission for student for student participation in District/school sponsored programs and activities;
- F. Promotional materials and announcements distributed to students that contain information about school and District activities for which notice is needed to participate in such activities (e.g., testing, co-curriculars activities requiring an application, parent-teacher conferences, open houses);
- G. Special education documents;
- H. Information about student discipline;
- I. Parent handbooks;
- J. Information related to public health and safety; and
- K. Any other written information describing rights/responsibilities of parents or students and benefits/services available to parents and students.