

SUBJECT: ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

PURPOSE: To recognize that the ultimate goal of the Alma d'arte English Language Learner (ELL) Instructional Program is to meet the needs of the ELL Students so that academic performance on state mandated exit exams is comparable to that of English-only speaking peers.

DEFINITIONS:

- (A) "Culturally and Linguistically Different" means students who are of a different cultural background than mainstream United States culture and whose home or heritage language, inherited from the student's family, tribe or country of origin is a language other than English.
- (B) "English Language Learner" means a student whose first or heritage language is not English and who is unable to read, write, speak or understand English at a level comparable to grade-level English proficient peers and native English speakers.
- (C) "Heritage Language" means a language other than English that is inherited from a family, tribe, community or country of origin.
- (D) "Home Language" means a language other than English that is the primary or heritage language spoken at home or in the community.
- (E) "Standardized Curriculum" means a curriculum that is aligned with the state academic content standards, benchmarks and performance standards (6.32.2.7 NMAC – Rp, 6.32.2.7. NMAC, 11-30-05).

REQUIREMENTS:

- (A) ELL students are correctly identified via the WIDA-ACCESS Placement Test following completion of a home language survey.
- (B) Instructional needs of ELL students are identified via the Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State, or ACCESS process, which includes assessing English language proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in order to provide a strategic approach to instruction.
- (C) Parents of ELL students will be notified as to the outcomes of these assessments, placement, and progress.
- (D) Data will be maintained regarding ELL student progress

(E) ELL students who are receiving both ELL and SPED services are appropriately placed and instructed.

GOAL: The ELL education program goal is for all ELL students to meet academic content standards and benchmarks in all subject areas (6.32.2.9 NMAC N, 11-30-05).

Legal Reference: 6.32.2.7 NMAC- RP, 6.32.2.7 NMAC, 11-30-05; 6.32.2.9 NMAC – N, 11-30-05

END