

Where can I obtain additional information on Bilingual Programs?

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Where can I obtain additional copies of this brochure?

These brochures are available on the TEA bilingual/ESL website at:
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TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY
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BILINGUAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS:



BENEFITS FOR YOUR CHILD!

Texas Education Agency

Austin, Texas

What is the purpose of bilingual education?

The purpose of the bilingual education program is to:

- help students with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) master the state curriculum; and
- teach English to all participating students.

Who does the bilingual education program serve?

- Bilingual education programs serve students who have a language other than English in their homes and need help learning English.
- English speaking students may also participate in bilingual education programs to become proficient in two languages.

How will the bilingual education program help my child?

The bilingual program:

- provides access to the state curriculum;
- teaches English to LEP students using appropriate methods;
- helps build knowledge and learning of academic subjects in the first language and English; and
- instills self-assurance, confidence and cultural pride in students.

ALL CHILDREN SHOULD ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN A WELL BALANCED CURRICULUM

Will my child be taught the same subjects and learn the same skills as students in the regular program?

- All students in bilingual education must receive instruction in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) in their native language and English.
- Language arts, reading, mathematics, science and social studies are taught as part of the state mandated curriculum.
- Music, physical education, health, and art are also part of a balanced curriculum.

Will my child learn English?

- The mastery of English listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills is required in the program.
- English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction is an integral part of the bilingual education program.
- Academic instruction begins in the student's first language and transitions into English.

Who is responsible for teaching in a bilingual education

Teachers must be specially trained to teach in bilingual education programs and meet the special language needs of their students.

How can parents become involved in the bilingual education program?

- Parental approval is required for students to participate in the program.
- Parents can volunteer for classroom activities.
- Parents can encourage their child to achieve, provide a place to study, and show interest in schoolwork.
- Parents can ask their child's teacher or principal about becoming a member of the Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC) that determines how students will be taught.