



Proposed Connecticut English Language Proficiency (CELP) Standards

Information for Educators

The Connecticut State Department of Education is hoping to adopt new English Language Proficiency Standards in the fall of 2015.

Q: What are the new standards?

A: “The 10 ELP Standards define what English language skills [speaking, listening, reading and writing] students should have at particular grade levels. They are designed for collaborative use by both ESL and content-area teachers and address the language demands needed to be successful in English language arts, mathematics, science, [and social studies] classrooms. The ELP standards are shaped by guiding principles that recognize that [ELs] have the same potential as native speakers to excel in learning, and that instruction that builds on their varied backgrounds is more likely to help students master their use of the English language.”

(ELPA21. (2014). Project summary. Retrieved on March 23,2015 from http://www.elpa21.org/sites/default/files/ELPA21_summary_10%2021.14.pdf)

1. Construct meaning from oral presentations and literary and informational text through grade-appropriate listening, reading, and viewing.
2. Participate in grade-appropriate oral and written exchanges of information, ideas, and analyses, responding to peer, audience, or reader comments and questions.
3. Speak and write about grade-appropriate complex literary and informational texts and topics.
4. Construct grade-appropriate oral and written claims and support them with reasoning and evidence.
5. Conduct research and evaluate and communicate findings to answer questions or solve problems.
6. Analyze and critique the arguments of others orally and in writing.
7. Adapt language choices to purpose, task, and audience when speaking and writing.
8. Determine the meaning of words and phrases in oral presentations and literary and informational text.
9. Create clear and coherent grade-appropriate speech and text.
10. Make accurate use of Standard English to communicate in grade-appropriate speech and writing.

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Q: Why do we need new standards?

A: Currently, the state has an English Language Learner Framework that needs to be updated to meet the academic and language demands of English Learners (ELs) in Connecticut classrooms in order to align with new standards in English language arts and mathematics and to meet federal guidelines. The new draft CELP standards illuminate the social and academic uses of language inherent in, and needed to fully access, the new, language-rich college-and-career-ready content standards.

Q: What do new CELP standards potentially mean for teachers?

A:

- All general education and TESOL/Bilingual teachers will have access to research-based progressions of what ELs can do in their classrooms as it relates to content-area practices and Connecticut Core Standards
- Educators will gain a deeper understanding of the language demands of Common Core and the linguistic abilities of ELs at different proficiency levels
- The new Connecticut ELP standards inform the planning for rigorous instruction that addresses the continuum of language needs and academic needs of ELs

Q: What resources are available to teachers for implementing the standards?

A: The CELP Standards are accompanied by several resources to support teachers including:

- Glossary of terms
- CELP Standards progressions and proficiency descriptors that describe the language expectations of ELs at the five levels of English language proficiency
- Content-area practices and Connecticut Core Standards correspondences to CELP Standards
- Linguistics supports that describe (with embedded hyperlinks with further examples and definitions) supports for ELs at different proficiency levels and in different content area courses
- Acronym key

In addition, the state will be providing training to educators on the new standards beginning after the adoption of the proposed CELP Standards in the fall of 2015.

If you would like more information or have questions about the proposed Connecticut English Language Proficiency Standards, please contact CSDE ESL/Bilingual consultant Megan Alubicki Flick at megan.alubicki@ct.gov. If you would like to give feedback, please e-mail sde.celpstandards@ct.gov.

*To access the draft CELP Standards in their entirety
and supporting documents, please visit:*

http://ctcorestandards.org/?page_id=9844