

Four Principles

Four principles support our vision and provide the foundation of California's English Learner Roadmap. These principles are intended to guide all levels of the system towards a coherent and aligned set of practices, services, relationships, and approaches to teaching and learning that together create a powerful, effective, twenty-first century education for our English learners.

Underlying this systemic application of the Principles is the foundational understanding that simultaneously developing English learners' linguistic and academic capacities is a shared responsibility of all educators, and that all levels of the schooling system have a role to play in ensuring the access and achievement of the 1.3 million English learners who attend our schools.

Next Steps

1. **Share** the EL Roadmap with your colleagues and community
2. **Adopt** local district policies aligned to the EL Roadmap
3. **Reference** the EL Roadmap in your LCAP



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CALIFORNIA ENGLISH LEARNER ROADMAP POLICY

Strengthening Comprehensive Educational Policies, Programs, and Practices for English Learners



21st Century Education
Multilingual Proficiency
Meaningful Access

CALIFORNIA'S VISION OF SUCCESS FOR ENGLISH LEARNERS

English learners fully and meaningfully access and participate in a twenty-first century education from early childhood through grade twelve that results in their attaining **high levels of English proficiency**, mastery of grade level standards, and opportunities to **develop proficiency in multiple languages**.

MISSION

California schools affirm, welcome, and respond to a diverse range of EL strengths, needs, and identities. California schools prepare graduates with the linguistic, academic, and social skills and competencies they require for college, career, and civic participation in a **global, diverse, and multilingual world**, thus ensuring a thriving future for California.

Principle 1

- **Assets-Oriented and Needs-Responsive Schools**

Pre-schools and schools are responsive to different **EL strengths, needs, and identities** and support the socio-emotional health and development of English learners. Programs value and build upon the **cultural and linguistic** assets students bring to their education in safe and affirming school climates. Educators value and build strong family, community, and school partnerships.

Principle 2

- **Intellectual Quality of Instruction and Meaningful Access**

English learners engage in intellectually rich, developmentally appropriate learning experiences that foster high levels of **English proficiency**. These experiences integrate language development, literacy, and content learning as well as provide access for comprehension and participation through **native language instruction** and scaffolding. English learners have meaningful access to a full standards-based and relevant curriculum and the opportunity to develop proficiency in English and **other languages**.

Principle 3

- **System Conditions that Support Effectiveness**

Each level of the school system (state, county, district, school, pre-school) has leaders and educators who are knowledgeable of and responsive to the **strengths and needs of English learners** and their communities and who utilize valid assessment and other data systems that inform instruction and continuous improvement. Each level of the school system provides resources and tiered support to ensure strong programs and build the capacity of teachers and staff to leverage the **strengths and meet the needs of English learners**.

Principle 4

- **Alignment and Articulation Within and Across Systems**

English learners experience a coherent, articulated, and aligned set of practices and pathways across grade levels and educational segments, beginning with a strong foundation in early childhood and appropriate identification of strengths and needs, and continuing through to reclassification, graduation, and higher education. These pathways foster the skills, **language(s)**, literacy, and knowledge students need for college- and career-readiness and participation in a **global, diverse, multilingual, twenty-first century world**.