

## Alternative Language Services for Utah Students

### **Definitions**

“Alternative language services program” or “ALS program” means an instruction educational program used to achieve English proficiency and academic progress of identified students.

“Alternative language services” or “ALS” means language services designed to meet the educational needs of all students learning English so that students are able to participate effectively in the regular instructional program.

“Language instruction educational program” means an instructional program:

- In which the students learning English is placed for the purpose of developing and attaining English proficiency, while meeting challenging state academic standards;
- That may make instructional use of both English and a child’s native language to enable the child to attain and develop English proficiency; and
- That may include the participation of children who are proficient in English if the program is designed to enable all children to become proficient in English and a second language.

“Student learning English” means an individual who:

- Has sufficient difficulty speaking, writing, reading, or understanding the English language, and whose difficulties may deny the individual the opportunity to:
  - Learn successfully in classrooms where the language of instruction is English; or
  - Participate fully in society;
- Was not born in the United States or whose native language is a language other than English and who comes from an environment where a language other than English is dominant; or
- Is an American Indian or Alaskan native or who is a native resident of the outlying areas and comes from an environment where a language other than English has had significant impact on such individual’s level of English language proficiency.

### **Policy**

1- Vista School shall provide a program that:

- Includes identification for students learning English, including a home language survey and a language proficiency for program placement, that is implemented with student registration;
- Uses a valid and reliable assessment of a student’s English proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing;

- Provides a language instruction educational program based on State Board approved Utah English Language Proficiency Standards;
- Establishes student exit criteria from ALS programs or services; and
- Includes the count of students learning English, by classification, prior to July 1 of each year.

2- Vista School shall provide services to students who qualify and:

- Determine what type of services are appropriate for each student identified in need of ALS services;
- Implement an approved language instruction educational program designed to achieve English proficiency and academic progress of an identified student;
- Ensure that all identified students learning English receive English language instructional services, consistent with the Utah English Language Proficiency Standards;
- Provide adequate staff development to assist a teacher and staff in supporting students learning English; and
- Provide necessary staff with:
  - Curricular materials
  - Facilities for adequate and effective training

3- Vista School shall provide interpretation and translation services as needed for parents at registration, IEP meetings, parent-teacher conferences, and student disciplinary meetings.

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