

**FREEPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE**

**ESL - Program:**

Pennsylvania School Code (22 PA. Code 4.26) states: “Every school district shall provide a program for each student whose dominant language is not English for the purpose of facilitating the student’s achievement of English proficiency and the academic standards under 4.12 (relating to academic standards). Programs under this section shall include appropriate bilingual-bicultural or English as a second language (ESL) instruction.”

The PA Department of Education does not endorse one particular model over another. However, the program model each district chooses must meet the following criteria:

- Be aligned to state academic content standards for the appropriate grade level of the ELs;
- Include ELD instruction delivered by properly certified teachers who hold an ESL program specialist certificate or who are working in conjunction with ESL certified teachers;
- Incorporate the use of the PA ELDS;
- Provide equitable access to content for ELs at all language proficiency levels by providing research-based bilingual or sheltered instruction with fidelity; and
- Not limit the enrollment of ELs in any course or academic program for which they would otherwise be eligible.

Regardless of how the LEA chooses to organize its program, the Department requires that it be identified by one of six categories:

- Mixed Class Bilingual
- EL Bilingual
- EL-Specific Transitional Instruction
- Mixed Classes with Native Language Support
- EL Specific English Only Instruction
- Mixed Classes with English Only Support

The Freeport Area School District has chosen to use the EL Specific English Only Instruction model and the Mixed Classes with English Only Support.