
English as a Second Language (ESL) Program Policy 3.207

The Background:

The English as a Second Language (ESL) Program Policy is designed to set minimum standards for Tennessee school districts in providing services to non-English language background students who are also limited English proficient. These students are referred to as English learners (ELs).

This item presents changes to the ESL Program Policy to clarify ESL service requirements and to include additional definitions.

Below is a brief summary of the changes (page numbers reflect the tracked changes document):

- **Page 3:** Clarifies the ESL service requirements for students who do not make adequate growth in English language acquisition and in academics.
- **Page 7:** Adds definition of Long Term English Learners.
- **Page 8:** Adds definition of Recently Arrived ELs and Students with Interrupted or Limited Formal Education.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends acceptance of this item on first reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.