



State of Arizona
Department of Education

Tom Horne
Superintendent of
Public Instruction

Half-Day Kindergarten and ELD
Office of English Language Acquisition Services and Title I Guidance

FROM: Adela Santa Cruz, Deputy Associate Superintendent
Office of English Language Acquisition Services, Accountability Division
Arizona Department of Education

Nancy Konitzer, Deputy Associate Superintendent
Title I and NCLB Consolidated Activities, Academic Achievement Division,
Arizona Department of Education

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The following guidance is given for half-day kindergarten and English Language Development for English Language Learners (ELLs). This document includes further guidance for school entities that select to offer full-day kindergarten using federal Title I funds.

There is no longer state funding specifically for full-day kindergarten. It was a weight of 1.35 FTE, now it is back to .5 – so districts receive state funding for half a day.

Some districts may reallocate state funds from other sources and continue full day programs. Other districts are expecting to use Title I to make up the difference and have the second half as part of the TI program. A guidance memo (NCLB 10-05) from Nancy Konitzer dated April 2, 2010, explains how to do this – it must be a school-based decision and as a TI program, may or may not be able to serve all of kindergarten students.

Additionally, ELLs are eligible for TI programs, especially for reading or mathematics academics.

So if the kindergarten population is largely ELL, the question is how the school meets the ELD requirements, as well as TI, depending on whether the program is a full day or half day.

Here are the possible scenarios with the requirements bulleted below:

- **Full day paid by state funds**
 - 4 hours ELD – remaining time for other content subjects, which may include mathematics and specials
- **Full day – half state funds / half TI**
 - 2 hours ELD in the state paid half; TI half would have reading(at this level it would be hard to separate language development from reading) and/or mathematics
- **Half day – state funds**
 - 2 hours ELD – remaining time other, which may include specials

For further questions, contact Adela Santa Cruz at Adela.SantaCruz@azed.gov or Nancy Konitzer at Nancy.Konitzer@azed.gov