



Arizona Department of Education
Office of English Language Acquisition Services

July 22, 2020

Dear Superintendents, Directors, and Coordinators:

As LEAs finalize plans to begin the school year, the Office of English Language Acquisition Services (OELAS) wants to remind you that we are here to continue to serve you, your educators and students. We know that during these very unusual times, support is more important than ever. Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions you have regarding your English Learners, Migrant, Homeless and Foster Care students.

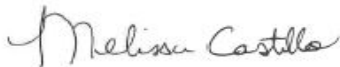
Please note the following reminders, as well as updates for your consideration, as you continue to focus on teaching and learning:

- OELAS has approved and notified those LEAs who have received an SEI Grant Award. The Special Population division has also allocated funds to the approved Migrant Education Projects. As for McKinney-Vento, they have completed their competitive grant review and have notified those LEAs who will be receiving an FY21 Homeless Education Grant.
- Now that School Year 2020-2021 is upon us, it is vitally important that school districts and charter schools submit to AzEDS their respective EL program participation data for those English learners (ELs) who currently qualify for EL services and have been placed into an EL program at the beginning of the school year. OELAS is aware, that due to the COVID-19 crisis, the administration of the Kindergarten Placement Test (KPT) to your incoming kindergarten students and the administration of the AZELLA Placement Test to your newly enrolled students, could be a logistical challenge. We are in communication with the ADE IT AzEDS Team to systematically ease the requirement of a qualifying AZELLA transaction in AzEDS for incoming kindergarten and newly-enrolled students who, due to not having a current qualifying AZELLA transaction in AzEDS, would still “Pass Integrity” accordingly at the beginning of the school year when placed into an EL program in AzEDS.
- You should have also received guidance on English Learner Identification a couple of weeks ago from the Student Achievement and Educator Excellence Division and our office. The following link is the guidance that was sent out. [English Learners Identification Guidance](#). Additional supports and considerations for EL identification can be found at this link: [Sample Questionnaires for Grades K-12 for Use with Provisional Identification and Placement Protocol during Extended School Closures](#)
- As a reminder, the requirements outlined in SB1014, 120 minutes of ELD instruction for K-5 and 100 minutes of ELD instruction for 6-12 daily, should be planned for and implemented in School Year 2020-2021 **to the extent possible**. Several SEI Overview webinars have been offered for administrators providing an overview of these requirements in each of the SEI models and instructional frameworks. We have also scheduled webinars specifically for teachers during the month of June and July focused

on Arizona's Language Development Approach and ELD instructional practices for English Learners.

- Guidance on SEI Implementation is attached in the following link [SEI Program Model Implementation Guide](#)
- An updated list of questions from the field and OELAS responses regarding SEI, documents and supports is attached in the following link: [OELAS School Closure and Reopening of Schools FAQs](#)
- The USDOE has also put out a list of questions and responses regarding EL services during the COVID-19 outbreak that is attached in the following link. [Providing Services to English Learners During the COVID-19 Outbreak](#)
- The Counsel of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) has also put out guidance for SEAs and LEAs to reference as they begin to start the school year. The document *Restart & Recovery: Considerations for Teaching and Learning* can be accessed with the following link: [Restart & Recovery: Considerations for Teaching and Learning](#)
- As another reminder, Title I-C (Migrant) and McKinney-Vento can be used as a funding source to support technology expenditures for qualifying students. The following link provides some questions and answers around technology and these two programs [Migrant Education Program & McKinney Vento: School Closure FAQs](#)
- Please mark your calendars for the fall PELL meeting which will be held virtually the week of September 14, 2020. OELAS will be sending out details with days, times and topics in the coming weeks.

Thank you for all that you are doing. We value and appreciate all that you are doing to prepare to welcome kids back for the 2020-2021 school year. The entire team at OELAS, including Migrant, Homeless and Foster Care, are here to serve and support you, your educators, families and students in any way that we can.



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