

**San Diego Unified School  
District**

**Parent Notice of Available Language Acquisition Programs and Language Programs**

San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) offers language acquisition programs and language programs. Parents or legal guardians may choose a program that best suits their child (*EC* Section 310).

**Understanding SDUSD’s Language Acquisition Programs and Language Programs**

<b>Program Type</b>	<b>Characteristics</b>
<b>Language Acquisition Program</b> (English learners)	The California Code of Regulations section 11309 requires that any language acquisition program provided by a school, district, or county shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Be designed using evidence-based research and include both Designated and Integrated English Language Development;</li><li>● Be allocated sufficient resources by the local educational agency (LEA) to be effectively implemented, including, but not limited to, certificated teachers with the appropriate authorizations, necessary instructional materials, pertinent professional development for the proposed program, and opportunities for parent and community engagement to support the proposed program goals; and</li><li>● Within a reasonable period of time, lead to:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Grade-level proficiency in English, and, when the program model includes instruction in another language, proficiency in that other language; and</li><li>○ Achievement of the state-adopted academic content standards in English, and, when the program model includes instruction in another language, achievement of</li></ul></li></ul>

	the state- adopted academic content standards in that other language.
<b>Language Program</b> (non-English learners)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Language programs offer students who are not English learners opportunities to be instructed in languages other than English.</li> <li>• May lead to proficiency in languages other than English.</li> </ul>

### ***Language Acquisition Programs Offered***

Language acquisition programs are educational programs designed to ensure English acquisition occurs as rapidly and effectively as possible. They provide instruction to English learners based on the state-adopted academic content standards, including English language development (ELD) standards (20 U.S.C. Section 6312[e][3][A][iii],[v]); *EC* Section 306[c]). All sites offer, at a minimum, a **Structured English Immersion (SEI)** program option (*EC* Section 305[a][2]):

- **Structured English Immersion Program:** A language acquisition program for English learners in which nearly all classroom instruction is provided in English, but with curriculum and a presentation designed for students who are learning English. At minimum, students are offered Designated ELD and provided access to grade level academic subject matter content with Integrated ELD.
- **Dual-Language Immersion (DLI) Program (English/Spanish/French):** A language acquisition program also referred to as **Two-Way Immersion** that provides language learning and academic instruction for native speakers of English and native speakers of another language with the goals of high academic achievement, first and second language proficiency, and cross-cultural understanding. This program begins in Transitional Kindergarten/Kindergarten (TK/K) and continues to sixth grade. We are proud of the fact that our Dual Language Programs create opportunities for students to learn to celebrate and honor diversity in people and use the classroom experience as an opportunity to connect socially and academically. Students enrolled in these programs have the opportunity to earn the California State Seal of Biliteracy.  
[cde.ca.gov/sp/el/er/sealofbiliteracy.asp](http://cde.ca.gov/sp/el/er/sealofbiliteracy.asp).
- **Transitional Bilingual Program (English/Spanish):** A language acquisition program for English learners that provides instruction to students utilizing English and a student’s native language for literacy and academic instruction, thus enabling an English learner to achieve English proficiency and meet state-adopted academic achievement goals.

This program begins in TK/K and continues to third grade where students transition to instruction solely in English.

- **Developmental Bilingual Program (English/Spanish):** A language acquisition program for English learners that provides instruction to students utilizing English and a student's native language for literacy and academic instruction, thus enabling an English learner to achieve language proficiency and meet state academic achievement goals. This program begins in TK/K and continues with the goal of biliteracy to sixth grade.
- **Middle School Dual Language Pathway Programs:** These schools offer coursework that support elementary dual language programs. Content courses are taught in the corresponding target language. Students enrolled in these programs may have the opportunity to earn the California State Seal of Biliteracy in high school. [cde.ca.gov/sp/el/er/sealofbiliteracy.asp](http://cde.ca.gov/sp/el/er/sealofbiliteracy.asp).
  - Bell (6-8) - Spanish
  - Clark (6-8) - Spanish
  - Golden Hill (K-8) - Spanish
  - Innovation (6-8) - Spanish
  - Language Academy(K-8) - French/Spanish
  - Longfellow (K-8) - Spanish
  - Millennial Tech (6-8) - Spanish
  - Montgomery (6-8) - Spanish
  - Muir Language Academy (K-8) - Spanish
  - Pacific Beach (6-8) - Mandarin
  - Pershing (6-8) - Spanish
  - Roosevelt (6-8) - Spanish
  - Wilson (6-8) - Spanish

### ***Language Programs Offered***

Language programs are multilingual programs that offer opportunities for students to be instructed in languages other than English. These programs may lead to proficiency in languages other than English.

- **Foreign language Immersion Programs**, also referred to as **One-Way Immersion Programs**, are designed for English-speaking students to acquire a second language. San Diego Unified School District offers One-Way Immersion Programs in:
  - **Spanish** - Boone Elementary, Gage Elementary, John Muir Language Academy (K-8), Language Academy (K-8), Longfellow (K-8), and Tierrasanta Elementary
  - **French** - Language Academy (K-8)
  - **Mandarin** - Barnard Mandarin Magnet Elementary and Pacific Beach (6-8)

### ***How to Enroll Your Child in a Language Acquisition Program and/or Language Program***

All San Diego Unified sites must provide the **Structured English Immersion (SEI)** program option for enrolled English learners. Please refer to the [San Diego Unified School Options Guide 2021-2022](#) for a list of language acquisition programs and language programs offered by close to 40 school sites in our district. Residents of a school attendance area may enroll directly in a program.

Non-residents who wish to enroll their child in a language acquisition program or language program, and/or families interested in Magnet programs must submit a Choice application and be accepted in the Choice lottery in order to enroll. Enrollment in a language program after grade 1 may require passing a proficiency test.

The following sites do not have boundaries; pupils may only be enrolled via acceptance in the Choice lottery:

- [Barnard Mandarin Magnet Elementary](#) - Mandarin
- [John Muir Language Academy K-8](#) - Spanish
- [Language Academy](#) - French and Spanish
- [Longfellow K-8](#) - Spanish

Please contact individual school sites to obtain site-specific enrollment information. General enrollment and Choice questions may be directed to the Neighborhood Schools and Enrollment Options office at (619) 260-2410 or [eoptions@sandi.net](mailto:eoptions@sandi.net).

### ***How to Request the Establishment of a New Program at a School***

Parents or legal guardians have the right to request a language acquisition program for their child (*EC* Section 310[a]). To request a program not currently offered parents or legal guardians can submit a verbal or written request to the main office at your child's school.

Sites must record written and verbal language acquisition program requests using the Language Acquisition Program Request Form. Sites must keep a log of all request forms submitted on a yearly basis.

Schools in which the parents or legal guardians of **30 pupils or more per school** or **20 pupils or more in any one grade** request a language acquisition program or a language program that is designed to provide language instruction shall be required to offer such a program to the extent possible.

### ***Parent and Community Engagement***

Parents or legal guardians may provide input regarding language acquisition programs and/or language programs during the development of the Local Control and Accountability Plan (*EC* Section 52062). If interested in a different program from those listed above, please contact the Office of Language Acquisition (OLA) at [ola@sandi.net](mailto:ola@sandi.net) to ask about the process.

### ***Opt-Out Waivers***

Although schools have an obligation to serve all EL students, parents or legal guardians of English learners have a right to decline or opt their children out of a school's EL program or out of particular EL services within an EL program. The opt-out of EL services form must be completed annually with site administration.

If parents or legal guardians opt their children out of a school's EL program or specific EL services, the children *retain their status as English learners and must continue to take the annual Summative English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) until they reclassify to fluent English proficient.*

The school remains obligated to take the affirmative steps required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the appropriate actions required by the Equal Education Opportunity Act of 1974 to provide EL students access to its educational programs (20 U.S.C. sections 1703[f], 6312[e][3][A][viii]).