Starting New English Learner Education Programs and Available Grants
Webinar, November 19, 2018
01 Alternative ELE Programs
02 ELE Program Proposal
03 Grant Opportunities
Alternative ELE Programs
Sheltered English Immersion (SEI) is not the only option anymore to meet the linguistic and academic needs of English learners (EL).

Alternative programs include:
- Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE)
- Dual Language Education (DLE) or Two-Way Immersion (TWI)
- Or any other research-based ELE program
Why should districts consider starting an alternative ELE program?

• One size does not fit all.
• ELs in DLE or TWI programs develop and maintain their home language while adding a second language to their repertoire.
• TBE programs give students at different English proficiency levels who are more proficient in their home language than in English better access to the content curricula.
• Students in DLE, TWI or TBE programs perform at least as well academically as comparable students educated monolingually, and have language and literacy capabilities in another language as well.
• Bilingualism has cognitive benefits, including cognitive flexibility and creative thinking, communicative sensitivity, metalinguistic awareness, and enhanced executive function.
What does research say?

• Research is starting to document the benefits of extended mother-tongue instruction to ELLs (Collier & Thomas, 1997, 2002)
• Foreign language immersion programs show superior results for English-speaking students (Lindholm & Aclan, 1991)
• Parents are requesting more enrichment programs (Cloud, Genesee, Hamayan, 2000)
02

ELE Program Proposals
New English Learner Education Program Proposals for SY 19-20

To support districts to design new programs that well-serve English Learners, there are two steps:

1. Districts interested in starting a new ELE program will submit a preliminary proposal to the Department by December 21. DESE will review the proposal and provide feedback.

2. Once a district successfully completes the preliminary proposal process, DESE will provide technical assistance to help the district finalize a complete ELE program proposal by January 1, 2019.
Components of the Preliminary Proposal (due by Dec 21)

• Find the preliminary proposal [here](#).

• Components:
  o A short description of the proposed new ELE program.
  o The demographics of the student population to be served by the proposed new ELE program.
  o An analysis of the district’s current ELE program(s) based on Castañeda’s Three-Pronged Test.
  o Confirmation that the district consulted with the district’s English Learner Parent Advisory Council (ELPAC), if applicable.
Technical Assistance from Office of Language Acquisition (OLA)

• OLA is one phone call away to answer any questions about the process. (Sibel Hughes (781) 338-3569)
• Or, email us with your questions. shughes@doe.mass.edu
• We commit to reviewing preliminary proposals in two business days and giving feedback.
• OLA will provide guidance and resources to help districts strengthen their ELE program proposals and submit the complete proposals by January 1, 2019.
Components of the Complete Proposal (due January 1)

• Find the complete proposal [here](#).

• Components:
  o A full description of the district’s proposed program design.
  o Clarification on how the proposed program will complement existing district structures and supports for ELs.
  o District’s action plan to achieve Prong 3 of Castañeda’s test related to proving the effectiveness of the program in developing ELs’ English language skills.
What happens after January 1st?

- OLA staff will review ELE program proposals submitted (law says within 90 days, but we will work faster).
- If the proposal meets all applicable requirements, OLA will notify the district that the proposed program can be implemented in the 2019-2020 school year.
- If a proposal does not meet all of the applicable requirements, OLA will provide feedback and the district will have 30 days to revise the proposal and resubmit it for DESE’s consideration. DESE will support districts as needed.
Enrollment of an EL for the First Time

• Some districts have never enrolled an EL.
• All districts are required to start providing language assistance services upon a student’s identification as an English learner.
• Districts that enroll an EL student for the first time should contact DESE immediately for guidance on how to initiate services. Email: ELL@doe.mass.edu.
• These districts will follow the same process and submit a preliminary and a complete proposal for the ELE program that will be implemented in the next school year.
How will districts submit an ELE program proposal?

• A quick reference guide about the process and a copy of the preliminary and complete proposal forms are available at http://www.doe.mass.edu/ell/resources.html?section=proposal.

• Only for 2018 proposals (for SY 2019-2020):
  o Preliminary proposals due on December 21, 2018: Please submit via email to shughes@doe.mass.edu
  o Complete proposals due on January 1, 2019: Please submit via email to shughes@doe.mass.edu

• Proposals after 2018: OLA has worked with a vendor to develop a program proposal submission platform in the Web-Based Monitoring System (WBMS). The system will be available for proposals after 2018.
Grant Opportunities
DESE Supports: Training and Technical Assistance

The Department will support districts in designing and implementing new programs:

• Offer trainings for school leaders who are planning to implement new bilingual programs for English learners:
  • Bilingual Education 101: a three-hour webinar
  • A two-day training program

• Provide technical assistance to district leadership throughout the planning and initial implementation phase.

• Provide guidance on Two-way Immersion/Dual Language and Transitional Bilingual Education programs.
Focus of both Grants

- The focus of these grants is to “seed” or plan for the implementation of new bilingual education programs for English learners in the Commonwealth.

Bilingual Education Grants:

- This competitive grant program is open to districts with more than 1500 students identified as ELs as of the October 2018 Student Information Management System (SIMS) collection or a consortia of districts with the same number of ELs. The grant is available for new ELE programs at the elementary and secondary school levels. The proposal must be submitted by December 4. Please click here to apply.

  - $600,000 is available. Up to four (4) grant recipients will be awarded; No grant recipient will receive more than $300,000.

Gateway Grants:

- This competitive grant is open to all districts serving Gateway cities interested in establishing new alternative ELE programs at the secondary school (middle or high) level.

  - $250,000 is available. Two (2) $125,000 competitive grants.

  - Please click here to apply.
“One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way.”

-Frank Smith