



## Department of Education

Mike DeWine, Governor  
Paolo DeMaria, Superintendent of Public Instruction

**To: Ohio Educational Agencies Serving Students who are English Learners**  
**From: Paolo DeMaria, State Superintendent of Public Instruction**  
**Date: June 29, 2021**  
**Re: Ohio English Language Proficiency Standards and  
Ohio Learning Standards-Extended for English Language Proficiency**

Ohio's strategic plan for education, *Each Child, Our Future*, highlights the importance of providing accessible, high-quality instruction to support English learners. In addition, *Each Child Means Each Child: Ohio's Plan to Improve Learning Experiences and Outcomes for Students with Disabilities* offers recommendations to guide the inclusion of students with disabilities and their families.

The purpose of this memo is to affirm the *Ohio English Language Proficiency Standards* and announce the *Ohio Learning Standards-Extended for English Language Proficiency*. Together, these standards describe expectations for the effective instruction of all students who are English learners, including those with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

*Ohio English Language Proficiency Standards* apply to all English learners attending Ohio's public and nonpublic schools in grades K-12. The *Ohio English Language Proficiency Standards* are the basis for integrated English language instruction as measured by the current Ohio English Language Proficiency Screener and Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment.

*Ohio Learning Standards-Extended for English Language Proficiency* address the language development of all English learners with the most significant cognitive disabilities. These new standards correspond to the *Ohio English Language Proficiency Standards* described above. Similarly, they are the basis for the Alternate Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment that will be operational in the 2023-2024 school year.

Educators are encouraged to use the *Ohio English Language Proficiency Standards* and *Ohio Learning Standards-Extended for English Language Proficiency* for the continuum of students who are English learners, including those with significant cognitive disabilities, in English language arts, math, science and social studies. The documents are invaluable, shared points of reference by which to better understand and improve instruction for students for whom English is a new or additional language.

For questions and additional information regarding standards for students who are English learners, contact the Office for Integrated Student Supports at (614) 466-4109 or email [iau@education.ohio.gov](mailto:iau@education.ohio.gov).