

SECTION 10

PERSONNEL TRAINING

In this section, you will find information on the following:

- Certification/Training requirements for teachers of ELLs
- ESOL Certification/Endorsement
- Who are Category I teachers?
- Explanation of Options
- Who is a Category II teacher?
- Who is a Category III teacher?
- Who requires a Category IV course?
- Frequently Asked Questions

CERTIFICATION/TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

Statement of Education of K-12 Language Minority Students and the Preparation of Elementary and Secondary Teachers in Broward County Public Schools

The population of culturally and linguistically diverse students in all Broward County schools continues to experience dramatic growth.

Our students come from a variety of backgrounds; some are immigrants or refugees, while others are native-born Americans of different language heritages. These students enter Broward County Public Schools with a variety of educational experiences and levels of academic achievement. Many have received formal education in their home countries and are on grade level in all content areas in their first language. Others have had their education delayed or interrupted by various circumstances and may be behind academically.

Today, teachers face the challenge of responding to our increasingly diverse student population. Both self-contained and basic program classroom teachers need unique skills preparation to teach language minority students. These skills may be learned in (1) courses of study available through teacher preparation programs offered in colleges and universities, and (2) through inservice education and staff development programs offered by the school district.

Programs of study must be structured for teachers of ELLs to engage in training which includes an emphasis on learning processes, child development, literacy development, and methods of teaching content material to culturally and linguistically diverse students. Classroom teachers must participate in programs that include new language acquisition and language-sensitive teaching methodologies.

To meet the needs of ELLs, the Bilingual/ESOL Department supports programs, which facilitate and promote students' growth in oral and academic English language proficiency, encourage cultural and social adjustment, and value students' languages and experiences.

The ESOL training requirements for personnel identified as Categories I, II, III and IV are presented on the following pages.

ESOL Certification/Endorsement

For any questions regarding certification please visit the Certification Department website at <https://www.browardschools.com/Page/35413>.

Who are Category I teachers?

Elementary and Secondary Language Arts/English, Developmental Language Arts, Intensive Reading, and Reading Teachers (includes ESE Teachers)

Category I teachers are placed out-of-field in ESOL until they have completed their ESOL training requirements. These teachers must complete 300 inservice points or 15 semester hours of college credit through one of the following options:

Option 1 <i>University Courses</i>	15 semester hours college credit. These may be combined with the specific District ESOL inservice courses or Beacon Educator (Option 2 & 3).
Option 2 <i>Broward Virtual University</i>	300 inservice points through the five specific District ESOL inservice courses. These may be combined with University courses or Beacon Educator (Option 1 & 3).
Option 3 <i>Beacon Educator</i>	300 inservice points through the five specific ESOL inservice courses. These may be combined with University courses or BVU (Option 1 & 2).
Option 4 <i>ESOL Subject Area Coverage K-12</i>	Bachelor's or Master's Degree in TESOL Passing score on the ESOL Subject Area Exam
Option 5 <i>Passing score on the ESOL Subject Area Exam</i>	Must obtain 120 inservice points or 6 semester hours of equivalent courses within three (3) years from the date of receipt of the ESOL certificate.

Explanation of Options:

OPTION 1 - UNIVERSITY COURSES

15 semester hours college credit in the following courses:

- Methods of Teaching ESOL – 3 semester hours
- ESOL Curriculum and Materials Development – 3 semester hours
- Cross-Cultural Communication and Understanding – 3 semester hours
- Testing and Evaluation of ESOL – 3 semester hours
- Applied Linguistics – 3 semester hours

Interested teachers should contact the local universities of their choice to get current course schedules. Please note course titles may vary by university.

OPTION 2 – BROWARD VIRTUAL UNIVERSITY (BVU) - SPECIFIC DISTRICT ESOL INSERVICE COURSES

300 inservice points through the following District courses:

- Methods of Teaching ESOL – 60 inservice points
- ESOL Curriculum and Materials Development – 60 inservice points
- Cross-Cultural Communication and Understanding – 60 inservice points
- Testing and Evaluation of ESOL – 60 inservice points
- Applied Linguistics – 60 inservice points

OPTION 3 – SPECIFIC BEACON EDUCATOR COURSES

300 inservice points through the following District courses:

- ESOL - Methods of Teaching – 60 points
- ESOL - Curriculum and Materials – 60 points
- ESOL - Cross-Cultural Communication – 60 points
- ESOL - Testing and Evaluation – 60 points
- ESOL - Applied Linguistics – 60 points

In accordance with the timelines for completion of the ESOL Endorsement, as established in State Board of Education Rule, teachers have up to six years in which to complete the ESOL Endorsement.

Course schedules can be found on [Learning Across Broward\(LAB\)](#). Teachers may combine specific District ESOL inservice courses with university courses or Beacon Educator courses.

Category I Teachers must complete the 300 inservice points or 15 semester hours college credit according to the following schedule:

- 3 semester hours college credit or 60 inservice points **during the first two calendar years from date of an ELL assignment**
and
- 3 semester hours college credit or 60 inservice points **during each calendar year from date of assignment thereafter, until all requirements for the ESOL endorsement are completed.**

Note: After the **Category I teacher** has all of the required courses listed in the Broward County Inservice Records, the teacher should apply for the ESOL add-on endorsement. The teacher must request a **CG-10** add-on endorsement application. Information on submitting the form can be found on the Certification Department website.

Who is a Category II teacher?

Teachers of Basic Subjects Taught in English to ELLs Using ESOL Strategies (Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and Computer Literacy)

These teachers must complete 60 inservice points through one of the following:

- 60 inservice points through the BVU online course entitled, "ESOL Strategies for Content Area Teachers" or Beacon Educator course entitled, "ESOL: Issues & Strategies"

or

- A graduate-level, 3 credit university course, which offers a **combination** of ESOL Strategies/Methods, Curriculum & Materials Development, Testing & Evaluation, Cross-Cultural Communication & Understanding, and Applied Linguistics.

Note: Category II & III teachers are not required to obtain a State ESOL Endorsement.

Who is a Category III teacher?

Teachers of Other Subjects/Areas Not Included in Categories I and II

These teachers must complete one of the following:

- 18 inservice points through the BVU Online course inservice entitled, "Issues and Strategies for Teaching English Language Learners (ELLs)" or Beacon Educator course entitled, "ESOL: An Overview".

or

- A graduate-level, 3 credit university course, which offers a **combination** of ESOL Strategies/Methods, Curriculum & Materials Development, Testing & Evaluation, Cross-Cultural Communication & Understanding, and Applied Linguistics.

or

- 60 inservice points through the inservice entitled, "ESOL Strategies for Content Area Teachers."

Note: Category II & III teachers are not required to obtain a State ESOL Endorsement.

Who requires a Category IV course?

Guidance Counselors and School-based Administrators

On September 9, 2003, a modification was made to the [Consent Decree in the *League of United Latin American Citizens et. al. v. the State Board of Education*, 1990]. This modification includes new training requirements for school-based administrators and guidance counselors.

The modification requires all school administrators and guidance counselors to obtain 60 inservice points in ESOL in an approved Category IV ESOL course or inservice component.

Guidance counselors and school administrators may complete the following to obtain the 60 inservice points:

- 60 inservice points through the BVU Online course inservice entitled, "ESOL Category IV for Administrators or Guidance Counselors" or Beacon Educator course entitled, "ESOL for Administrators" or "ESOL for Guidance Counselors"

Frequently Asked Questions

- Q: Are all teachers required to complete the ESOL training requirement courses? A:** Yes, this is a state-mandated requirement due to the 1990 META Consent Decree. All teachers in the State of Florida must start their ESOL course(s) once they are first responsible for the instruction of an English language learner (ELL). You will find more information on the META Consent Decree by checking the Florida Department of Education website/professional development and training: <http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7582/urlt/Consent-Decree.pdf>
- Q: Are all teachers required to complete their ESOL Endorsement? A:** No. While any teacher may become ESOL Endorsed if he or she chooses, only teachers that fall under Category I (Reading, English-Language Arts) are required to obtain their ESOL Endorsement. The ESOL Endorsement is equivalent to 300 points/hours of professional development.
- Q. Do I have to be assigned an ELL student to begin taking ESOL courses? A.** You do not have to be assigned ELLs if you wish to start training, but you should adhere to the State Training Timeline.
- Q. Can I combine ESOL endorsement university courses with existing district ESOL endorsement inservice course training? A.** Yes. If you are using college courses, you must submit an official transcript(s) to the Certification Office clearly marked "For ESOL Credit". You must have your transcript reviewed by the Certification Office at the Broward County Public Schools' Certification Department. The university courses must be equivalent to the ESOL endorsement District/State approved courses needed for your assigned category. For more information click on the following link: <https://www.browardschools.com/Page/40360>.
- Q. What is the process to add on an endorsement once all five CAT I courses are completed? A.** First make sure that all five CAT I required courses are reflected on your inservice record. The application can be downloaded from the BCPS Certification Dept. website at <https://www.browardschools.com/Page/40360>.