

How can my child exit the Bilingual and ESL Programs?

- Students may exit out of the programs after meeting the reclassification criteria. This includes passing the STAAR reading for grades 3-8 or the EOC English at the high school level and obtaining Advanced High in all TELPAS areas as well teacher evaluation. After exiting the program, the student is monitored for 5 years. The students may re-enter the program if necessary.

See Reclassification Criteria QR code below:



How can parents become involved in the Bilingual and ESL programs?

- Parental approval is required for a student to participate in the program.
- Parents can volunteer for classroom activities.
- Parents can encourage their child at home to achieve, provide a place to study, and show interest in schoolwork.
- Parents can ask their child's teacher or principal about becoming a member of the Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC) that determines how students will be taught.

Bilingual Programs for DeSoto ISD

- Cockrell Hill Elementary, Grades Pre-K-2
- Frank Moates Elementary, Grades 3rd-5th

English as a Second Language (ESL) Programs for DeSoto ISD

- Cockrell Hill Elementary, Grades Pk-2
- Woodridge Elementary, Grades Pk-2
- Frank Moates Elementary, Grades 3-5
- The Meadows Elementary, Grades 3-5
- Ruby Young Personalized STEAM Academy, Grades 3-8
- Katherine Johnson Technology Magnet Academy, Grades K-8
- DeSoto West Middle School, Grades 6-8
- Curtistene S. McCowan Middle School, Grades 6-8
- DeSoto High School, Grades 9-12

Dr. Helena Castañón-Vargas

Director for Emergent Bilinguals & L.O.T.E.
200 E. Belt Line Rd. DeSoto, TX 75115
972-223-6666 xt. 8298
h.castanonvargas@desotoisd.org

Erika Mendez

BIL/ESL Instructional Coach
200 E. Belt Line Rd. DeSoto, TX 75115
972-223-6666
erika.mendez@desotoisd.org

Bilingual and English as a Second Language (ESL) Programs

Informational Brochure



DeSoto ISD
200 E. Belt Line
DeSoto, TX 75115

What is the purpose of Bilingual and ESL programs?

- Bilingual education programs assist Emergent Bilingual (EB) students master the state curriculum in both English and Spanish with an emphasis on achieving bilingualism/biliteracy, high academic grade level achievement and socio-cultural competence. It is a bilingual/biliteracy program model in which students identified as English learners are served in both English and another language and are prepared to meet reclassification criteria in order to be successful in English-only instruction not earlier than six or later than seven years after the student enrolls in school. At DeSoto, the Bilingual program model is the One-Way Dual Language Immersion, and the Gómez and Gómez research-based enrichment program is implemented.

- ESL programs develop competence in English and prepare the student to be successful in all academic subjects.

Why should I enroll my child in the Bilingual Program?

- Your child will receive additional support as she/he acquires English. Your child will receive instruction at his/her level in Spanish and in English. Bilingual teachers provide individual and small group instruction that will allow the special needs of each individual child to be met.
- Additional tutoring may also be provided at the discretion of the teacher.
- Emergent Bilingual (EB) in the Bilingual program, will preserve their native language, Spanish heritage and gain new insight into a new language and culture. They will also benefit from a community of teachers and other students who share common values, customs, and lifestyles.

- Emergent Bilingual (EB) in the ESL program will preserve learn English through the linguistic accommodations the ESL teacher to help understand the content areas while promoting the learning of the English language.

- Your child will be periodically assessed, both during the year and at the end of the year, to determine academic and linguistic achievement in English to identify changes which may be needed in the instructional program.

- All subjects are age and grade appropriate. A campus Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC) will oversee your child's progress to ensure overall academic success.

Who is responsible for teaching Bilingual and ESL programs?

- Teachers are specifically trained and certified to teach in the Bilingual or the ESL programs. Teachers use intentional strategies to foster language based on the latest scientific research in second language acquisition.

Will my child be taught the same subjects and learn the same skills as students in the regular program?

- All students in the Bilingual and ESL programs must receive instruction in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). The Bilingual program uses both the student's native language and English for the delivery of instruction while the ESL program uses English only while implementing strategies and methodologies appropriate for the student.

- Language arts, reading, mathematics, science and social studies are integral parts of the state mandated curriculum.

Will my child learn English?

- The mastery of the language domains- listening, speaking, reading, and writing- is required in the either the Bilingual and program.
- In the Bilingual program, academic instruction begins in the student's first language and transitions into English in the second grade.
- ESL instruction is in English with embedded linguistic supports.

Why is my child being recommended for the Bilingual and ESL programs?

- Students whose first language is not English have specific needs as learners. Not only do they have to acquire a new language, and new content area but they also have to adapt to a new culture.
- When a new students enrolls for the first time at any Texas school, the parent are required to complete the Home Language Survey (HLS). If the parent indicates another language other than English is spoken at the home, a language assessment is given and if the child qualifies, the LPAC recommends placement in either the BIL or ESL program. If the student enrolls in DeSoto from another Texas school, transcripts are requested, and prior program placement is honored.



DeSoto ISD
Bilingual Programs



Texas Bilingual
Programs