

# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Dr. Eric J. Smith  
Commissioner of Education



## STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

T. WILLARD FAIR, *Chairman*

### Members

PETER BOULWARE

AKSHAY DESAI

ROBERTO MARTÍNEZ

PHOEBE RAULERSON

KATHLEEN SHANAHAN

LINDA K. TAYLOR

### Contact Information:

Rebecca Pfeiffer

(850) 245-0435

[Rebecca.pfeiffer@fldoe.org](mailto:Rebecca.pfeiffer@fldoe.org)

DPS: 2009-086

May 5, 2009

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Directors of Educator Preparation Institutes  
District Staff Development

**FROM:** Dr. Frances Haithcock

**SUBJECT:** ESOL Training Delivered through Educator Preparation Institutes

The Florida Department of Education understands the need to increase the supply of highly effective teachers who have the appropriate qualifications to teach Florida's English Language Learners (ELLs). As a result, additional guidance must be provided to community colleges and universities who are preparing teachers through Educator Preparation Institutes (EPIs). We are pleased to announce that EPIs holding state approval to offer professional development may seek approval to offer English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) training in order to provide highly effective teachers to Florida's schools.

The Consent Decree of the United Latin American Citizens et. al. v. the State Board of Education, 1990, Section 1003.56, Florida Statutes, and Rule 6A-6.0907, F.A.C., specify the ESOL training requirements for personnel assigned to teach ELLs. Section IV of the Consent Decree requires that all teachers of secondary content areas and K-12 certifications other than English (grades 6-12) and Exceptional Student Education (grades K-12) must have 60 hours of inservice training in ESOL or three semester hours in the five categories specified in Rule 6A-4.0244, F.A.C.

This professional development may be offered to satisfy the requirements through one of the following ways:

- Infused through the EPI's Alternative Certification Program
- Offered as a separate professional development training program

DR. FRANCES HAITHCOCK  
CHANCELLOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

In order to offer either of these options, an institution must be approved to offer professional development. An approval process is in place for those approved institutions that wish to modify their Alternative Certification Program by infusing 60 hours of inservice training. In addition, a model has been developed by Manatee Community College that may be used by other EPIs that have an approved EPI alternative certification program based on the collaborative model. All programs interested in offering the training through their alternative certification program must submit the following to the Florida Department of Education for approval:

1. The modified curriculum including where all ESOL content is addressed and assessed.
2. A letter of support from at least one partner district indicating acceptance of the training for Master Inservice Plan Points.

If an institution is approved to offer professional development and wishes to develop training for the 60 hours of ESOL inservice training, they may do so in partnership with their service districts. Please note that, once your candidates become employed, the district remains responsible for documenting the inservice for each individual that has completed an ESOL-infused EPI alternative certification program or professional development training program through your EPI.

All EPIs wishing to infuse the ESOL training into their alternative certification programs may submit all necessary documentation to the following address:

Rebecca Pfeiffer, Educator Preparation Institute Coordinator  
Bureau of Educator Recruitment, Development and Retention  
325 West Gaines Street, Room 126  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Rebecca Pfeiffer at (850) 245-0608 or by email at [rebecca.pfeiffer@fldoe.org](mailto:rebecca.pfeiffer@fldoe.org).

FH/rp

