

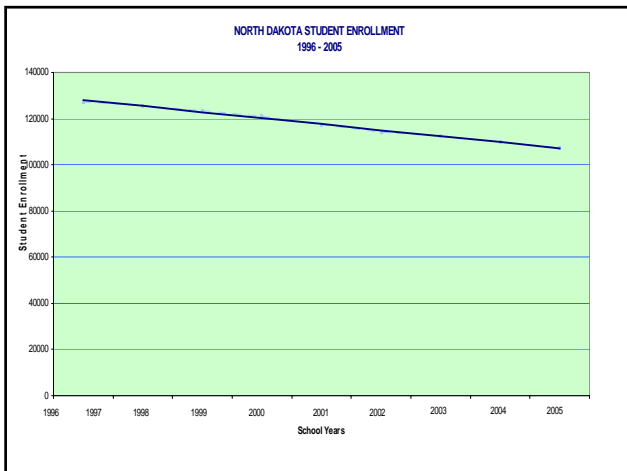
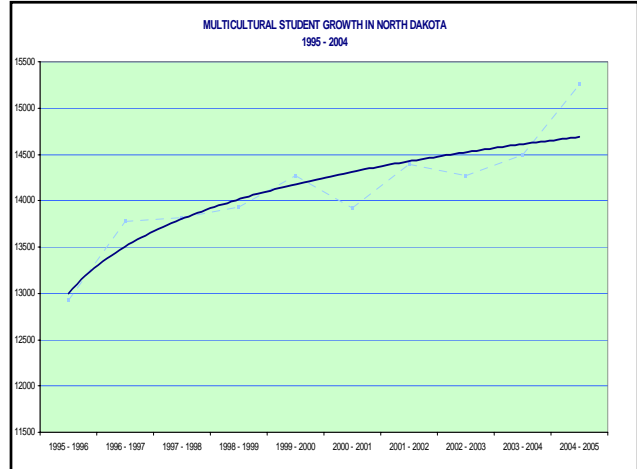
# North Dakota's New Plan for the Assessment of English Language Proficiency for Bilingual Learners

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<http://dpi.state.nd.us/bilingul/index.shtm>



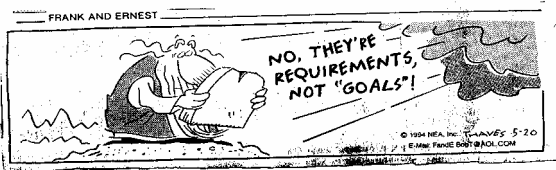
## Legislation Requiring Assessment

- Federal Legislation
  - Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964
  - Federal No Child Left Behind Act
- State Legislation
  - School districts must identify, assess, and develop plans for English language learners

## Assessment Requirements in NCLB

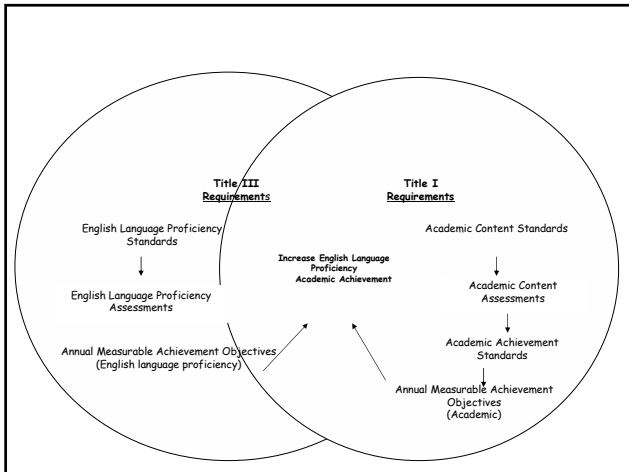
## Title I & Title III State That:

- States must include all LEP students in their academic content assessments in reading/language arts, mathematics, and science.
- Local education agencies must annually assess their LEP students (K - 12) in English language proficiency.



## Assessment Issues in NCLB

- High stakes testing
- Inclusion of LEP students in large scale achievement assessment
- Assessment of *academic* language proficiency
- Development of new standards-based English language proficiency assessments



## What is the North Dakota Plan for Assessment?

- Students who are limited in English proficiency must be assessed in:
  - Academic achievement and
  - Language proficiency
- All school districts receiving Federal funding through DPI must have a plan in place to identify, assess, and serve LEP students

(Required by Title I and Title III of No Child Left Behind)

## How are Students with Limited English Proficiency Included in Statewide Achievement Assessment?

- Identify students as LEP within the Online Reporting System (ORS)
- Provide accommodations
- LEP students new to the country may take English language proficiency test in lieu of language arts test for one year

## What System Must School Districts Have in Place to Identify and Assess LEP Students?

- Include students in statewide achievement assessment
- Identify and assess for language proficiency
- Provide instruction, based on assessment

## Federal Definition of Limited English Proficiency

### Limited English Proficient

- An Individual
  - Age 3-21
  - Enrolled or preparing to enroll in an elementary school or secondary school
  - Who was not born in the U.S. or whose native language is other than English
  - Who is Native American or Alaska Native, or a native resident of the outlying areas; and
  - Who comes from an environment where a language other than English has a significant impact on the individual's level of English language proficiency; or
  - Who is migratory, whose native language is a language other than English, and who comes from an environment where a language other than English is dominant; and

- Whose difficulties in speaking, reading, writing, or understanding the English language may be sufficient to deny the individual
  - The ability to meet the State's proficient level of achievement on State assessments described in section 1111 (b)(3);
  - The ability to successfully achieve in a classroom where the language of instruction is English; or
  - The opportunity to participate fully in society

### Are all Native American Students LEP?



Are all Hispanic  
Students  
LEP?



Are all Immigrant  
Students LEP?



No, Students' language  
proficiency needs to be  
assessed.

## State Definition of English Language Learners

(for state funding purposes)

- A student:
  - a. Must be at least five years of age but must not have reached the age of twenty-two;
  - b. Must be enrolled in a school district in this state;
  - c. Must have a primary language other than English or come from an environment in which a language other than English significantly impacts the individual's level of English language proficiency;
  - d. Must have difficulty speaking, reading, writing, and understanding English, as evidenced by a language proficiency test approved by the superintendent of public instruction and aligned to the state English language proficiency standards.

## What Does a School District Language Proficiency Assessment Plan Look like?

## School District Plan for Identification and Assessment of LEP Students

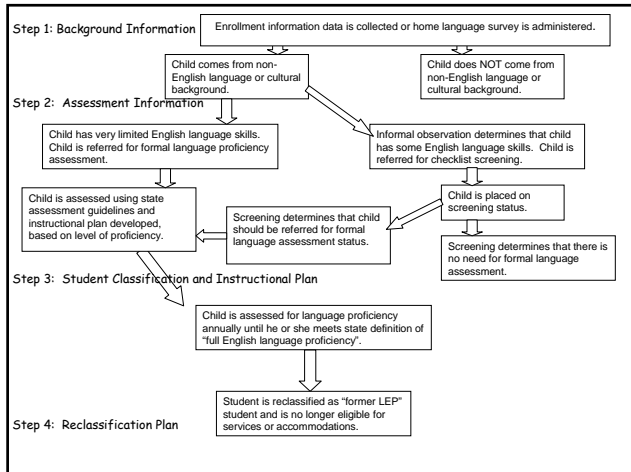
1. Collect background information on students
  - Home language survey
  - Enrollment information
2. Collect assessment information
  - English language proficiency assessment
  - Screening information

## Pre-referral Screening Checklist

Available on website

<http://dpi.state.nd.us/bilingul/tech/identification.pdf>

3. Develop instructional plan based on student assessment information
  - Level of English language proficiency
  - Other assessment information, including home language
4. Assess annually and reclassify student based on assessment information
  - Student should progress in levels of proficiency
  - Student should eventually be reclassified to fully "English language proficient"



## North Dakota Levels of English Language Proficiency

- Five main levels of proficiency
- Sub-levels for purposes of showing progress
- Available on website

<http://dpi.state.nd.us/bilingul/tech/identification.pdf>

### Reclassification is determined by:

- Expected gains as demonstrated by state approved language proficiency test
- Portfolio checklist (to be developed)
- Team decision

| North Dakota English Language Proficiency Levels |                                   |                                 |                     |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
|                                                  | English Language Proficiency Test | Portfolio/ Authentic Assessment | Team Recommendation |
| I - Pre-literate                                 |                                   |                                 |                     |
| II - Beginning                                   |                                   |                                 |                     |
| III - Intermediate                               |                                   |                                 |                     |
| IV - Transitional                                |                                   |                                 |                     |
| V - Proficient                                   |                                   |                                 |                     |

## ND Current State Approved Language Proficiency Tests

- Woodcock Munoz Language Survey
- Language Assessment Scales
- Idea Proficiency Test

## The New English Language Proficiency Test - North Dakota English Language Proficiency Assessment - NDELPA????

North Dakota has developed a new English language proficiency test to replace the current tests

- 2003 - Mountain West Assessment Consortium States awarded grant to develop new test
- States developed a set of "foundation English language proficiency standards" to use for test development
- January - April 2005 - Testing vendor completes and mails test
- 2004 - 2005 State Advisory Committee for Assessment makes recommendations for test
- ND legislature passes legislation to provide funding for test
- Montana and North Dakota have agreed to collaborate on the implementation of the test

## Recommendations of Advisory Committee - March 2005

- The new English Language Proficiency test shall be administered in the spring for the coming year.
- DPI should ask for bids from a testing company to do scoring for the test
- The development of an identification/placement test should be considered in the future
- DPI should work with other states and continue to collaborate on test development and implementation
- DPI should prioritize the completion of ND English Language Proficiency Standards
- HB 1374 should be amended to as follows:
  - 10 Appoint a state advisory committee to assist with the
  - 11 establishment and administration of English Language
  - 12 Programs and the State English Language Proficiency
  - 13 Assessment.

## ND State Legislation

- HB 1374 passed House and Senate!
- <http://www.state.nd.us/lr/assembly/59-2005/bill-text/FBCPO200.pdf>
  - Establishes a state advisory committee
  - Mandates state standards and assessments
  - Mandates services for eligible students
  - Requires plans of instruction
- Funding for English Language Learners???
  - Currently in "conference committee" HB 1013
  - \$275,000/biennium for English language proficiency assessment
  - If money is left over at the end of the biennium, schools will get some more funding for English language learners
  - No increase in present state funds

## Discussion and Question & Answer