

## **Transitional Bilingual Instruction**

The following procedures have been instituted for purposes of implementing a transitional bilingual instruction program.

In those cases in which the use of instruction in the student's primary language is not feasible, transitional bilingual instruction may be limited to English as a second language designated to enable the student to achieve competency in English.

At the time of registration at a school, parents of students shall be asked to identify the principal language that is spoken in the home. Students from limited-English-speaking homes will be assessed by a staff member to determine the English proficiency level of the student. If the interview reveals that the student speaks little or no English, he/she will be declared eligible for the transitional bilingual instruction. When the student shows limited English-speaking skills, the school shall administer an approved English proficiency test (e.g., Language Assessment Scales). If the score on such test falls at "3" or below the student shall be eligible to receive transitional bilingual instruction.

## **Continued Eligibility**

Each limited-English-speaking student shall be reassessed with a standardized reading and language arts test each year to determine if he/she is eligible to receive transitional bilingual instruction. Any student who scores above the 35th percentile will be exited from the program. No student shall continue to be entitled to a transitional bilingual or alternative instructional program after the student has received instruction in a transitional bilingual or alternative instructional program conducted within any one or more school districts for a period of three school years (i.e., 540 school days or portions thereof): Provided, That each such student who is unable to demonstrate an improvement in English language skills that is sufficient to overcome the student's learning impairment (i.e., unable to score above the 35th percentile on an approved test) shall continue to be entitled to an approved bilingual instruction or alternative instructional program.