

Delayed OELPA Test Results and Guidance on ELL Student Placement for School Year 2016-2017

Due to the *Standard-Setting* process required for the first year of testing, the Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment (OELPA) spring 2016 test results will not be available before the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year. The OELPA *Standard Setting* will occur July 19-22. At this time, there is not a definite date for the release of the spring 2016 test results.

Therefore, **for this year only**, the Ohio Department of Education provides the following guidance to assist Ohio schools and community schools in the determination of student program placement, staff assignments and exiting students out of the English language learner program in the absence of OELPA test results

1. For English language learners performing on the 2014-2015 Ohio Test of English Language Acquisition (OTELA) tests at the **composite levels 1, 2 or 3**, continue to provide them the same levels of services and staff assignments of the previous year until the fall at which time you may make adjustments as necessary.
2. For English language learners performing at the **composite score of 4** on the 2014-2015 OTELA, continue to provide support services based on need;
3. District staff may discontinue ELL supports and services for some students based on classroom performance and other measures;
4. Only **reclassify** eligible English language learners out of the English as a second language program for school year 2015-2016 when the revised **Ohio ELL exit criteria** is published and OELPA test scores become available in the fall.

Beginning in school year 2016-2017, OELPA test results will be available to Ohio school districts and community schools in time for making ELL student placement decisions before the start of the next school year. OELPA's test window for the coming school year is Feb. 6 through March 31, 2017. Spring 2017 test results are scheduled for **May 15, 2017**.

Please feel free to contact the Lau Resource Center at (614) 466-4109 or the Office of Curriculum and Assessment at (614) 466-1317 if you need further clarification.