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RE: Title III
Two year monitoring period of former English Language Learners

A requirement of *NCLB Title III: Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students* is to monitor transitioned (exited) students' academic achievement and progress for a period of two years after exit from an ESL/bilingual program. Specifically the law states:

Section 3121(a)(4) a description of the progress made by children in meeting challenging State academic content and student academic achievement standards for each of the 2 years after such children are no longer receiving services under this part.

To ensure consistency in the process in which former ELLs are monitored for the two year period after exit, the Pennsylvania Department of Education is providing report forms as guidance for monitoring student academic achievement and progress after exit.

The primary purpose of the report forms is to monitor a former ELL's academic achievement after exit and to ensure that he/she is continuing to progress and be successful without encountering difficulty as a result of English language skills. The two forms include (1) an elementary and (2) a middle/secondary report. Monitoring of student progress shall begin as soon as the student exits an ESL/bilingual program. For students who exit a program at the end of the school year, monitoring begins the following school

year. Please note that multiple criteria such as grades, local and state assessment scores, work samples, and other relevant academic achievement records must be considered. To that end, the report form includes additional space for LEAs to document additional multiple criteria considered in monitoring former ELL academic achievement and progress.

During the two year monitoring period, any student encountering academic difficulty that is determined to be a result of English language skills may be reclassified and placed back into an ESL/bilingual education program if needed. Content and ESL teacher input is critical in the process. The completed report form is evaluated by an ESL professional in collaboration with other administrators and educators and must be maintained in the student record folder.

An important element that must be considered is communication with parents. Parents must be notified of the student's progress and any evaluation to reclassify the student into an ESL/bilingual program if monitoring of student academic achievement and progress identifies the need for continued ESL/bilingual instruction.

Questions regarding the report forms or the required two year monitoring period under NCLB Title III may be directed to the ESL program staff team listed below.

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