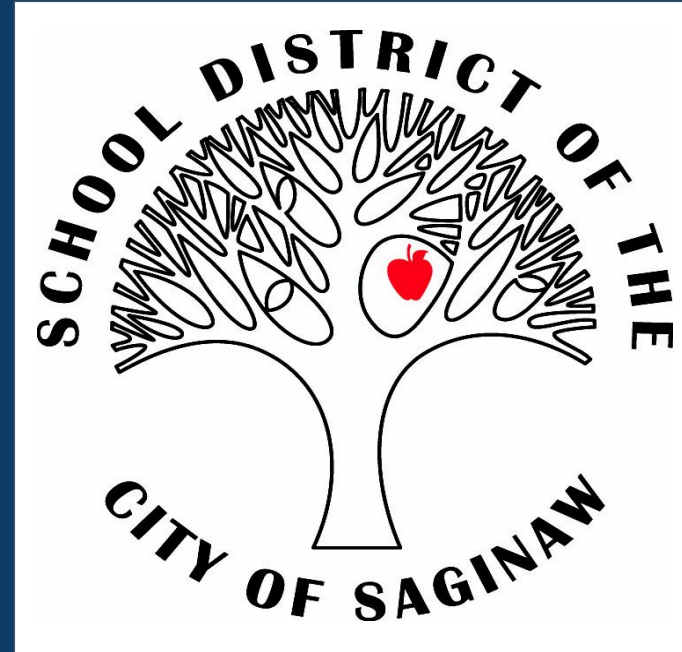


Saginaw Public Schools English Learner/ Multilingual Learner Programming

English Learner services help students access learning today while building the multilingual strengths our community needs tomorrow.



Our purpose

Every learner. Every voice. A stronger Saginaw.

English Learner services are not an “extra.” They are the access point that allows multilingual students to participate meaningfully in grade-level learning while developing academic English.



Belonging



Opportunity



Achievement



Global citizenship

Source: MDE Title III / English Learner program guidance.

Why English Learner Services Matter

Asset-Based Multilingual Education

EL/Multilingual services provide the foundational framework for educational civil rights, academic equity, and cultural validation across the Saginaw community.

Multilingualism is an invaluable cognitive and professional asset. Dedicated EL instruction ensures students achieve academic grade-level proficiency in English while preserving and honoring home language heritage.

Providing robust EL supports lowers dropout rates, increases graduation metrics, and unlocks higher education pathways for all Saginaw Public School District students.

Source: MDE teacher preparation and placement guidance; WIDA framework-aligned practice.



1

Language objectives

Make the language of the content visible.

2

Scaffolds

Adjust access without lowering intellectual demand.

3

Data

Interpret WIDA proficiency by domain and plan next steps.

4

Collaboration

Help content teachers integrate language development.

5

Advocacy

Protect access, belonging, and appropriate placement.

Michigan EL/ML Requirements: The Essential Pathway

Identification → Services → Annual Measurement → Exit

1 Identify

- State-required Home Language Survey at enrollment
- WIDA Screener when HLS indicates possible EL status
- New enrollees: screening timelines apply

2 Serve

- Provide an appropriate language assistance / ELD program
- Ensure meaningful and equal access to grade-level instruction
- Communicate with families in an understandable manner

3 Measure & improve

- Annual WIDA ACCESS / Alternate ACCESS for identified ELs
- Monitor English language development and academic access
- Use Michigan entrance/exit protocol and program evaluation guidance

Source: Michigan Department of Education: WIDA Assessments; Title III EL Program Supports; Entrance & Exit Protocol (updated Sept. 8, 2026).

MDE Collaborative & State Alignment



MDE Collaborative

SPSD staff regularly participate in MDE EL Collaborative networking sessions to implement state-level best practices and instructional strategy updates.



Title III & Section 41 (22b)

Leveraging state Section 41 Bilingual Grants and Title III Federal Funding to secure high-quality supplementary instructional materials and family resources.



WIDA Standards Integration

Aligning district curriculum to the 2020 WIDA ELD Standards Framework, emphasizing key language uses: Narrate, Inform, Explain, and Argue.

Educator Roles: General Ed vs. EL/ML Specialists



General Classroom Teacher

Tier 1 Core Instruction: Delivers standards-based content (Math, Science, ELA, Social Studies) to all students.

Universal Scaffolding: Integrates visual aids, graphic organizers, and sentence frames into general lessons.

Collaborative Tiering: Partners with EL specialists to accommodate assignments and monitor classroom progress.

EL & Bilingual Endorsed Teacher

Specialized Instruction (NS / YBB): Delivers direct targeted English language development aligned to WIDA ELD standards.

Language Acquisition Mastery: Certified experts in linguistics, syntax acquisition, and cross-cultural pedagogy.

Compliance & Advocacy: Manages Individualized Language Plans (ILPs), accommodations, and bilingual assessments.

MDE EL collaborative learning

Professional learning that turns state guidance into stronger local practice.

**LEARN
SHARE
COLLABORATE
APPLY**

MDE maintains an EL Professional Learning Calendar and statewide EL program supports.

English Learner/Multilingual Learner Program Dissemination

- EL/ML Coach presents at the New Teacher Academy
- EL/ML Coach and State & Federal Programs Director attends the MDE EL/ML Collaborative monthly trainings: 1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 3.0+
- EL/ML Coach and State & Federal Programs Director attend EL Statewide Update Webinars
- EL/ML Coach and EL/ML Teachers attend EL/ML conferences, including MABE, Michigan Multilingual Summit, TESOL, and Special Populations Conference
- EL/ML Coach provides professional development to staff

Source: MDE Title III page links an EL Professional Learning Calendar (updated Sept. 3, 2025 on the current page).

English Learner **COLLABORATIVES & NETWORKS**

➞ 2026-2027

➞ VIRTUAL COLLABORATION

EL COORDINATORS

New EL Coordinator's Collaborative 1.0

EL COORDINATORS

New EL Coordinator's Collaborative 2.0

EL COORDINATORS

EL Coordinators Collaborative 3.0

ALL FOLKS

Newcomer Educator Network

EL COACHES

English Learner Coaching Collaborative

EL TEACHERS

MDE EL Teacher Network

DUAL LANGUAGE LEADERS

Dual Language Collaborative

IHE FOLKS

Institutes of Higher Education Collaborative

EL PROGRAM EVALUATION

Book Study with Dr. Marie Heath

EL PROGRAM EVALUATION

Communities of Practice

Don't
forget to
buy the
book

CLICK THE LINKS OR SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE & REGISTER



M TESOL

Professional Learning Opportunities 2026 - 2027

WIDA Professional Learning on the WIDA Secure Portal

22 on demand webinars

- Exploring WIDA ACCESS for Kindergarten
- Exploring WIDA ACCESS Online 1-12
- Introduction to the Marco DALE
- Introduction to the WIDA English Language Development Standards Framework
- Understanding WIDA Alternate ACCESS Score Reports 2026
- Understanding WIDA Alternate ACCESS Score Reports 2027
- WIDA ACCESS Score Reports for Instruction 2026
- WIDA ACCESS Score Reports for Instruction 2027
- WIDA Standards for Bilingual Educators
- WIDA Español: Desarrollando el español: Las expectativas del lenguaje
- Developing Language for Learning in Mathematics
- Engaging Multilingual Learners in Science: Making Sense of Phenomena
- WIDA Español: Evaluaciones del desarrollo del lenguaje a nivel de salón - Classroom assessment for language development
- Exploring the WIDA PreK-3 Essential Actions
- Let's Play! Multilingual Children's Joyful Learning in PreK-3
- Making Language Visible in the Classroom
- Newcomers: Promoting Success through Strengthening Practice
- Reading Comprehension Across Content Areas with Multilingual Learners
- Reframing Education for Long-term English Learners
- Teaching Multilingual Learners Social Studies through Multiple Perspectives
- Supporting Multilingual Learners With Disabilities in Language and Communication (New)
- The WIDA ELD Standards Framework: A Collaborative Approach



portal.wida.us



SCECHs available!
Bit.ly/WIDAeLearning

Professional Learning Opportunities 2026 - 2027

Project Momentum (NPD Grant)



Resource Library

Free resources for:

- Student Assessment
- Program & Policy Development
- Professional Learning
- Instructional Planning
- Family Engagement Culturally
- Responsive Practice



Free, Online CEU Courses

- **20** courses available
- Self-paced, online
- **Facilitator guides** included



Earn SCECHs

All courses available for SCECHs through MDE:
[Bit.ly/WIDAeLearning](https://bit.ly/WIDAeLearning)

Learn more!



- Applying the WIDA ELD Standards Framework to Content Areas
- Assessing and Supporting Language Development with WIDA Tools
- Assessment Accommodations for Multilingual Learners
- Collaboration & Co-Teaching for Multilingual Learners
- Culturally Responsive Communication in the Classroom
- Culturally Responsive School, Family, and Community Partnerships
- Effective Lesson Planning with Language and Content Objectives
- Evidence-Based Literacy for Multilingual Learners
- Genre-Based Pedagogy in the Elementary Writing Classroom
- Incorporating Linguistic Supports as an Education Support Professional
- Language & Literacy for Experienced (Long-term) Multilingual Learners
- Language & Literacy for Recently Arrived English Learners & SLIFE
- Language Access for Multilingual Families
- Learning in a Sociocultural Context
- Multilingual Development
- Multilingual Learners in Early Childhood Education
- Scaffolding Content Lessons for Multilingual Learners
- Supporting Academic Language in the Classroom
- Understanding WIDA Proficiency Levels
- Who are Multilingual Learners in U.S. Schools?

[Link to flyer for sharing](#)



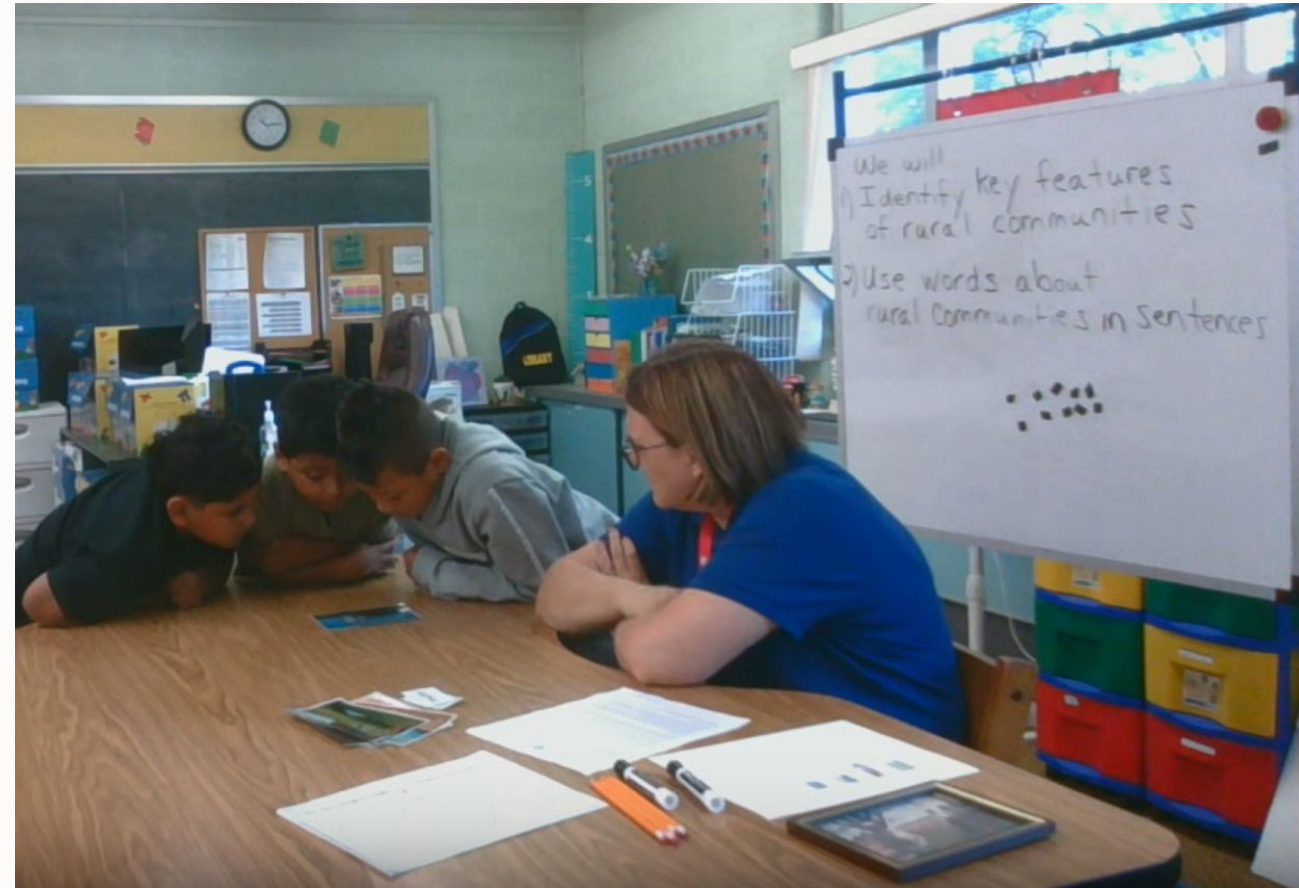
SPSD EL/ML Services in Action

Small Group & Targeted Instruction

In Saginaw Public Schools, EL specialists deliver intensive small group instruction tailored to specific WIDA proficiency bands, allowing students to build confidence in oral and written expression.

Culturally Responsive Classrooms

SPSD classrooms blend language learning with cultural validation, fostering warm environments where students feel safe taking academic risks and expressing their heritage.



Student and Family Languages of SPSD EL/ML Learners

Amharic	Gujarati	Malayalam	Spanish
Arabic	Hindi	Mandarin	Swahili
Bangla/ Bengali	Hmong	Marathi	Tagalog
Cantonese	Italian	Marshallese	Tamil
Chinese	Kannada	Nepali	Telugu
Chuukese	Kinyarwanda	Pohnpeian	Urdu
Filipino	Kirundi	Portuguese	Vietnamese
French	Korean	Punjabi	Wolof
German	Laotian	Russian	Yoruban

Newcomers

A newcomer may be new to U.S. schools, but never new to learning.



Priorities for a strong newcomer response

- Rapid, compliant identification and placement
- Explicit English language development
- Access to grade-level content with scaffolds
- Orientation to school routines and culture
- Attention to interrupted or limited formal education
- Family communication and community connections

Source: MDE ESL & Bilingual Placement Guide (2024); Michigan Guide to the WIDA Screener.

Current District Program Updates

Student reach

Fluid number:
Currently 135
WIDA 25-26: 174

Service model

Small-group ELD • co-teaching •
push-in/pull-out • newcomer supports

Family partnership

interpretation/translation • family
communication • enrollment support

Progress

- Increased Mean Proficiency Level from 2024-2025 to 2025-2026
- Surpassed the State mean for proficiency

The Michigan Seal of Biliteracy



State Recognition Award: The Michigan Seal of Biliteracy (MI-SoBL) honors high school graduates who demonstrate high proficiency in English and at least one additional world language.



Rigorous Criteria: Students must satisfy all Michigan ELA graduation requirements and achieve *Intermediate High* proficiency on approved world language assessments (e.g., AAPPL or STAMP), or provide transcripts showing that academic achievement prior to 7th grade was outside of the U.S.



Distinguished Honor: Appears on high school diplomas and official transcripts, providing graduates a competitive edge in university admissions and global career opportunities.



Valuing Heritage Languages: Validates both traditional world language study and native/heritage languages spoken in the Saginaw community.

EL Teacher Impact on Biliteracy Awards



Advocacy, Guidance & Facilitation

The EL teacher is the essential bridge connecting multilingual students to the Michigan Seal of Biliteracy honor. Without proactive EL teacher sponsorship, many qualified students remain unaware of the credential. EL teachers identify eligible heritage and non-native speakers early, navigate multi-step MDE application requirements, coordinate STAMP/AAPPL testing sessions, and advocate for district fee coverage.

New for 2026-2027

- Designated areas for EL/ML supplies in all buildings
- Additional EL/ML instructional support materials for teacher of record
- Additional language acquisition support materials for home and school
- Digital Reading Scan Pens
- New iPads for easier program installation and access: 5 per elementary building and 10 for secondary instruction
- EL Team Toolkits
- More to come!

**Different languages.
Shared opportunity.
One Saginaw.**

Thank you

