

What is California's English Learner Roadmap?

The English Learner Roadmap policy sets a vision for educating English learners in early childhood through 12th grade and beyond, with accompanying examples and tools to help make that vision a reality. Adopted in 2017, it makes clear that everyone involved in our schools has a responsibility to educate English learners well while respecting and valuing their identities, languages, and cultures.

What the Roadmap Is *Not*

The Roadmap is not a law that tells schools and districts what to do or that spells out rights for English learners and their families. However, those laws and rights do exist. For that information, see The Education Trust—West's other document, **English Learners Have Rights! An Advocacy Guide for Parents and Other Community Stakeholders**.

California's Vision of Success for English Learners

"English learners fully and meaningfully access and participate in a 21st century education from early childhood through grade twelve that results in their attaining high levels of English proficiency, mastery of grade level standards, and opportunities to develop proficiency in multiple languages."

— English Learner Roadmap Policy, California Department of Education

Four Principles

The Roadmap is built around four principles meant to guide practices, services, relationships, and approaches to teaching and learning:

1

Assets-Oriented and Needs-Responsive Schools:

Schools respond to English learners' strengths, needs, and identities.

2

Intellectual Quality of Instruction and Meaningful Access:

English learners have meaningful access to the full curriculum and quality instruction in English and other languages.

3

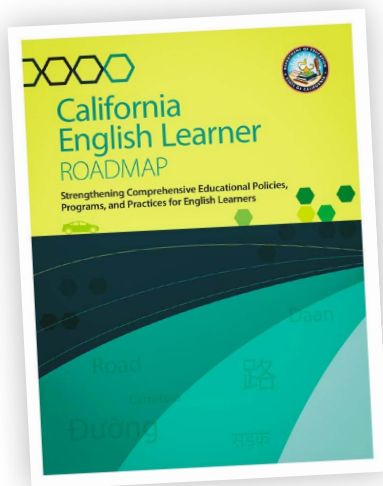
System Conditions that Support Effectiveness:

Each level of the school system supports programs and teachers to meet English learners' needs.

4

Alignment and Articulation Within and Across Systems:

Instruction and support from preschool through college are coordinated to prepare students for a multilingual, diverse, 21st century world.



What You Can Do To Make the Roadmap A Reality

Meet with teachers and administrators, and attend school board, District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC), English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC), School Site Council, and faculty team meetings to:

1. Advocate for local policies and practices aligned to the English Learner Roadmap, such as starting or expanding bilingual programs, creating Specially Designed Academic Instruction in English (SDAIE) sections or other strategies in the classroom to help English learners access the curriculum, and ensuring English learners are enrolled in A-G courses. Sample resolutions are available from [Californians Together](#).
2. Include the Roadmap in your Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) by making sure that LCAP actions and services for English learners are aligned with the Roadmap.
3. Advocate for practices and programs designed to improve instruction and services for ELs using the [Roadmap Policy and related tools](#).
4. Have conversations using our related resource, **10 Questions to Ask Your School or District about California's English Learner Roadmap**.



The Education Trust—West