

Have questions?

Not sure how to choose
the right instructional program
for your student?

Call the ELA Hotline
at 720-423-8155.

Our bilingual staff are available
to hear your questions and
connect you with answers.

For interpretation services,
call 720-423-8152.

For translation services,
call 720-423-8161.



English Language
English Language
Learning Choices
Learning Choices
ESL School



Discover a World of Opportunity™

Welcome to DPS and ELA

Welcome to Denver Public Schools (DPS) and the English Language Acquisition (ELA) Department. Some children come to DPS knowing another language other than English. These students will learn English in DPS.

We would like to share information about our English Language Acquisition (ELA) Program with you. It will help you choose how your student will learn English. Your student will begin to learn English on the first day of school.

Parental Choice

You will choose the ELA Program that is best for your child. You will be asked to complete a Parent Permission Form. This form will let us know which type of classroom you want for your student. At registration, parents have the following two ELA options to choose from.



At this ESL school, you can choose **Option 2—Supported English Instruction.**

Option 2: ELA-E classrooms for students who speak many different languages, including Spanish, and who want to learn English—While your student learns English, he or she will be taught reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies in English. Teachers have special training to help students become fluent in English.

Another option is available. However, this ESL school **does not** offer **Option 1—Transitional Native Spanish and English Instruction (TNLI).*** If you want your child to receive Spanish instruction, you have the option of choosing the nearest DPS school offering ELA-S instruction, if you provide your own transportation.

Option 1: ELA-S classrooms for Spanish-speaking students—While your child learns English, he or she will receive English Language Development (ELD) and be taught some subjects in Spanish (e.g., reading, math, science, and/or social studies). As your child learns more English, she or he will begin to take fewer subjects in Spanish and more subjects in English until she or he is taking all English-speaking subjects. Teachers can communicate with you in Spanish and are specially trained to teach your student English.

* In elementary schools where 60 or more ELLs who speak Spanish are enrolled, the district shall provide TNLI program services.

We hope this information will help you select the best educational program for your child. People in the school office are available to answer your questions. Thank you for completing your Parent Permission Form.

