

I. PURPOSE

In order to determine which students qualify for Alternative Language Services under IDEA, Athlos Academy of Utah shall implement the following policy to establish an efficient system that quickly identifies students in need.

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. Alternative Language Services (ALS): Language services designed to meet the education needs of all language minority students so that students are able to participate effectively in the regular school day.
- B. IDEA: The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 1975 ensures services to children with qualifying disabilities.
- C. Home Language Survey: A series of questions as part of student registration that determines whether or not a student is eligible for English Language programs and services.

III. POLICY

- A. Athlos Academy of Utah shall implement procedures consistent with federal and state special education rules that ensure English Language Learners (ELL) and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) students are not misidentified as students with disabilities due to their inability to speak and/or understand English.
- B. In order to identify students who qualify for language services the following tasks shall be completed:
 - 1. Assess the students' language proficiency in English and other languages.
 - a. Issue the Home Language Survey to identify alternative languages;
 - b. Notify the parent/guardian(s) of the Home Language Survey results and whether further assessment is required;
 - c. All written notices and communications are to be provided in the preferred language of the parent/guardian(s) and will comply with Utah R277-716-4(7) and (8).
 - 2. Coordination will then take place between the language acquisition services and special education and related services to ensure that the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) is implemented as written.

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3. Accurate information regarding students' language proficiency in English and other language(s) must be considered in evaluating assessment results.
- C. Care shall be taken to ensure that ELL/LEP students are not misidentified as students with disabilities due to their inability to speak and understand English.
1. Assessments for IDEA eligibility determination will be conducted in the students' native language when appropriate.
- D. A Utah educator assigned to provide instruction in a language acquisition instructional program shall comply with the State ESL Endorsement requirements provided in Rule R277-520.

Legal References:

[Utah Admin R277-716](#)
[IDEA](#)

Related Documents:

[Home Language Survey](#)