



## Who is a Multilingual Learner?

A Multilingual Learner (MLL) is any student enrolled in New Haven Public Schools, in grades K-12, whose dominant language is other than English, and whose proficiency in English is not sufficient to assure “equal educational opportunity” in the regular school program. In other words, a Multilingual Learner is a student who needs additional supports in order to understand and fully participate in classes conducted in English.

New Haven Public Schools will determine if your child qualifies as a Multilingual Learner, per federal law, in order to provide them with the necessary additional supports.



# Multilingual Learner Programming

## Biliteracy-Dual Language Program - Spanish/English

This is an instructional program for both English dominant and Spanish dominant students who are placed in the same classroom. Ideally, there is 50/50 balance between Spanish speakers and English speakers. Students receive daily literacy and content instruction in both languages from two teachers. The goal of biliteracy instruction is for students to be biliterate and bicultural. Students develop the ability to speak, read, listen, and write proficiently in both languages. This program is offered at the following schools: *Family Academy of Multilingual Exploration, Fair Haven K-8* and *John C Daniels*.

## Biliteracy-Side by Side Model

This is an instructional program for Spanish dominant students. Students receive daily literacy and content instruction in English and in Spanish from two teachers. The goal of biliteracy instruction is for students to be biliterate and bicultural. Students develop the ability to speak, read, listen, and write proficiently in both languages. This program is offered at the following schools: *Clinton Avenue School, Hill Central School, John Martinez School, Barak Obama School, and Truman School*.

## English as a Second Language

This program provides English language support for students who speak a language other than English. Multilingual learner students are placed in a mainstream classroom in which the language of instruction is English. These students receive English language support through small group instruction from an English as second language teacher or tutor. Teachers may take small groups within the classroom or pull students out for instruction. Instruction focuses on English language acquisition and development of the four language domains: speaking, listening, reading and writing. This program is offered in *all New Haven Public Schools* except *John C. Daniels* and *Family Academy of Multilingual Explorers*.

## Native Language Support

Students receive small group instruction in their native language to help them access grade level content. (Barnard, Hooker, Fair Haven, Clemente, East Rock and all the bilingually mandated schools)

## Sheltered Content Instruction Methods

Content area classes provided to middle and high school Multilingual Learners in which grade level content is taught using sheltered strategies that support language and content development. The use of these strategies allows MLs to access grade level content while providing them with opportunities for language development.



## Assessing the Progress of Multilingual Learners

Multilingual learners are administered the Language Assessment Scales (LAS) Links (once per year) until they meet the criteria to exit the program. Teachers use the results to adjust instruction. Administrators use results to determine students’ progress and identify students who are ready to exit MLL supports and/or transition to different services. Multilingual Learners are also required to take all state assessments such as the Smarter Balanced Assessment, PSAT, SAT, and other academic measures. They are eligible to receive additional testing supports, such as extra time or a word-to-word dictionary.

## The Seal of Biliteracy Award



Your child may qualify for the Connecticut “Seal of Biliteracy” award upon graduation. The Seal of Biliteracy indicates that a student is proficient in

English and at least one more language. Multilingual

Learners who maintain their native/heritage language while adding English may wish to test for this award.

## Highlight on...

### The Newcomer Classroom at Fair Haven K-8 School

A program for newly arrived (10 months or less) non-English speakers with or without any prior schooling. Students receive intensive English language and literacy instruction in a multi-grade classroom which focuses on the acceleration of academic skills, language acquisition, and acculturation. Upon meeting the exit criteria, students will be placed in a mainstream classroom with continued ESL support.



For a full list of the programs offered at each school, go here:

<http://www.nhps.net/ell>



## Highlight on...

### The International Academy at Wilbur Cross High School

The International Academy at Wilbur Cross is a program for *all* students with a rigorous, project-based learning, curriculum emphasizing independent curiosity of learning and personal growth within a safe, collaborative community.

*Newcomer students* additionally receive sheltered content instruction by trained regular education and ESOL teachers. In addition, Newcomer students enroll in a writing seminar class to support language acquisition. Students with limited previous education participate in intensive literacy and math intervention.



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To learn more about English Learners in Connecticut, go here:  
<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/English-Learners/English-Learners>

# Multilingual Learner Services