

In the last few years, the nation has felt the impact of the immigration of non-English speaking families. Florida ranks among the top four states in the nation (along with California, Texas, and New York) in immigrant and refugee populations. Recent demographics show an ever increasing group of culturally and linguistically diverse students entering into the Duval County Public School System. At one point, 91 different language groups were represented in the District. As a result of this increase and recent legislation, the State and the District have made a commitment to provide courses for school personnel which will enable schools to meet the needs of English Language Learners.

ESOL is an acronym meaning English for Speakers of Other Languages, i.e. ESOL program and ESOL teacher. **ELL refers to English Language Learner.**

In August of 1990, the Florida Legislature passed legislation to comply with a Federal Court order requiring all personnel working with an ELL to receive ESOL courses aligned with their job assignment.

The in-service points may be used toward renewal of a

Teachers of the following ESOL classes are required to be highly qualified and have appropriate ESOL, English, and/or Foreign Language certification and/or credit to be in compliance. Completion of one 60-point workshop is not enough. A total of 120 points, 6 semester hours of college credit, an exam, or a combination of options may be required along with an application and fee to add a subject(s). Highly Qualified and Certification out of field notices will explain the specifics for teachers of these courses. The courses are:

5010010 | English for Speakers of

Other Languages

1002000,/10/20 | M/J Language Arts 1, 2, and 3 through ESOL; 1002180/81 M/J Developmental Language Arts Through ESOL (MC and Reading).