

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
July 14, 2016

OFFICE OF STUDENT ASSESSMENT

10. Action: Establish English Language Proficiency Test (ELPT) score requirements for English Learners (EL) to exit EL status [Goals 1, 2, 3, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]

Background Information: The *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*, which reauthorizes the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)*, requires that states establish and implement standardized English Learner entrance and exit procedures. The Office of Student Assessment and Office of Elementary Education and Reading recommends the following proficiency levels be met before students exit EL status: Overall 4-5 and Reading 4-5 and Writing 4-5, and at least Level 3 or higher on the ELA on the Mississippi Assessment Program (MAP).

The reasoning in outlining a specific exit score for both reading and writing is that language development in reading and writing often lags development in the areas of listening and speaking, and research consistently shows that reading and writing proficiency correlate with higher levels of academic success. The goal is to ensure that EL students who still need support receive those services and that others are exited appropriately.

Under *ESSA*, students must be monitored for four (4) years after exiting EL status. If the student begins to demonstrate difficulty in their English only class, then the Student Evaluation Team (SET) will consider if that student should be offered EL services again or begin an intensive Response to Intervention (RTI) process.

This item references Goals 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the *Mississippi Board of Education 2016-2020 Strategic Plan*.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached



LAS LINKS
English Language Proficiency Test (ELPT)

Exit Score Criteria

During the spring 2016 administration of LAS Links, 10,854 students were tested. It was determined that three reporting categories: overall proficiency, reading proficiency, and writing proficiency, should serve as the determinants for exit from EL programs. The following lists the number of students that would exit based on the 2015-2016 MS LAS Links scores in the three reporting categories at different score variations.

Mississippi 2015-2016 LAS Link Results

Overall Proficiency Level 4-5

AND

Reading Proficiency Level 4-5

AND

Writing Proficiency Level 4-5

1,671 students

(15%)

Overall Proficiency Level 4-5

AND

Reading Proficiency Level 4-5

AND

Writing Proficiency Level 3-5

2,132 students

(20%)

Overall Proficiency Level 4-5

AND

Reading Proficiency Level 3-5

AND

Writing Proficiency Level 3-5

2,772 students

(26%)