

Chapter PI 13

BILINGUAL – BICULTURAL PROGRAMS

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Note: Chapter PI 13 as it existed on May 31, 1985 was repealed and a new chapter PI 13 was created effective June 1, 1985.

PI 13.01 Applicability and purpose. This chapter establishes procedures for the identification, assessment, and classification of limited–English speaking pupils. School districts that establish bilingual–bicultural programs are eligible for reimbursement under ss. 115.97 (1) and 115.995, Stats.

History: Cr. Register, May, 1985, No. 353, eff. 6–1–85.

PI 13.02 Definitions. In this chapter:

(1) “Bilingual–bicultural program” means a program designed to improve the comprehension and the speaking, reading and writing ability of a limited–English speaking pupil in the English language, so that the pupil will be able to perform ordinary classwork in English. A bilingual–bicultural program may be either a basic program, as defined under s. 115.955 (1), 1985 Stats., or an expanded program, as defined under s. 115.955 (8), 1985 Stats.

(2) “Bilingual counselor’s aide” means a person who is employed to assist a counselor and who:

(a) Understands, speaks, reads, and writes English and the language of the group with whom the bilingual counselor’s aide will be working;

(b) Has a high school diploma or its equivalent, and

(c) Knows the culture of the group with whom the bilingual counselor’s aide will be working.

(3) “Bilingual teacher’s aide” means a person who is employed to assist a teacher and who:

(a) Understands, speaks, reads, and writes English and the language of the group with whom the bilingual teacher’s aide will be working;

(b) Has a high school diploma or its equivalent, and

(c) Knows the culture of the group with whom the bilingual teacher’s aide will be working.

(4) “Department” means the department of public instruction.

(5) “Limited–English speaking pupil” means a pupil as defined in s. 115.955 (7), Stats., who as a result of limited–English speaking ability performs below expected grade level in required academic courses which are taught in English and who meets the criteria set forth under s. PI 13.03.

(6) “State superintendent” means the state superintendent of public instruction for the state of Wisconsin.

History: Cr. Register, May, 1985, No. 353, eff. 6–1–85; correction in (1) made under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 7, Register, June, 1999, No. 522.

PI 13.03 Identification of limited–English speaking pupils.

(1) The school board shall identify, according to s. 115.96 (1), Stats., the pupils within their schools:

(a) Who speak a non–English language,

(b) Whose families use a non–English language, or

(c) In whose daily non–school surroundings a non–English language is used.

(2) The school board shall assess each pupil identified under sub. (1) to determine eligibility for bilingual–bicultural programming. The school board shall ensure that:

(a) Each pupil is assessed for eligibility with the assistance of qualified personnel of the same linguistic background as the pupil.

(b) The assessment procedures used include documentation data such as:

1. Reading and mathematics skill levels;

2. Other course grades which, in relation to the pupil’s grade level, indicate that lack of progress is due to limited–English language skills;

3. Information on everyday classroom performance;

4. Information on language use in the home.

(3) The school board shall classify each pupil assessed under sub. (2) for programming purposes pursuant to s. 115.96 (1), Stats., and the following levels of proficiency:

(a) Does not understand or speak English;

(b) Understands simple sentences in English, but uses only isolated words or expressions in English;

(c) Speaks English with difficulty, converses in English with help, understands at least parts of lessons and follows simple directions given in English;

(d) Understands, speaks, reads, and writes English with some degree of hesitancy which may be due to language interference because of a foreign language or non–proficient English spoken at home; or

(e) Understands and speaks English well, but needs assistance in reading and writing in English to achieve at a level appropriate for his or her age or grade.

History: Cr. Register, May, 1985, No. 353, eff. 6–1–85.

PI 13.04 Programming provided for limited–English speaking pupils. (1) Each pupil participating in a bilingual–bicultural program shall be provided with a program appropriate for his or her needs.

(2) The school district may include content and activities in the bilingual–bicultural program that reflect the cultural background of the limited–English speaking pupils and may include instruction intended to improve the skills of the pupils in the use of their native language for the purpose of enabling them to understand the instruction in reading, writing and speaking the English language and other subjects.

(3) Pupils enrolled in bilingual–bicultural education programs shall have full access to supportive services, such as language development, and speech therapy, available to other pupils in the school district.

Note: School districts which are not required to establish bilingual–bicultural programs under s. 115.97 (2) to (4), Stats., are reminded they still must comply with applicable federal laws and regulations which prohibit any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance from discriminating against any person because of race, color, or national origin. See 34 CFR Part 100.

History: Cr. Register, May, 1985, No. 353, eff. 6–1–85.

PI 13.05 Program approved by state superintendent. (1) Each school district establishing a bilingual–bicultural program shall provide a written description of the program which

shall include the identification and assessment process, implementation plans, staffing, length of the school day to be allotted to the bilingual-bicultural education program, materials to be used and local means of evaluating the program.

(2) Each school district's proposed program shall be reviewed and approved by the state superintendent prior to the implementation of the local program. A proposed program will be approved if it adequately meets the requirements of sub. (1).

History: Cr. Register, May, 1985, No. 353, eff. 6-1-85.

PI 13.06 Supervision of bilingual-bicultural education programs by the department. (1) The department shall, at least annually, review and evaluate the administration of programs conducted under subch. VII of ch. 115, Stats., by the local school districts. This shall include reviewing and evaluating:

- (a) The local school procedures used for identifying and counting eligible pupils;
- (b) The notification sent out to parents, guardians or legal custodians regarding their child's participation in the program;
- (c) The procedures used for the establishment of programs;
- (d) The provisions made for legal appeals;
- (e) The curriculum being offered in the programs;
- (f) The progress of limited-English speaking pupils in the program;
- (g) The program evaluation design; and
- (h) The information required under s. PI 13.05.

(2) The school board of a district operating a bilingual-bicultural education program under subch. VII of ch. 115, Stats., shall submit an annual report on or before August 15 to the state superintendent as required by s. 115.993, Stats. In addition to the information required by s. 115.993, Stats., the report shall also contain the cost of the program per pupil for each language group and program type and the number of pupils in each language group who, as a result of the bilingual-bicultural education program, improved their English ability to such an extent that the program is no longer necessary for such pupils, and other information required by the department in accordance with s. 115.996, Stats.

History: Cr. Register, May, 1985, No. 353, eff. 6-1-85.

PI 13.07 Reimbursement. (1) The local school district shall submit, on appropriate financial claim forms, such information and data as required by the department for fiscal review and approval for reimbursement of the program.

Note: Copies of the required claim form may be obtained at no charge from the bureau for program development, department of public instruction.

(2) The salaries of teachers and other staff members participating in bilingual-bicultural programs shall be reimbursed according to the percentage of time such teachers and staff spend in the program and the number of eligible pupils in the program under s. PI 13.03. The reimbursement shall be computed using the rate set forth in s. 115.995 (1), Stats.

(3) Supportive services as provided under s. PI 13.04 may not be reimbursed under s. PI 13.07.

History: Cr. Register, May, 1985, No. 353, eff. 6-1-85.