

Assessing Limited English Proficient (LEP) Policy

Assessing the academic learning of Limited English Proficient (LEP) scholars, including foreign exchange scholars, is a challenging task for content area mentors. Demonstrating mastery of academic content is difficult for LEPs until a certain level of proficiency in academic English is obtained.

LEP proficiency will be determined after a scholar's Quick Initial Assessment (QIA) and a LEP Team (comprised of the Alternative Language Director, assessment director, administrator and two faculty members) recommends initial LEP eligibility and/or reevaluation. An LEP determination will provide alternative methods of assessment which are necessary for LEP success:

- LEP scholars will be on a non-gradable status for a maximum of 4 terms after initial enrollment. Input for the Assessment Director and mentors would provide relevant information as to the circumstances of particular LEP scholar and the window of time advised for the non-gradable status. Scholars receive a **P** (Pass) or **F** (Fail) grade during this time period.
- Parents are informed of their scholar's progress through a P or F, with written reports outlining achievement, areas to focus on, and work ethic.
- This guideline does not preclude a mentor from assigning a letter grade if the language learned meets the content area objectives. Classroom mentors should modify instruction, assignments, and tests based on the scholars' English language proficiency. The use of instructional accommodations and modifications does not indicate that a scholar cannot receive the highest grade in the content area. No mentor should fail an LEP scholar if that mentor has failed to offer instructional and testing accommodations to the LEP scholar.
- This non-gradable status does not necessarily apply to Physical Education or other courses where the English language does not prevent the scholar from demonstrating mastery.

A **P** (Pass) indicates that a scholar is:

- * making an effort in class to do the assigned work
- * demonstrating progress in content material
- * concentrating during lesson delivery
- * asking for help or clarification when needed
- * showing some understanding of the work in progress

An **F** (Fail) indicates that a scholar is:

- * making no effort in class to do the assigned work
- * not demonstrating progress in content material
- * not concentrating during lesson delivery
- * neglecting to asking for help or clarification when needed
- * showing no understanding of the work in progress

A Pass in a content area does not preclude the possibility that an LEP scholar may be required to repeat terms or the entire course. Once an LEP scholar is assigned a letter grade in a subject, the scholar will continue to receive letter grades in that subject. Given the myriad policies governing transfer policies, it will be the LEP scholar's responsibility to determine potential transcript ramifications with the issue of passing grades.

See Utah Code R277- 612, 712