

May 16, 2019

MEMORANDUM

To: High School Principals

From: Ebony Langford-Brown, Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Subject: 2019-2020 ESOL English Course Placement

Summary:

- The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) Title III Office is auditing ESOL courses offered in each local education agency (LEA) and enforcing the requirement that courses awarding a high school English credit be taught by teachers certified in Secondary English.
- HCPSS has two sheltered English courses, ESOL English 9 and ESOL English 10, designated for English Learners, included in the 2019-2020 Approved Catalog of High School Courses.
- ESOL English 9 and ESOL English 10 are currently taught by ESOL teachers; however, not all ESOL teachers are certified in Secondary English and therefore, we are out of compliance with COMAR requirements.
- ESOL English 9 and ESOL English 10 courses will be removed from the 2020-2021 Approved Catalog of High School Courses.
- In school year 2020-2021, all English Learners must be enrolled in English 9 and English 10 classes and be supported via ESOL co-teachers or provided differentiated support by English teachers utilizing the resources co-developed by the Offices of Secondary English and ESOL.

Action:

- Ensure placement of ELs in ESOL English 9 and ESOL English 10 is determined on an individual basis and reviewed by the ESOL Office in collaboration with a school-based team. (2019-2020)
- Ensure that ESOL teachers assigned to teach ESOL English 9 or ESOL English 10 are certified in Secondary English. (2019-2020)
- Adjust student schedules to ensure they are placed in an English class with a certified English teacher and, where necessary, assign an ESOL teacher to co-teach the class. (2019-2020)
- Ensure ESOL teachers are assigned to co-teach the English 9 and English 10 sections where ELs need the most accommodations and differentiation of instruction. (2019-2020 and 2020-2021)

Questions:

Please direct questions to Maha Abdelkader, ESOL Coordinator, via email or at 410-313-6669.