

English Learner Revenue

Information compiled from the Minnesota School Finance Guides
Presented by Emily Adriaens, Tim Strom, and Cristina Parra
House Research/House Fiscal

School districts and charter schools must provide instruction to Minnesota's 73,000 students with limited English skills. English Language Learner programs include bilingual programs and English-as-a-second-language (ESL) programs. Bilingual education programs provide curriculum instruction to students in both their native language and English. ESL programs teach students to read, write, listen, and speak in English.

English Learner Revenue

Minnesota has provided funding for English Learning (EL) programs since 1980. A school district may receive up to seven years of funding for English Learner students. English Learner revenue is estimated at about \$57 million for fiscal year 2019.

There are two parts to the English Learner revenue programs:

- Basic EL revenue equals \$704 times the district's count of eligible EL students (note that a district with at least one EL student is assigned a minimum EL count of 20); and
- EL concentration revenue equal to \$250 x the lesser of 1 or the ratio of the district's percentage of EL students to 11.5 percent.

A district with more than 11.5 percent of English Learner students receives the maximum revenue amount of \$954 of revenue per English Learner student.

English Learner Expenditures

English Learner revenue may be spent on ESL or bilingual programs for English Learners. The money must be spent in accordance with the district's English Learner plan and may be spent on English Learner personnel and professional development opportunities for other staff.