

281—60.2(280) Definitions. As used in these rules, the following definitions will apply:

“English as a second language” refers to a structured language acquisition program designed to teach English to students whose native language is other than English, until the student demonstrates a functional ability to speak, read, write, and listen to English language at the age- and grade-appropriate level.

“Fully English proficient” refers to a student who is able to use English to ask questions, to understand teachers and reading materials, to test ideas, and to challenge what is being asked in the classroom. The four language skills contributing to proficiency include reading, listening, writing, and speaking.

“Limited English proficient” refers to a student who has a language background other than English, and the proficiency in English is such that the probability of the student’s academic success in an English-only classroom is below that of an academically successful peer with an English language background.

“Transitional bilingual instruction” refers to a program of instruction in English and the native language of the student until the student demonstrates a functional ability to speak, read, write, and listen to the English language at the age- and grade-appropriate level.