English Learner Program Review

It's that time of year when many districts work on the annual English learner program review. As part of Rule 15 Section 008, districts should conduct an annual review to guide planning, implementation, evaluation and modifications of the district's language instruction educational program (LIEP). This may be part of the overall district school improvement process or done as a separate review. The following are required aspects of the program review:

- **An examination of program practices** including: identification, LIEP, staffing, standards, assessment, and accommodations, and exit requirements.
- A **data analysis** including: ELPA21 results, state content assessments, and graduation rates, drop-out rates, and years spent receiving language services. **Note**: other relevant assessment and data may be included.
- A **monitoring process for former ELs** (up to four years).
- **Modifications to the program** based on the program review and data analysis.
- A **written summary report** that is submitted to the district's superintendent and kept on file to be available to the public.

For more details about each of these requirements for the Rule 15 English learner program review, please look at Section 008 in Rule 15, the Rule 15 Implementation Guide, and the NDE resources.

NDE Resources

Rule 15 English Learner Module 008 Program Review

NDE has designed a module to help school staff understand the requirements of the English Learner Program Review as well as lead districts through an actual program review. Visit the NDE Digital Learning Center https://moodle.education.ne.gov/ to find the course under "English Learners."

Directions for accessing modules:
https://2x9dwr1yq1he1dw6623gg411-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Directions-for-Moodle.pdf

NDE Written Report Guidance
Once the program review is complete, the review team is required to submit a written report summarizing the program review process. The written report can include current program practices, strengths of the program, and suggested modifications.   Guidance for the written report can be found on the NDE Title III Website:
https://www.education.ne.gov/natlorigin/written-report-guidance/

USDE Resource

USDE English Learner Toolkit Chapter 9: Tools and Resources for Evaluating the Effectiveness of a District's EL Program. Find at:
https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oela/english-learner-toolkit/index.html

Rule 15 Section 008 proposed changes:
- Inclusion of **standards** in the examination of program implementation practices
- Inclusion of **graduation rates, drop-out rates, and years spent receiving language services** to the data analysis
- Monitoring the academic progress of former English learners **from 2 years to up to 4 years** to compare their academic performance to non-ELs.