

An Overview of the Massachusetts RETELL Initiative

Andover Public Schools
Deana Taxiarchos, ESL Coordinator
Nancy Duclos, Assistant Superintendent



RETELL Initiative History

- Rethinking Equity and Teaching for English Language Learners
- In July 2011, the U.S. Department of Justice found that the Commonwealth had violated the civil rights of ELLs
 - Increased dropout rate for ELL
 - Increased SPED referrals
 - Failure to deliver Category Training 2002 - 2012

Andover ELL Population

	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
First Language Not English	491	489	514	568	586
Limited English Proficient	62	37	83	92	110

- The ELL student population is growing, this past year by as much as almost 20%.
- 30+ students are annually classified as Formerly Limited English Proficient are monitored for a two-year
- Increase in student population with interrupted educational experiences places new demands on the system



July, 2016

- All educators renewing professional licensure will need:
 - 15 PDP's in Sheltered English Instruction
 - 15 PDP's in Special Education during each 5 year recertification cycle.
- All core academic teachers will be required to earn an "SEI endorsement" in order to have ELL's in their classroom

After July, 2014

- Any teacher holding preliminary license will be required to earn the SEI endorsement in order to obtain initial license.
- If a teacher is assigned an ELL and doesn't have the endorsement, he or she will have one year from the date of assignment to get the endorsement or will not be able to renew license.


The New Regulations



SEI Endorsement Course

Who is expected to take the course?

- Core academic teachers, reading teachers, special education teachers
- All administrators who supervise teachers of ELL's



APS has been identified to begin SEI Endorsement training in the school year 2013 – 14.

2012 – 13

- DESE has given Andover a target number of approximately 100 teachers who must complete the training for the next 3 years, approximately 30 – 35 teachers per year.
- Teachers **MUST** have an ELL in their classroom in the 2013-14 school year to participate.
- **NOT** all teachers with ELL's can take the course in 2013 – 14 but will be considered for subsequent years.

SEI Course



SEI Course

2013 - 14

- Schools will schedule ELL's in teachers' classes which will identify who has the potential to be selected to take the course.
- The district will be asking for volunteers from teachers among the list to be the first to participate.
- The district will submit this list to the state and they will select and send teachers instructions for registering for the course.
- The communication becomes between teacher and DESE



SEI Course – October, 2014

- Provided to teachers at no cost when assigned by DESE to a specific cohort group
- Blended Learning Environment – 16 sessions
 - Face to Face (11 meetings)
 - Online (5 sessions)
- Practical application format
 - Study, Discuss, Practice

SEI Bridge Course, TBD

- For those teachers who can document Category Training I & II, I & III, or II & III.
- Information forthcoming

SEI Course

Benefits of Participation

- Research based instructional strategies for ELL's
- Earn 45 PDP's
- Earn SEI Endorsement
- Earn either in-service credits from Andover or graduate credits from a supporting college or university

- Holding or obtaining an ELL license is SEI endorsed.
- Summer of 2014, DESE anticipates a new MTEL for ELL licensure which can be used as a second option for SEI endorsement.

Other Options for obtaining SEI Endorsement

- <http://massteacher.org/advocating/toolkits/RETELL.aspx>
- <http://www.doe.mass.edu/retell/>

Additional Information