

SB3806



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB3806

Introduced 2/6/2026, by Sen. Mary Edly-Allen

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/14C-3

from Ch. 122, par. 14C-3

Amends the Transitional Bilingual Education Article of the School Code. Subject to appropriation, requires the State Board of Education to establish and implement an English Learner Grant Program to support school districts' English learner programs. Effective immediately.

LRB104 19327 LNS 32773 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section
5 14C-3 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/14C-3) (from Ch. 122, par. 14C-3)

7 Sec. 14C-3. Language classification of children;
8 establishment of program; period of participation;
9 examination. Each school district shall ascertain, not later
10 than the first day of March, under regulations prescribed by
11 the State Board, the number of English learners within the
12 school district, and shall classify them according to the
13 language of which they possess a primary speaking ability, and
14 their grade level, age or achievement level.

15 When, at the beginning of any school year, there is within
16 an attendance center of a school district, not including
17 children who are enrolled in existing private school systems,
18 20 or more English learners in any such language
19 classification, the school district shall establish, for each
20 classification, a program in transitional bilingual education
21 for the children therein. A school district may establish a
22 program in transitional bilingual education with respect to
23 any classification with less than 20 children therein, but

1 should a school district decide not to establish such a
2 program, the school district shall provide a locally
3 determined transitional program of instruction which, based
4 upon an individual student language assessment, provides
5 content area instruction in a language other than English to
6 the extent necessary to ensure that each student can benefit
7 from educational instruction and achieve an early and
8 effective transition into the regular school curriculum.

9 Every school-age English learner not enrolled in existing
10 private school systems shall be enrolled and participate in
11 the program in transitional bilingual education established
12 for the classification to which he belongs by the school
13 district in which he resides until such time as he achieves a
14 level of English language skills which will enable him to
15 perform successfully in classes in which instruction is given
16 only in English.

17 An examination in the oral language (listening and
18 speaking), reading, and writing of English, as prescribed by
19 the State Board, shall be administered annually to all English
20 learners enrolled and participating in a program in
21 transitional bilingual education. No school district shall
22 transfer an English learner out of a program in transitional
23 bilingual education unless the child has received a score on
24 said examination which, in the determination of the State
25 Board, reflects a level of English language skills appropriate
26 to his or her grade level.

1 Subject to appropriation, the State Board shall establish
2 and implement an English Learner Grant Program to support
3 school districts' English learner programs.

4 (Source: P.A. 104-261, eff. 1-1-26.)

5 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
6 becoming law.