

TESOL CONFERENCE, OHIO
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Article for the Newsletter:

LAU RESOURCE CENTER UPDATE

Don Fleck

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Office of Literacy

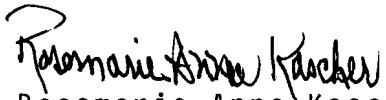
I was interested in the update from the Lau Resource Center and what effect it had on ESOL now that there was standardized testing in Ohio.

Ohio made a transition regarding LEP (limited English proficient) students going from district based to uniform statewide assessment. This transition started in 2002 and now in 2006-2007 became effective for K-12. This standardized test is called OTELA (Ohio Test of English Language).

Any school district accepting title grant funds is required by law to serve and assess their students; small districts combine together into consortiums. Districts must achieve three objectives: make progress, attain English language proficiency, and adequate yearly growth. They must also show academic progress. Thirty students per district must pass.

ESOL handicapped students must also be served; even with Title Three funding, Title Six requirements also have to be met and applied.

As we move into an era of nearly twenty million people in the U.S. not speaking English, the Lau Resources Staff is being frequently asked to find professional people for translation services; this comes from local vendors, too. On one hand, we teach ESOL and on the other we're asked to provide translation services.


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