



RAISE THE BAR:

Create Pathways for Global Engagement

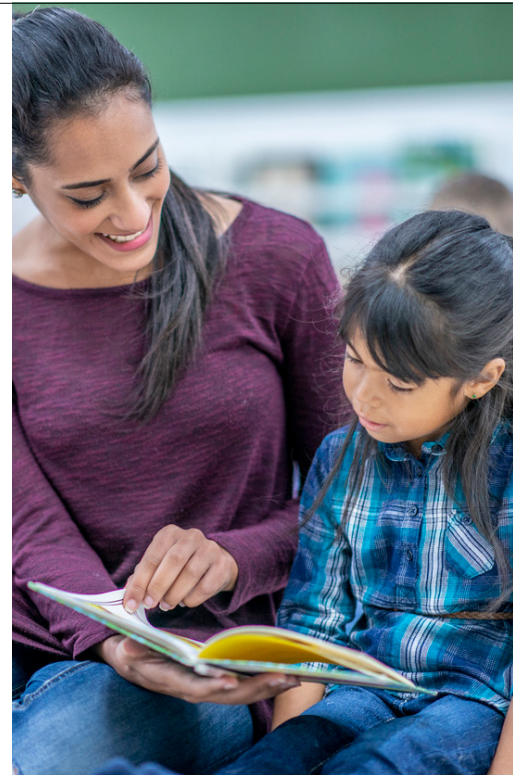
Provide Every Student with a Pathway to Multilingualism



Let's recognize that being multilingual is a superpower. Especially in today's global society and economy, knowing more than one language from birth, acquiring a new language through school, or learning new languages later in life can provide tangible advantages. The ability to read and think in more than one language promotes higher levels of abstract thought, which is important in learning. And multilingual and multiliterate adults have wide job opportunities. Every student should have the opportunity to access multilingual education.

"Raise the Bar: Lead the World" is the U.S. Department of Education's call to action to transform education and unite around what works—based on decades of experience and research—to advance educational equity and excellence. As part of our Raise the Bar efforts to create pathways for global engagement, the Department is working to provide every student with a pathway to multilingualism while ensuring equitable access to a high-quality education for English learners, who historically have been underserved.

The number of people in the United States who speak a language other than English has tripled over the past three decades. And there are more than 5 million English learners in our nation's public schools. We must do all we can to support this growing and vibrant population of students so they can reach their potential and thrive.



Keys to Elevating English Learners and Multilingualism

The Department is committed to working with leaders at the state and local levels to invest in, promote, and support evidence-based language practices and programs. Strategic action in the areas below represent key levers to provide every student with a pathway to multilingualism.



EQUITABLE ACCESS FOR ENGLISH LEARNERS

Develop and implement processes that enhance oversight for the civil rights protections of English learners as well as related funding obligations for English learner services and promote evidence-based practices to address the barriers that English learners can encounter in education



DIVERSIFIED BILINGUAL/MULTILINGUAL EDUCATOR WORKFORCE

Provide technical assistance and funding opportunities and disseminate information about evidence-based state and local programs that are building educator workforce capacity, including Grow-Your-Own, teacher residencies, and apprenticeship programs; and support colleges and universities in prioritizing English as a Second Language and bilingual educator preparation programs for multilingual educators



QUALITY BILINGUAL EDUCATION FOR ALL

Increase access to high-quality language programs and highlight states and districts that are implementing evidence-based dual language programs and seals of biliteracy

Visit [Raise the Bar: Create Pathways for Global Engagement](#) to read more about the specific strategies outlined here, connect to resources, and learn about federal grants that can support these strategies.