

**Nevada State Board of Education (3-12-15)**  
Summary of English Mastery Council TESL Recommendations

**Background**

By statute, the English Mastery Council is to provide recommendations to the State of Nevada regarding teacher training to ensure that the needs of English learners are met in Nevada's public schools. Nevada Revised Statute *NRS 388.411(3)(5)(6)* directs the English Mastery Council (created by NRS 388.409) to:

3. Make recommendations to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Commission on Professional Standards in Education and the State Board for:

(a) The adoption of regulations pursuant to NRS 391.019 concerning the requirements for an endorsement to teach English as a second language, including, without limitation, the teachers who should be required to obtain the endorsement; and

(b) After the adoption of the regulations pursuant to paragraph (a), any revisions to those regulations as deemed necessary by the Council.

5. Review any course of study offered by the Nevada System of Higher Education for training to teach English as a second language to determine if the course of study, including, without limitation, student teaching, is sufficiently rigorous to provide teachers with the tools necessary to improve the English proficiency and academic achievement and proficiency of pupils who are limited English proficient.

6. Make recommendations to the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada for the improvement of any course of study described in subsection 5 and submit a copy of those recommendations to the Governor and the State Board.

**Timeline of EMC Activities**

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| 06-11-2014 | The EMC provided draft recommendations in preparation for the June 25, 2014 meeting of the Commission on Professional Standards (COPS).  |
| 06-25-2014 | The EMC presented its recommendations to COPS regarding teacher preparation and licensure to serve English learners in Nevada.<br>Joint COPS/TESL subcommittee created to review/revise recommendations. |
| 11-12-2014 | TESL subcommittee revised TESL recommendations   |
| 11-25-2014 | COPS/TESL subcommittee reviewed the updated TESL recommendations   |
| 12-02-2014 | The EMC met to approve the revised TESL recommendations  |
| 12-03-2014 | The EMC presented revised TESL recommendations in COPS Workshop<br>[See Appendix B – EMC TESL Recommendations Revised]<br>EMC recommendations received partial approval                                  |
| 02-25-2015 | TESL recommendations 1, 2.1, and 2.2 considered in COPS Hearing  |

**Summary of EMC Recommendations**

Recommendation 1	Status of Recommendation
Change the name of the new Endorsement to "English Language Acquisition and Development" – ELAD.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved at COPS Workshop (12/3/14)</li> <li>• Approved as Temporary Regulation at COPS Hearing (2/25/15)</li> </ul>

Recommendation 2.1	Status of Recommendation
<p>Replace the current course requirements for the TESL Endorsement with new course requirements for the proposed ELAD.</p> <p>Recommended modifications to the proposed course requirements and names are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (3 Credits) Language Acquisition Theory and English Language Development Practices; and</li> <li>• (3 Credits) Methods and Curriculum for Teaching English Learners (ELs); and</li> <li>• (3 Credits) Assessment and Evaluation of English Learners (ELs); and</li> <li>• (2 Credits) Policies, Critical Issues and Best Practices for pre-Kindergarten and Elementary English Learners (ELs) - OR -</li> <li>• (2 Credits) Policies, Critical Issues and Best Practices for Secondary English Learners (ELs); and</li> <li>• (1 Credit) Practicum to include a minimum 25 hours classroom experience.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved at COPS Workshop (12/3/14)</li> <li>• Approved as Temporary Regulation at COPS Hearing (2/25/15)</li> </ul>

Recommendation 2.2	Status of Recommendation
<p>Create an advanced endorsement named ELAD Specialist Endorsement. The requirements for the ELAD Specialist Endorsement be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Complete the requirements for the TESL/ELAD Endorsement; and</li> <li>b. Complete at least 3 semester hours of credit in each of the following areas of study:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Cultural and Linguistic Diversity (CLD) Program Leadership</li> <li>ii. Foundations in Cultural and Linguistic Diversity (CLD) Education</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved at COPS Workshop (12/3/14)</li> <li>• Approved as Temporary Regulation at COPS Hearing (2/25/15)</li> </ul>

<b>Recommendation 3.1</b>	<b>Status of Recommendation</b>
<p><b>To the Nevada State Board of Education:</b>  Recommend that the Nevada State Board of Education require that, <i>"All Nevada Teacher Preparation Programs that prepare pre-service and initial licensure students must include preparation for the TESL/ELAD endorsement no later than 2 years after adoption of the regulations by the appropriate state agency and/or regulatory board."</i></p>	<p>To be presented to the State Board of Education</p>

<b>Recommendation 3.2</b>	<b>Status of Recommendation</b>
<p>All new licensees be required to hold the TESL/ELAD endorsement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not accepted by COPS at Workshop (12/3/14)</li> </ul>

<b>Recommendation 4</b>	<b>Status of Recommendation</b>
<p>Propose that three of the six required continuing education credits needed for licensure renewal be focused on English learners or ELAD courses and that the recommendation be presented to the appropriate state agency or regulatory board.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not accepted by COPS at Workshop (12/3/14)</li> <li>• This recommendation to be revisited by EMC TESL subcommittee at 3/26/15 meeting</li> </ul>