



EL PASO HIGH SCHOOL DUAL LANGUAGE MAGNET

Bilingual, bi-literate, bi-cultural.

800 E. Schuster Ave El Paso, TX 79902

www.ephsduallanguage.weebly.com

Thank you for your interest in the El Paso High School Dual Language Magnet Program. This packet contains an overview of the program as well as information on submitting an application packet. Should you have any additional questions, please contact Dual Language Magnet Coordinator Cecilia Phillips at cyphilli@episd.org or 915-496-8300 ext. 2109.

2013 – 2014 Academic School Year

Required Application Documents

The following application documents are required to be considered for conditional acceptance:

- Completed Dual Language Magnet Application (*enclosed*)
- A letter of recommendation from a current Teacher, Counselor or Administrator
- A Copy of a completed Oxford University Language Center Spanish Placement Test (*page 5*)
- Copies of most recent report cards indicating three semesters of grades and attendance
- Most recent Electric, Gas or Water bill (with parent/guardian's name) for proof of residency

Conditional Acceptance

Students are conditionally accepted to the program based on the following qualifications:

- Three semester cumulative grade point average of 80% or better (to include 2012 fall semester)
- Three semester attendance rate of 90% or better (to include 2012 fall semester)
- 7th grade STAAR minimum level 2 score
- A score of 25 or better on the Oxford University Language Center Spanish Placement Test (*page 5*)
- Must reside within EPISD attendance zone (EPISD will provide transportation for students attending a magnet outside of their EPISD attendance zone)

Application Deadline

- **January 31, 2013: no later than 4:30 PM**
- Applications received after the deadline will be placed on a waiting list. Late applications will be processed first come first served, based on available space.

Final Acceptance

Final acceptance will be contingent upon receipt and/or confirmation of the following:

- Final 2012-2013 transcript indicating and overall GPA of 80%
- Final 2012-2013 attendance report indicating an attendance rate of 90%
- Commitment to Attend Contract (to be sent upon being conditionally accepted)
- Completed 9th grade course request (to be sent upon being conditionally accepted)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 31, 2013



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About the Program

Mission: The Mission of the El Paso High School Dual Language Magnet Program is to be the district leader in producing exemplary graduates through creative educational experiences via a bicultural, bi-literate, bilingual environment.

History: EPISD's first Dual Language program was established at Mesita Elementary School during the late 1990's and came to be known as "*Connecting Worlds - Mundos Unidos*". In early 2003, Mesita was awarded a multi-million dollar Grant (Jacob K. Javits Grant) for purpose of expanding the Dual Language program. Through this grant, the El Paso High School Dual Language Magnet program was established and graduated its first cohort in the spring of 2007. Since then, the program has more than doubled its membership and tripled the amount of dual language course offerings.

50/50 model: The 50/50 model is a concept that focuses on presenting course curriculum 50% of the time in English and 50% of the time in Spanish. The Dual Language (DL) teacher determines the method by which the language alternates. A teacher may set a routine of alternating languages weekly, while others may choose to alternate per concept or chapter.

In order to ensure that the 50/50 concept is applied to a magnet student's entire course load and not just specific DL courses the 50/50 percentage is altered for some classes. In order to achieve this overall balance, some courses will be taught 50/50, others will be taught 60/40 or 80/20 (Spanish Dominant), and remaining courses on a magnets student's schedule will be either 100% in English or 100% in Spanish.

Curriculum: The DL curriculum is Social Sciences based, and focuses the following content areas:

Pre-AP DL Core: DL Mathematics and DL Sciences

Language: Spanish, Secondary or other Foreign Language, DL Speech, DL Electives

Rigor: Pre-AP and AP courses (DL and non-DL)

Magnet Pathways: Magnet students are placed on one of three different academic pathways based on their secondary language literacy skills as well as their college and career readiness preferences. Each pathway is also designed to have a balanced amount of **Pre-AP DL Core**, **Language** and **Rigor** courses.

Green Pathway: Designed for students with "novice" or "conversational" secondary language (L2) skills. The goal of this pathway is to establish sound fundamental L2 literacy, grammar, and oratory skills.

Blue Pathway: Designed for students with intermediate to advanced L2 Literacy and oratory skills. This pathway is academic based and is recommended for students interested in beginning their studies in a third language or interested in completing and internship their senior year.

Black Pathway: Designed for student with Intermediate advanced L2 literacy and oratory skills. On this pathway, students will have the opportunity to enroll in career specific programs at the Center for Career and Technology campus (CTE). Career studies include Health Sciences, computer Science, Architecture, and Law.

Spanish Requirements: Students are required to earn 5 Credits of Spanish. Credits can be earned via any combination of the follow methods: Credit by Exam, Advanced Placement Exam, or physical class seat time. Because of the nature of the magnet program, it is strongly recommended that students earn at least 3 of the 5 credits via seat time.

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Program Standards and Academic Probation

Program Standards: students accepted to the program must maintain the following standards to be considered an “Active” magnet student:

- Maintain an 80% overall average
- Maintain a 90% attendance rate
- Comply with the District Code of Conduct
- Maintain a current enrollment of dual language courses that cover the content areas of ***Pre-AP Dual Language Core, Language and Rigor*** every year (*see page 2*).

Failure to maintain program standards every 9 weeks will result in the student being placed on academic probation and listed as “Inactive” for the duration of the probation.

Active and Inactive Status: Magnet students are deemed either “Active” or “Inactive” based on whether or not they maintain the program’s Standards for Participation (*see above*). Inactive students do not qualify to participate in special and/or extra Dual Language program-related activities such as presentations, field trips, etc.

Academic Probation: Once a magnet student is identified in violation of one or more program standards, he/she is placed on academic probation and made “inactive” for a period of 9 weeks. The student will have those 9 weeks to come back into compliance. If after 9 weeks, a student fails to meet the program’s academic standards once again, the process to exit the student from the program will begin.

Exit Process: The student will be exited from the program and enrolled in non-dual language classes at the change of the semester and/or new school year following the failed probationary period. If a magnet student is on an academic pupil transfer and fails to come into compliance, ***their transfer status will be denied the following school year, and will have to return to their home campus as per district policy.*** A parent may appeal the exit process directly to the Principal, at which time he/she will rule in favor of one of the following options:

- Accept the appeal and make the student “active” in the program
- Grant another 9 week probationary period
- Modify the student’s dual language curriculum as needed
- Deny the appeal and continue with the exit process

If the Principal denies the appeal, the parent may appeal again to the District’s Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Schools.



Oxford University Language Center (OULC) Spanish Placement Test

Students applying to the El Paso HS Dual Language Magnet Program **must take the Oxford University Language Center Spanish Placement (OULC) Test**. Test results will be used to determine Spanish academic literacy and appropriate Dual Language Pathway placement. Applicants can take the test on-line, or make an appointment to take the test at El Paso HS.

ON-LINE INSTRUCTIONS:

- Go to: www.lang.ox.ac.uk/courses/tst_index.html
- Click on **“How to take placement test”**
- After reading instructions, click **“Placement Tests”** tab on the *left-hand side of the page*
- Scroll down to **“Spanish”** (There is a picture of the flag of Spain)
- Click on **“Entry Level Requirements”**
- After reading, click **“Placement Tests”** tab *again* on the left-hand side of the page
- Scroll down again to **“Spanish”**
- Click on **“Placement Test”**
- Complete the test. *The test should be taken only once. If you choose to take the test several times in order to improve your score, it may result in being placed in dual language classes that are too advanced*
- Once completed, **print the test 2 copies of test** (One copy to submit with application, and one copy for your records). *There is no “print” button on this page; print out the test as you would any document from your computer*
- Sign and date each page of the test and submit with application
- Sign the confirmation oath below and submit with application

IN-PERSON INSTRUCTIONS:

- Contact Cecilia Phillips to schedule an appointment:
 - Email: cyphilli@episd.org
 - 915-496-8300, ext 2109

Confirmation Oath

I do solemnly confirm that I, and I alone took the Oxford University Language Center Spanish Placement Test. I also confirm that I did not receive any help while taking the test.

I understand that test results will be used for the sole purpose of determining appropriate Dual Language course and pathway placement should I be accepted.

Student name printed

Student Signature

Date

Parent name printed

Parent Signature

Date

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 31, 2013



Recommendation Form

Name and ID: _____ **School:** _____

Applicant Directions: Give this form to a teacher, counselor or administrator on your campus and ask them to complete it on your behalf. Ask him/her to please seal the completed form in an envelope, sign across the seal and return it (via U.S. mail or EPISD School Mail) to El Paso HS, attention Cecilia Phillips.

Recommender Directions: Please circle the phrase that most nearly represents the student's typical degree of behavior and attitude on a scale of 1-9:

Ease of Learning	1 2 3 Learns only with much application	4 5 6 Learns only with reasonable application	7 8 9 Learns quickly	No basis for judgment
Achievement to ability relation	1 2 3 Achievement far below ability	4 5 6 Inconsistent achievement	7 8 9 works steadily up to ability	No basis for judgment
School work initiative	1 2 3 Needs frequent prodding	4 5 6 Prepares assignments of own accord	7 8 9 seeks additional tasks	No basis for judgment
Originality and Imagination	1 2 3 Seems unimaginative	4 5 6 Shows some originality upon occasion	7 8 9 Highly creative	No basis for judgment
Reliability and integrity	1 2 3 Is undependable	4 5 6 Fulfills obligations	7 8 9 Is scrupulous and punctual	No basis for judgment

Please check appropriate box:	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Excellent	Outstanding	No basis for Judgment
Leadership Qualities						
Reliability						
Reaction to Setbacks						
Respect accorded by faculty						
Analytical Skills						
Study Skills						
Ability to succeed in a rigorous academic setting						

Please check one of the following: ____ Highly Recommend ____ Recommend ____ Do Not Recommend

Printed Name

Signature

Position

Date



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Statement of Interest

In the space allotted below, or on a separate document to be attached, please write a brief statement (Spanish preferred) as to why you wish to be considered for the El Paso High School Dual Language Magnet Program.

Co-Curricular and Extra Curricular Activities

In the space allotted below, list all co- and extra-curricular activities that you are currently involved in, or have participated with in the past:

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Student and Parent Commitment

We understand as part of the application process, authorized personal will research information such as attendance and disciplinary records for the purpose of confirming magnet program requirements unless already provided

We understand that students apply to the Dual Language Magnet Program at El Paso High School as an optional program because of the unique focus of the program. We recognize that permission to attend is a **privilege and not a right**. We recognize that program standards and parental role in the program may be higher than those required by other schools in the district. We recognize that compliance with these is a requisite part of attendance and continued enrollment in Dual Language Program. We understand that admission to the Dual Language Program is competitive and limited. Students are admitted without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, or handicap. Our signatures indicate that we agree to support and adhere to the program standards and parental role now in existence and those that may be established in the future.

Parent's Signature

Date

Student's Signature

Date

Rules of the University Interscholastic League as Pertaining to Athletics

As outlined in Section 440(B)(2)(B) of the University of Interscholastic League Constitution and Contest Rules: Students are eligible in athletics for the first year they have the opportunity to transfer to a Magnet School. If a student leaves the Magnet School and returns to the school of his / her parent's residence, the students not eligible for varsity athletic competitions for at least one year from the date of enrollment in the home school. Student and parent / guardian signatures indicate that the parties understand and agree to support and adhere to the rules and regulations now in existence and to those that may be established in the future.

Parent's Signature

Date

Student's Signature

Date

The El Paso Independent School District does not discriminate in its educational programs or employment practices on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, military status, or on any other basis prohibited by law. Inquiries concerning the application of Title VI, VII, IX, and Section 504 may be referred to the District compliance officer, Patricia Cortez, at 230-2033; 504 inquiries regarding students may be referred to Cecilia Whiteman at 230-2836.

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de El Paso no discrimina en los programas de educación o en prácticas de empleo usando el criterio de raza, color, religión, sexo, origen nacional, edad, incapacidad, estado militar, u otra práctica prohibida por la ley. Preguntas acerca de la aplicación del título VI, VII o IX, y la Sección 504 pueden ser referidas al oficial del distrito, Patricia Cortez al 881-2649; preguntas sobre 504 tocante a estudiantes pueden ser referidas a Cecilia Whiteman al 881-2527.

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