

# PATHWAY TO ENGLISH



## AT CIC ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL

CIC Ontario Secondary School ESL program has been developed with the student's best interest in mind. Before beginning the ESL program, each student will complete a placement test to best determine the level of their English skills. Students will take both ESL and ELD at that level and complete one level per semester.

### ESL & ELD PROGRAMS AT CIC WATERLOO

The ESL and ELD curricula are designed to help English Language learners develop the skills they need to develop proficiency in everyday English and, most especially, the proficiency in academic English that will allow them to integrate successfully into the mainstream academic school program.

For many English Language Learners, achieving the expectations may require them to adopt new ways of learning and interacting with others. However, growth towards full linguistic and cultural competence in English should not be at the expense of students' languages and cultures.

A major goal of any instructional program for English Language Learners should be to encourage the students' values and maintain their own linguistic and cultural identities so they can enter the larger society as bilingual and bicultural individuals in Canada and beyond.

### ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) COURSES

These courses are designed for English Language learners who have had opportunities to develop language and literacy skills in their own language appropriate to their age or grade level. Most English Language learners are in this group. These learners may be entering secondary school from elementary school alongside their English-speaking peers, or they may be entering secondary school in Ontario having recently arrived from other countries. They can read and write in their own language within the expected range for students of their age in their own country. They can build on their existing first-language skills when learning English in an ESL program at CIC Waterloo.

### ENGLISH LITERACY DEVELOPMENT (ELD) COURSES

These courses are designed for English language learners with limited prior schooling who have not had opportunities to develop age-appropriate literacy skills in any language. Their needs differ in the following two important ways from the needs of their English language learner peers who arrive with age-appropriate schooling:

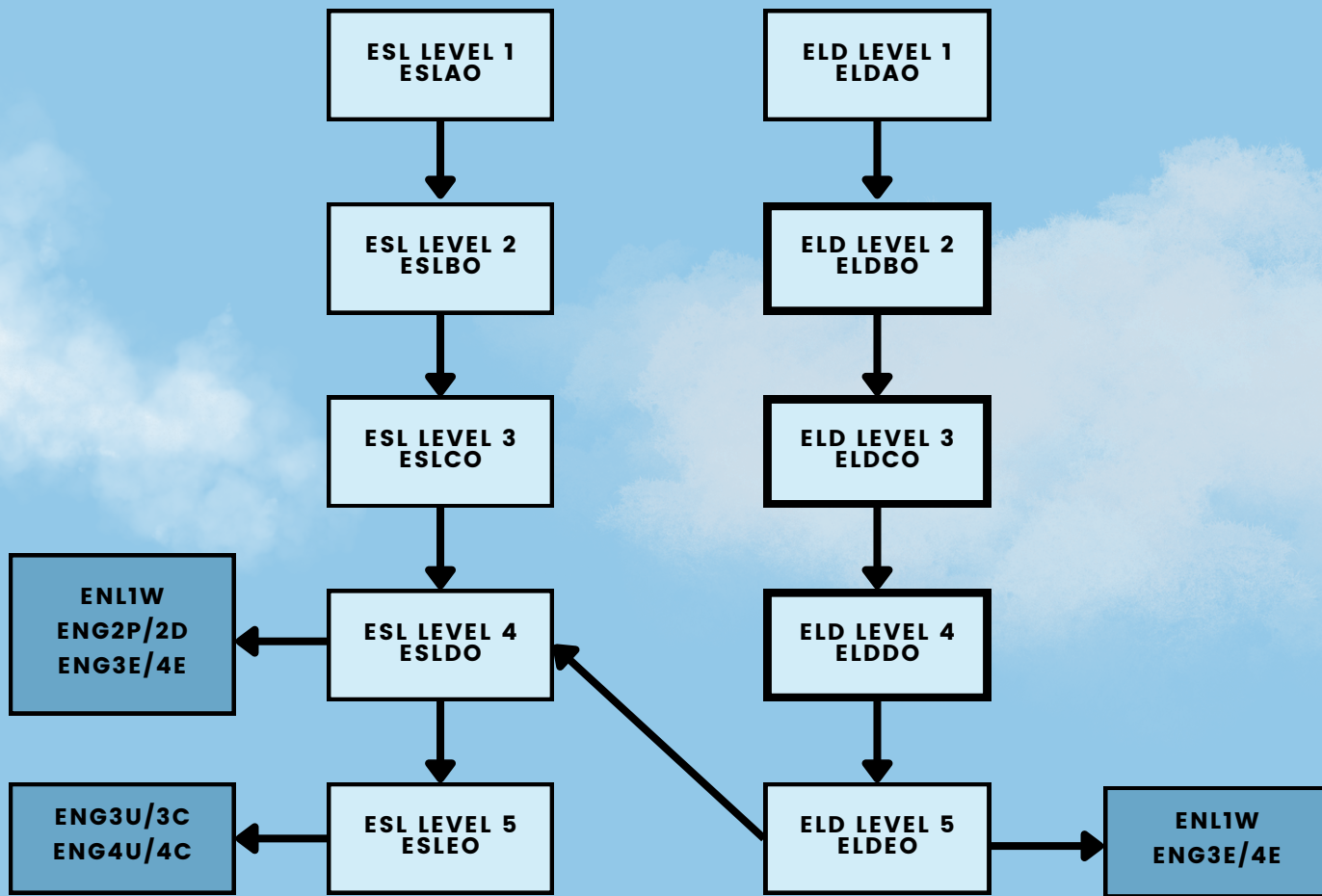
- They have significant gaps in their education and therefore have more to catch up on.
- They need more intensive support for a longer period of time.

ELD courses provide an accelerated program of literacy development for these students. There are five ELD courses based on levels of literacy development and proficiency in English.

Depending on learner's previous educational experience, first – language literacy skills, and knowledge of English, students may be placed in LED Level 1,2,3,4, or 5.

## PATHWAY TO ENGLISH AT CIC Ontario Secondary School

The chart below shows how most English language learners may progress through their ESL and/or ELD courses and into the mainstream English courses. Not all students will follow this sequence exactly, and individual students may vary in the rate at which they progress through the levels.



The table to the right shows the courses students will take at each level. Students will complete both the ESL and ELD courses at the same time. Once a student has successfully completed both courses, they will move to the next level.

LEVELS	ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE COURSES (ESL)	ENGLISH LITERACY DEVELOPMENT COURSES(EDL)
LEVEL 1	ESLAO	ELDAO
LEVEL 2	ESLBO	ELDBO
LEVEL 3	ESLCO	ELDCO
LEVEL 4	ESLDO	ELDDO
LEVEL 5	ESLEO	ELDEO

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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