

Subpart E—Mandatory English-as-a-Second Language Program (ESL)

SOURCE: 59 FR 14724, Mar. 29, 1994, unless otherwise noted.

§ 544.40 Purpose and scope.

Pursuant to the Crime Control Act of 1990 (18 U.S.C. 3624(f)), limited English proficient inmates confined in Federal Bureau of Prisons institutions are required to attend an English-as-a-Second Language (ESL) program until they function at the equivalence of the eighth grade level in competency skills. Waivers to this requirement may be granted by the Warden in accordance with §§ 544.41 and 544.42.

§ 544.41 Applicability: Who must attend the ESL program.

(a) All Federal prisoners who have limited English proficiency skills shall attend an ESL program except:

- (1) Pretrial inmates;
- (2) Inmates committed for purpose of study and observation under the provisions of 18 U.S.C. 4205(c) or, effective November 1, 1987, 18 U.S.C. 3552(b);
- (3) Sentenced aliens with a deportation detainer;
- (4) Other inmates whom, for documented good cause, the Warden may excuse from attending the ESL program.

(b) Staff shall document in the inmate's education file the specific reasons for not requiring the inmate to participate in the ESL program.

§ 544.42 Procedures.

(a) The Warden at each federal institution shall ensure that inmates who at their initial classification are found to be limited English proficient are enrolled in the ESL program. Determination of limited English proficiency is made by staff on the basis of personal interviews and placement testing.

(b) An inmate who returns to the Federal Bureau of Prisons on a new sentence or as a parole violator, and who has not achieved or is unable to demonstrate verified achievement of the eighth grade level, must provide verification or enroll in the ESL pro-

gram until that inmate achieves such a grade or is granted a waiver for cause.

(c) The Warden or designee shall assign to an education staff member the responsibility to coordinate the institution's ESL program. The ESL coordinator or designee shall meet with the inmate for the purpose of enrolling the inmate in the ESL program. The ESL coordinator shall be responsible for the completion of the official ESL Program Record, and shall place it in the inmate's education file.

(d) Ordinarily, there will be no time limit for completion of the ESL mandatory program. However, after 240 instructional hours of continuous enrollment in an ESL program, excluding sick time, furloughs, and other excused absences from scheduled classes, the Warden shall have the authority to grant a waiver from further program participation. This waiver may be granted when it is determined that the inmate will not benefit from further instruction. Each exemption determination shall be made on an individual basis and shall be supported by documentation.

[59 FR 14724, Mar. 29, 1994, as amended at 62 FR 39916, July 24, 1997]

§ 544.43 Incentives.

The Warden or designee shall establish a system of incentives to encourage an inmate to meet the mandatory ESL program requirements.

§ 544.44 Disciplinary action.

As with any other mandatory programs, such as work assignments, staff may take disciplinary action against an inmate when that inmate refuses to enroll and participate in, or to meet the minimum requirements of the mandatory ESL program.

Subpart F—Occupational Education Programs

SOURCE: 68 FR 65170, Nov. 19, 2003, unless otherwise noted.

§ 544.50 Purpose and scope.

The Bureau of Prisons offers eligible inmates the opportunity under its occupational education programs to participate in occupational education

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courses for the purpose of obtaining marketable skills designed to enhance post-release employment opportunities.

§ 544.51 Procedures.

(a) *Eligibility.* All inmates are eligible to participate in an institution's occupational education program. An eligible inmate must apply through the inmate's unit team for placement consideration. The unit team will determine whether the occupational education course is appropriate for the inmate's apparent needs.

(b) *Special considerations for inmates under orders of deportation, exclusion, or removal:* (1) Generally, inmates under orders of deportation, exclusion, or removal may participate in an institution's occupational education program if Bureau resources permit after meeting the needs of other eligible inmates.

(2) Inmates under orders of deportation, exclusion, or removal who the Attorney General has determined cannot be removed from the United States because the designated country of removal will not accept the inmate's return are exempted from the limitation in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, and may participate in an institution's occupational education in the same manner as other eligible inmates.

§ 544.52 Levels of Occupational Education Programs.

Occupational education programs are offered at the certificate level and the classroom level. Each level may include the following types of training:

(a) *Exploratory Training.* Exploratory training is a study of occupations and industries for the purpose of providing the student with a general knowledge of the occupation and the world of work, rather than specific skill development.

(b) *Marketable Training.* Marketable training provides specific entry-level or advanced job skills. Marketable training may include "live work", that is, the training would result in a product or service produced by the inmate for actual use by the institution, FPI, another federal agency, or community service project.

(c) *Apprentice Training.* Apprentice training provides an inmate the oppor-

tunity to participate in training which prepares the inmate for employment in various trades through structured apprenticeship programs approved at the state and national levels by the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, U.S. Department of Labor.

Subpart G [Reserved]

Subpart H—Literacy Program

SOURCE: 62 FR 50793, Sept. 26, 1997, unless otherwise noted.

§ 544.70 Purpose and scope.

Except as provided for in § 544.71, an inmate confined in a federal institution who does not have a verified General Educational Development (GED) credential or high school diploma is required to attend an adult literacy program for a minimum of 240 instructional hours or until a GED is achieved, whichever occurs first.

§ 544.71 Exceptions to required literacy program participation.

(a) The following inmates are not required to attend the literacy program:

(1) Pretrial inmates;

(2) Inmates committed for purpose of study and observation under the provisions of 18 U.S.C. 4205(c), 4241(d), or, effective November 1, 1987, 18 U.S.C. 3552(b);

(3) Sentenced deportable aliens;

(4) Inmates determined by staff to be temporarily unable to participate in the literacy program due to special circumstances beyond their control (e.g., due to a medical condition, transfer on writ, on a waiting list for initial placement). Such inmates, however, shall be required to participate when the special circumstances are no longer applicable.

(b) Inmates who have been determined (on the basis of formal diagnostic assessment) to have a documented emotional, mental, or physical individual impediment to learning shall not be required to complete the literacy program beyond those achievement levels indicated as realistic by the formal diagnostic assessment.

(c) Staff shall document in the inmate's education file the specific reasons for not requiring the inmate to