

Useful Information

Alachua County Public Schools

620 East University Ave.
Gainesville, FL 32601
Tel. (352)955-7300

Alachua County Florida

www.co.alachua.fl.us/

Florida DOE Website: Bureau of Student Achievement through Language Acquisition

<http://www.fldoe.org/aala/>

Health Department-Human Services

Tel. (352)334-7900
224 SE 24th St.
Gainesville, FL 32641

Community Support Services

Main Office
Tel. (352) 264-6750 - main line
218 SE 24th Street
Gainesville, FL32641

Library District Headquarters

Tel. (352) 334-3900
401 East University Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32601

Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)

Tel. (352)955-2111
5830 NW 34th Street
Gainesville, FL 32653-2115

Or

Tel. (352)334-1760
5301 NE 39th Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32609-2606

Salvation Army

Furniture and Clothing-free/low cost; 3 locations in Gainesville
*639 East University Ave./Tel.(352) 376-1743
*55 NW 23rd Ave./Tel. (352) 373-7597

SWAG SW Advocacy Group

Assistance with clothing, food, job search information, other community services
807 SW 64th Terrace
(Linton Oaks neighborhood)
Gainesville, FL 32607
(352) 505-6823

Florida KidCare/Medicaid

Health insurance for children from birth through age 18.
Must be a U.S. citizen or qualified non-citizen.
Tel. 1(888)540-5437
<http://www.floridakidcare.org/>

Florida WIC

Special supplemental nutrition program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
Tel. 1(800)494-2543
<http://www.floridawic.org/>

The Early Learning Coalition of Alachua County

(Resource and referral department)
Help finding the right childcare setting for your child and childcare payment assistance for eligible individuals.
Tel. (352)375-4110
<http://www.elcalachua.org/>

Affordable Housing

United Way 211 North Central Florida
<http://www.referweb.net/211CommunityResources/>

City of Gainesville (visitors)

www.visitgainesville.net



English for Speakers of Other Languages ESOL Program



ESOL Contacts

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General Information on ESOL Program in Alachua County Public Schools

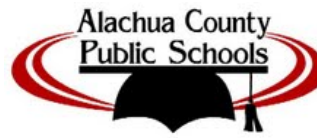
Begun in 1977, Alachua County's ESOL program offers intensive English instruction to students whose native language is not English.

Each year there are approximately 500 ESOL students grades Kindergarten through 12 who attend the Alachua County public school system. Students come from over 50 different countries, speaking more than 35 different languages.

The student's eligibility for ESOL program services will be determined by their English proficiency. English proficiency is determined by completing the following procedure:

- All families complete a Home Language Survey.
- Students take a listening and speaking test.
- Each school has an English Language Learner (ELL) Committee to ensure appropriate student placement and progress.
- Students in grades 3-12 take a reading and writing test.

After this procedure is completed and the school determines that the student qualifies for ESOL services, the parents will receive an Entrance Letter of Acceptance into ESOL and an ESOL Parent Informed Consent form.



ESOL Parent School Choice

As a parent of an ESOL student you have two (2) options as to where to send your child(ren) to school.

Option 1

ESOL students can choose to go to the appropriate ESOL center school located at three (3) area schools: J.J. Finley Elementary School, Westwood Middle School and Gainesville High School. These schools are located close to the University of Florida. At these schools, students may have two classes, Reading and Language Arts, with other ESOL students. The teacher and assistants for these courses are specially trained in how to help ESOL students learn English, become comfortable with the English language and American culture, and are sensitive to the needs and differences among their students. For other classes including math, science, and social studies, the student will be with children who are zoned to attend that school and maybe a few other ESOL students. Teachers in these classes will also use ESOL strategies to help the student in the classroom. A school bus will pick up the ESOL students at a stop close to their home and return them back in the afternoon. School bus transportation is provided at no charge.

Option 2

ESOL students can choose to stay at their zoned school. The student would then be placed in classes with other children who are zoned to that school. These classes may or may not have other ESOL students as part of those classes. The teachers will use ESOL strategies to help the student in the classroom. Also, this school is probably the closest school to where the student lives and other children from that area probably attend the same school.

Family Liaison Specialist – ESOL/Immigrant

List of services

- Allocation and collection of ESOL parent surveys
- Contacting parents for conferences
- Performing home visits as needed
- Addressing issues such as attendance, grades, and/or behavior
- Informing parents of resources available for their children at the school
- Working side by side with parents filling in forms or documents and obtaining accurate information
- Facilitation of important school documents in the parent's native language (when available), or careful verbal explanation of documents.
- Finding volunteer translators to make available when needed
- Document translation
- Aiding families to obtain information and access community agencies and resources
- Collection and distribution of language resources and school supplies
- Encouraging attendance to the Parent Leadership Council (PLC)

