

## INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** February 4, 2004

**TO:** MEMBERS, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**FROM:** Geno Flores, Deputy Superintendent  
Assessment and Accountability Branch

**SUBJECT:** California English Language Development Test (CELDT) Regulations

The California Department of Education (CDE) expects to propose amendments to the CELDT regulations at the March 2004 meeting of the board to address several concerns.

CDE estimates that up to 80,000 English learners receive two or more administrations of the CELDT in a single year when they transfer from one school or district to another without their records. In order to reduce unnecessary and duplicative testing and to reduce program costs, the proposed amendments would clarify that sending school districts must provide CELDT results in response to a request from the receiving school district in accordance with the existing California *Education Code* Section 49068.

Title III of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act specifies that CDE will hold school districts accountable for meeting Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives, which have been approved by SBE. The proposed amendments will clarify that school districts must provide specific information for Title III accountability, and that data correction procedures are available to assure that the information is accurate. The proposed amendments will specify that districts pay the costs of making the corrections.

Currently, some school districts administer the CELDT to new kindergarten students as a part of a pre-registration process, months prior to actual enrollment. This practice spreads out the burden of administering the CELDT, but produces inaccurate information for the purposes of Title III accountability, and may promote duplicate testing of mobile kindergartners. The proposed amendments will clarify the timelines for testing new kindergarten students.