

Invitation to Join ...

The Institute for Language and Education Policy Research-Based Advocacy for Schools and Communities

**P.O. Box 5960
Takoma Park, MD 20913
bilingualed@starpower.net
www.elladvocates.org**

Please join with us in building a new organization dedicated to promoting research-based policies for educating English and heritage language learners.

We believe this mission has never been more critical. In a time of misguided “accountability” measures, high-stakes testing, cutbacks in school funding, and English-only activism, strong advocacy for children is essential. Scientific knowledge about what works – not political ideology or expedience – must guide public policy.

Our goals are ambitious:

- Encourage and disseminate research on education policy and practice.
- Educate the public and policymakers about the benefits of bilingual and heritage-language education for individuals, communities, and the nation as a whole.
- Represent the needs of English language learners as Congress moves to reauthorize – and, we hope, reform – the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.
- Support grassroots efforts by local and professional organizations to secure adequate resources for quality language programs at all levels.
- Combat English-only legislation that threatens to restrict the rights and educational prospects of language-minority Americans.
- Create professional development opportunities for educational practitioners.

To succeed in these efforts, we need your help. One way is to volunteer your time and talents to the cause – for example, by organizing meetings in your school or community, contacting members of Congress, or writing articles for our web site. Another is to become a member of the Institute – just fill out and return the application below – and provide financial support for our advocacy work. The annual membership fee is \$50 for professionals, \$25 for parents and full-time students.

Member benefits include participation in an email listserv to discuss legislative and policy developments; access to the latest research on educating English and heritage language learners; eligibility to participate in Institute elections and to serve on professional committees; and a subscription to the Institute's online newsletter (forthcoming). For more information about our mission, activities, policy positions, organizational structure, bylaws, and leadership, please visit the Institute's web site at www.elladvocates.org.

INSTITUTE FOR LANGUAGE AND EDUCATION POLICY

P.O. Box 5960

TAKOMA PARK, MD 20913

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WWW.ELLADVOCATES.ORG

- Yes, please sign me up as a member of the Institute.
- I am a professional; my annual dues payment of \$50 is enclosed.
 - I am a parent; my annual dues payment of \$25 is enclosed.
 - I am a full-time student; my annual dues payment of \$25 is enclosed.
- I want to make an additional donation to support the Institute's work.
My check is enclosed for \$100 \$200 \$500 Other \$ _____
- I want to volunteer my skills and expertise in _____

Name _____ Email _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Work Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Country (other than U.S.A.) _____

Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Home Phone _____ Fax _____

**Checks only, please (or money orders for countries other than U.S.A.). Payable to:
Institute for Language and Education Policy, P.O. Box 5960, Takoma Park, MD 20913**

The Institute is incorporated as a nonprofit, charitable organization in the state of Maryland and has qualified for 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status with the Internal Revenue Service. At this time all donations and membership fees are fully tax-deductible.