

## SFUSD Newcomer Classification Entry / Exit Criteria

**Purpose:** The Multilingual Pathways Office has outlined the entry and exit criteria for newcomer students in order to clarify when students benefit from participation in a comprehensive newcomer pathway, and when they must exit the pathway. These criteria will help ensure equitable learning outcomes for newcomer students.

	<b>ENTRY CRITERIA</b> A student who meets <b>BOTH</b> criteria below is eligible (not required) to enroll in a newcomer pathway.		<b>EXIT CRITERIA</b> A student who meets <b>ANY SINGLE</b> criterion below for their grade span should be exited from newcomer pathway at the end of the qualifying school year.			
Grade	Time in U.S. Schools	ELPAC/Screener Beginner and Intermediate	Time in U.S. Schools	ELPAC	Interim ELPAC	STAR Reading Performance Level
<b>K-1</b> (It is not possible to be designated SLIFE in K-1.)	Newcomers in grades K and 1 are eligible to enroll in any and newcomer elementary schools, biliteracy and dual-language immersion programs and general education (GE) programs should be fully integrated into their mainstream classes.					
<b>2-3 SLIFE</b>	0-3 years	Initial ELPAC 1 or 2 or ELPAC: 1-2	N/A	Summative ELPAC: 3+	Interim ELPAC combined average score of 2.5 or higher	2
<b>2-3 non-SLIFE</b>	0-2 years	Initial ELPAC 1 or 2 or ELPAC: 1-2	2+ years	Summative ELPAC: 3+	Interim ELPAC combined average score of 2.5 or higher	2
<b>4-5 SLIFE</b>	0-3 years	Initial ELPAC 1 or 2 or ELPAC: 1-2	4+ years	Summative ELPAC: 3+	Interim ELPAC combined average score of 2.5 or higher	2
<b>4-5 non-SLIFE</b>	0-2 years	Initial ELPAC 1 or 2 or ELPAC: 1-2	3+ years	Summative ELPAC: 3+	Interim ELPAC combined average score of 2.5 or higher	2
<b>6-8 SLIFE</b>	0-3 years	Initial ELPAC 1 or 2 or ELPAC: 1-2	4+ years	Summative ELPAC: 3+	Interim ELPAC combined average score of 2.5 or higher	2
<b>6-8 non-SLIFE</b>	0-2 years	Initial ELPAC 1 or 2 or ELPAC: 1-2	3+ years	Summative ELPAC: 3+	Interim ELPAC combined average score of 2.5 or higher	2
<b>9-12 SLIFE</b>	0-3 years	Initial ELPAC 1 or 2 or ELPAC: 1-2	5+ years	Summative ELPAC: 3+	Interim ELPAC combined average score of 2.5 or higher	2
<b>9-12 non-SLIFE</b>	0-2 years	Initial ELPAC 1 or 2 or ELPAC: 1-2	4+ years	Summative ELPAC: 3+	Interim ELPAC combined average score of 2.5 or higher	2

**Time Sensitivity for Newcomer Pathways:**

Student participation in newcomer pathways is time-sensitive and students may not remain in newcomer pathways for an indefinite period of time. For this reason, the *time in U.S.* criterion is the most significant. This means that regardless of whether students have met the ELPAC score needed to exit newcomer status, they must exit the pathway when they have reached the time period outlined above. Also important to highlight is that SFUSD newcomer programs move newcomers towards a primarily mainstream setting while still receiving newcomer supports. It is only during their first year in US schools that newcomers may be largely isolated from their peers with other language proficiencies in order to provide stabilizing intensive supports. This means that while students may still be classified as newcomers after their first year and receive newcomer services for 3-4 years, they must not be isolated from their peers with other language proficiencies for more than one year. After one year, students in secondary newcomer programs must be integrated with non-EL peers in minimally two class periods per day except for San Francisco International which is a small school by design serving only recently arrived immigrant youth of newcomer and developing EL typologies.

**Continued EL services:**

It is important to note that when students exit from newcomer pathways, they are still entitled to supports, including Integrated and Designated ELD to support their continued language and literacy development. It is expected that many students who exit newcomer pathways will need substantial support, and over time, this support will be reduced as they near English language proficiency.

**Students with Limited or Interrupted Formal Education (SLIFE) Definition and Identification:**

"SLIFE are English learners who (1) have not had the opportunity to participate in formal education previously or have experienced significant time periods when they were unable to attend school, (2) are at least two grade levels below their peers in subject area knowledge, (3) have low or no literacy and numeracy skills " In SFUSD, SLIFE students are identified in two ways, upon enrollment or by a site administered Educational History Inventory. Upon enrollment, students complete an Initial Language Assessment Form (ILAF) by responding yes to one of two questions: 1: Did the student begin school after age 8 or 2: Did student miss 2 or more years of schooling between 4 and 18. Student SLIFE status is indicated in Synergy as yes or no based on responses to these questions. If after student enrolls at the school site, teachers or counselors suspect interrupted or limited education of newcomer students, they may administer a more comprehensive [Educational History Inventory](#) to determine a student's SLIFE status.