



Ellevation Professional Learning Opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL Certification Endorsement

January 13, 2025

Ellen E. Weaver
State Superintendent of Education

Contents

Contents.....	2
Introduction.....	2
Professional Learning Module Overview.....	2
Part 1: Learn.....	3
Part 2: Teach.....	3
Part 3: Reflect.....	4
Ellevation Professional Learning Opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL	
Certification Endorsement.....	4
Coursework.....	4
Practicum.....	4
ESOL Endorsement Module List.....	4
Credit Issuance Process.....	10
Artifacts and Reflection Statements Review.....	10
Ellevation Strategies Module Response Rubric.....	11
Additional Scoring Details.....	12
Ellevation Certificate.....	13
South Carolina Department of Education Renewal Credit and Endorsement Process	13
Ellevation Professional Learning Opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL Certification	
Endorsement Steps.....	13
South Carolina ESOL Endorsement Contact Information.....	14

Introduction

In collaboration with the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE), Ellevation will offer educators a professional learning opportunity to meet the requirements for the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) endorsement. Ellevation professional learning modules help all educators develop the capacity to teach language through content, so students can build language proficiency and gain academic knowledge. With 56,000 educators in South Carolina, the state has documented that only 3,000 educators have the ESOL full field certificates or the endorsement. The Ellevation professional learning opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL certification endorsement is designed to enable more educators across the state to earn the endorsement asynchronously, ensuring that educators create classrooms that foster authentic learning, regardless of a student's proficiency level in English. The following guidance demonstrates how Ellevation will partner with the SCDE to sustain a professional learning opportunity for South Carolina educators seeking an ESOL endorsement.

Ellevation will provide professional learning content and a platform to complete the coursework requirements for an ESOL endorsement. The professional learning modules in Ellevation Strategies advance an educator's knowledge of critical pedagogy, core concepts, and key vocabulary related to multilingual learners (MLs). In collaboration with the SCDE, Ellevation has built a custom listing of all the professional learning modules that comprise the recommended coursework for a simplified educator experience. The recommended coursework consists of 21 modules totaling 31.5 hours (seat time) and 42 hours (practicum). Below is a detailed description of the professional learning modules and coursework.

Professional Learning Module Overview

Ellevation's professional learning modules were built upon the most relevant research and best practices of English Language Development (ELD). They were designed to meet all the Every Student Succeeds Act's (ESSA's) professional development criteria, ensuring that educators are provided with sustained (not just stand-alone, 1-day, or short-term workshops), job-embedded, intensive, data-driven, collaborative, and classroom-focused support. Ellevation Strategies has earned two product certifications from Digital Promise: Research-Based Design for Instructional Learning Products and the Digital Promise Learner Variability Product Certification. These certifications serve as a reliable signal for those looking for evidence of rigorous, research-based educational technology products.

The modules in Ellevation Strategies provide educators with relevant and impactful professional learning through three distinct parts: Learn, Teach, and Reflect. Informed by research and designed with best practices in mind, each module ensures educators gain confidence and new skills in a structured, meaningful way.

Part 1: Learn

The Learn part of each module has three components where educators build a strong foundation in understanding their students and the needs of MLs through video, data, and pedagogy articles.

- **Video:** To begin each module, a brief video provides information about the concept and pedagogy. The videos include classroom demonstrations and real student examples with which educators can make.
- **Data:** For the next component of Learn, educators will review data specific to the students in their classes. Educators access pre-configured dashboards directly related to the topic of the module. For example, the dashboard will be populated with students' speaking scores for the module *Fortify Student Speaking Output*. While reviewing their student data, educators will also see descriptions of how students progress from one level to the next. These descriptors enable educators to make sense of the data, enabling them to better scaffold instruction and guide students through the stages of language development.
- **Article:** In the final component of the Learn section, educators will read a rich research-based article that addresses pedagogy and best practices directly tied to the module topic. Additionally, to build a common language among educators, articles include clearly defined key terms and provide concrete things to watch out for, helping educators better adjust their classroom techniques.

Part 2: Teach

With a foundation in student data and essential knowledge, the Teach part of an Ellevation Strategies module provides educators with instructional strategies (activities) that improve their ability to make content accessible to MLs while engaging all students. Each module offers three activities specifically curated to connect to the topic. Within each of our activities, educators will find everything they need for success: clear directions, downloadable resources, support suggestions, demonstration videos, and more.

Part 3: Reflect

Once educators have planned a lesson with the selected activity, educators are prompted to write a summary of the lesson plan and commit to teaching using the activity in upcoming lessons. With new knowledge, a better understanding of their students, and a practical activity, educators log out of Ellevation, focusing on applying it all to classroom instruction. After teaching with the activity, educators return to the Ellevation modules to answer a few reflection questions that address the classroom application and student outcomes.

Ellevation Professional Learning Opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL Certification Endorsement

South Carolina educators that complete the Ellevation professional learning opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL certification endorsement can expect to understand key principles of

Ellevation Professional Learning Opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL Certification Endorsement

language acquisition, learn to integrate best practices into planning, instruction, and assessment, and become better prepared to meet the complex needs of MLs.

Coursework

- Completion of all 21 modules, a total of 31.5 hours (seat time)
 - o 6 introduction modules across instructional practices: *Activate Background*, *Develop Academic Language*, *Clarify Input*, *Fortify Output*, *Foster Interactions*, *Assess Language and Learning*
 - o 15 additional modules of in-depth study across all six practices to deepen knowledge and understanding

Practicum

42 hours of practicum are required to complete the Ellevation professional learning opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL certification endorsement. Each module estimates about two hours of classroom application time.

ESOL Endorsement Module List

Course	Description	Objective In completing this module, educators will:
<i>Introduction to Activate Background</i>	Multilingual learners enter the classroom with a wealth of experiences related to their culture, family, and past life experiences. Tapping into their experiences helps students make connections between what they know and new learning. Learn ways to connect, share, and build upon the knowledge multilingual learners already possess to enhance upcoming lessons.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restate two reasons that building and activating background knowledge are important for multilingual learners - Identify the linguistic and cultural assets of multilingual learners using individual data - List and explain three different ways to activate background - Select and teach with an activity to support multilingual learners' interaction with grade-level content
<i>Activate Background Knowledge through Demonstrations and Experiences</i>	Activating background knowledge allows culturally and linguistically diverse students to connect prior learning with a new concept. Educators benefit from gaining a deeper understanding of the difference between activating knowledge and building background in order to create meaningful language and content learning opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Describe why it is important for educators to consider cultural references during instruction - View which of your students are multilingual learners and examine their language proficiency levels by domain - Identify strategies that support activating background - Select and teach with an activity that helps activate background and connect to prior experiences
<i>Introduction to Develop Academic Language</i>	Academic language consists of three dimensions: messages and discourse, sentences, and words and phrases. It is	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explain why academic language is challenging to multilingual learners - Identify multilingual learners that will benefit

	the language used in classroom lessons, texts, and assessments that multilingual learners are expected to use fluently. Discover ways to support the development of academic language every day, in every class.	from additional practice with academic language - Compare present teaching practices with best practices for teaching academic language - Select and teach with an activity to practice academic language
<i>Develop Academic Language with Weighted Words</i>	The word/phrase dimension adds precision to communication. Multilingual learners require explicit instruction of words and phrases in every subject every day. Educators can embed high-impact strategies into their instruction in order to develop strong academic language.	- List practices for effective instruction at the word and phrase dimension - Identify which students would benefit from explicit instruction of words and phrases - Record 2-3 strategies that support the intentional teaching of specific high-utility terms with word-learning strategies - Select and teach with an activity to introduce new words and phrases and word-learning strategies
<i>Develop Academic Language with Strong Sentences</i>	Comprehending and creating strong sentences requires understanding language structures and grammar. Familiarize yourself with techniques that develop academic language while connecting to the language students bring.	- Explain 2-3 challenges multilingual learners face when communicating at the sentence level - Identify multilingual learners that will benefit from additional practice with complex sentences - Describe three ways to support multilingual learners in understanding and creating stronger sentences - Select and teach with an activity to support the use of strong sentences
<i>Develop Academic Language with Meaningful Messages</i>	Multilingual learners must understand complex texts within varying genres and express themselves clearly in a new language. Gain an understanding of how to support the comprehension and communication of extended messages.	- Restate two challenges that multilingual learners face when understanding meaningful messages - Identify multilingual learners that will benefit from purposeful practice with oral and written texts - Compare three instructional scaffolds that ensure students can understand and create a complete message - Select and teach with an activity to support the meaningful study of messages
<i>Introduction to Clarify Input</i>	Multilingual learners achieve academic success when they can access both language and content. Ensuring that they can clearly understand the input allows multilingual learners to become engaged learners. Gain a better understanding of	- Explain the impact that clear lesson delivery has on a multilingual learner - Identify multilingual learners that benefit from additional support based on their individual data - Compare 1-2 multimodal strategies to

	what modifying lesson delivery entails so that every multilingual learner comprehends what they read and hear.	modify lesson delivery - Select and teach with an activity that provides comprehensible input
<i>Clarify Input with Supported Lesson Delivery</i>	Multilingual learners learn best when they can engage with both content and language. Focusing on clarifying input before and during a lesson supports students' full comprehension. Build a repertoire of strategies to ensure content as well as language is comprehensible to multilingual learners during instruction.	- List 1-2 examples of supported lesson delivery that help clarify input - View and identify the listening levels of your students as it relates to their overall English language proficiency - Summarize 2-3 strategies for planning content lessons so that multilingual learners comprehend the information - Select and teach with an activity that focuses on comprehensible input
<i>Clarify Input with Focused Listening</i>	Listening is a multifaceted process and can be challenging for multilingual learners as they acquire a new language. Learn new ways to clarify input so your multilingual learners can improve their focused listening and retain new knowledge.	- List two reasons that focused listening can be challenging for multilingual learners - Analyze student data as it relates to multilingual learners' listening levels - Evaluate specific suggestions that support multilingual learners' listening skills - Select and teach with an activity that provides structures for listening
<i>Clarify Input with Purposeful Reading</i>	To become strong readers, multilingual learners need to recognize and understand words in context, in a language that they are still learning. There's a lot to consider regarding what and how to support their reading development. Acquire new ways to support your multilingual learners so they can engage in grade-level reading in a meaningful way.	- Explain the importance of supporting multilingual learners as they read with purpose - Examine multilingual learners' reading levels to provide support - Outline 1-2 suggestions to support multilingual learners in reading with purpose - Select and teach with an activity that promotes purposeful reading
<i>Introduction to Fortify Output</i>	Multilingual learners benefit from expressing themselves in low-anxiety academic settings. These opportunities help strengthen their output, or the language they produce through speaking and writing. Learn why a classroom culture that fosters meaningful output is so important for multilingual learners.	- Cite two classroom examples that fortify student output - Identify multilingual learners that will benefit from additional support based on speaking and writing levels - Summarize three ways to increase opportunities for multilingual learners to speak and write every day - Select and teach with an activity to fortify output
<i>Fortify Student Output with Classroom Chatter</i>	Multilingual learners are often quick to develop the ability to communicate socially but need explicit instruction to	- List some supports that can be provided to continue developing speaking proficiency - View and summarize student data related to

	learn the academic structures of the language. Educators can provide multiple opportunities for students to strengthen their academic speaking proficiency and make classroom chatter purposeful in every class, every day.	speaking development - Identify new ways to provide meaningful speaking practice in content areas - Select and teach with an activity to elicit stronger and clearer speaking from students
<i>Fortify Output with Student Writing</i>	Writing is a tool for language and content learning that is crucial for all content areas. Multilingual learners increase language and content learning, as well as their confidence, from participating in low-risk, high-impact writing activities. Learn how to unlock the writing potential of your multilingual learners.	- Understand why writing can be challenging for multilingual learners - View and summarize student data related to writing development - Describe three suggestions that will support writing for multilingual learners - Select and teach with an activity to develop strong writing
<i>Fortify Output with Constructed Response</i>	The ability to produce academic responses to grade-level content questions or prompts is crucial for effective communication and language development. But understanding what a constructed response requires, as well as understanding the prompt itself, are skills that need to be explicitly taught. Discover ways to support your multilingual learners as they produce the rigorous language necessary to answer academic prompts.	- Describe 1-2 reasons that constructed responses can be challenging for multilingual learners - Analyze multilingual learners' writing and speaking levels in order to provide targeted support - Outline 2-3 suggestions that support multilingual learners in constructing responses to grade-level prompts - Select and teach with an activity to strengthen constructed responses to various types of prompts
<i>Introduction to Foster Interactions</i>	Meaningful student interactions help build a classroom culture that welcomes an exchange of ideas and an opportunity for students to listen, challenge, extend, or defend their thinking. Discover how to create learning experiences that encourage multilingual learners to review and practice new content and language while tapping into their wide range of experiences.	- Describe what authentic classroom interaction entails for multilingual learners - Determine which students will benefit from additional supports during interactions - Summarize three ways to increase authentic interactions for multilingual learners - Select and teach with an activity to foster meaningful interactions in the classroom
<i>Foster Interactions through Academic Conversations</i>	Academic conversations provide authentic opportunities for multilingual learners to interact while increasing language and content development. Educators benefit from understanding the importance of incorporating these interactions into their practice to build student confidence and skill.	- Describe two conversation moves that increase language development - Identify which students need additional support in the domains of speaking and listening - List ways to support academic conversations in your classroom - Select and teach with an activity that supports authentic academic conversations

<i>Foster Interactions through Opinions and Debates</i>	Stating opinions and participating in debates requires multilingual learners to use all four language domains while applying norms that they may not be familiar with. Learn how to promote meaningful interactions so multilingual learners can share opinions and participate in debates.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - State two challenges that multilingual learners might encounter when giving opinions - Identify which students will need additional linguistic supports to share their opinions in speaking and writing. - Document linguistic supports that align with individual student needs - Select and teach with an activity to encourage participation in opinions and debates
<i>Foster Interactions through Practice and Review</i>	Meaningful practice and review enables multilingual learners to make sense of how their learning fits together as they continue to build their knowledge and proficiency. Learn how to provide your multilingual learners with regular opportunities to apply grade-level academic language and content in authentic interactions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - State the importance of meaningful classroom practice and review for multilingual learners - Identify which students need differentiated practice and review activities to achieve content objectives - Explain 2-3 supports that promote meaningful practice of academic content - Select and teach with an activity to support meaningful practice and review
<i>Introduction to Assess Language and Learning</i>	Assessment is a necessary element of effective instruction. But without careful consideration of the language it contains, it can often be a false measure of content learning. Discover ways to provide your multilingual learners with ongoing, equitable opportunities to demonstrate their academic and linguistic knowledge while responding to their strengths and needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explain the benefits of ongoing, equitable assessment as it relates to multilingual learners - Determine which students would benefit from alternate methods for demonstrating their linguistic growth - Summarize 2-3 approaches for providing equitable assessment opportunities - Select and teach with an activity to assess language and learning in your classroom
<i>Assess Language and Learning using Quick Checks</i>	Quick checks allow multilingual students to demonstrate gains in language and content learning in an informal way. They also provide educators with an opportunity to adjust their instructional practice. Build upon your existing knowledge of classroom-based assessment. New module release dates and titles may be subject to change to gain a clearer understanding of how to use quick checks effectively.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Describe how quick checks are an extension of classroom instruction - Analyze overall English proficiency data for your multilingual students and identify additional data needs - List and describe 2-3 formative assessments to informally gauge language proficiency in the classroom - Select and teach with an activity that allows students to demonstrate mastery of an instructional and linguistic objective
<i>Assess Language and Learning using Varied Assessment</i>	Multilingual learners benefit from varied assessments that allow them to show what they know without unnecessary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify the importance of using varied assessments for multilingual learners - Analyze student data in order to plan for

	language barriers. Providing multimodal options to demonstrate mastery in the classroom allows for authentic and equitable assessment of both content and language. Gain a better understanding of how using varied assessments can inform your instruction.	varied assessments in specific language domains - Describe two ways to vary assessment so that students can demonstrate content and language mastery - Select and teach with an activity to reduce language barriers and allow multilingual learners to show their progress authentically
--	--	---

Credit Issuance Process

Educators will submit an [opt-in request](#) to alert Ellevation and the SCDE of their interest in completing the Ellevation professional learning opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL certification endorsement. Additionally, Ellevation will provide reminders to educators who have completed the opt-in request throughout the process to encourage participant progress in completing the Ellevation professional learning opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL certification endorsement.

To ensure that educators, who earn their South Carolina ESOL endorsement with Ellevation, submit high-quality and original work, Ellevation will provide review services for educators in South Carolina. These services will validate responses before issuing a certificate certifying that all required modules were completed.

Once all modules are completed, educators can expect communication from Ellevation with their certificate and instructions for the next steps within 30 days. Educators will receive one final certificate after completing all coursework that meets the qualifications of the Ellevation professional learning opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL certification endorsement. This certificate from Ellevation will then be submitted to the SCDE. Please see below for a further outline of the necessary steps to complete the Ellevation professional learning opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL certification endorsement.

Artifacts and Reflection Statements Review

After completing each individual module, educators will submit a [help desk ticket](#) to alert Ellevation to begin reviewing the completed module. Ellevation's team of part-time reviewers will accept the request and evaluate the reflection questions against the recommended rubric.

[Ellevation Strategies Module Response Rubric](#)

Understanding of the Module Content	1	2	3
Video - React	Response does not include any details	Response includes some details from	Response includes specific details from

<i>Prompts learners to recall key information from the video</i>	recalled from the video and does not align with the prompt.	the video and partially aligns with the prompt.	the video and fully aligns with the prompt.
Data - Connect <i>Prompts learners to apply what they learned from the dashboard using concepts covered in the module</i>	Response does not include any details or observations specific to student data.	Response includes observation or connection to data but does not align with prompt.	Response cites specific data points, observations about students, and fully aligns with the prompt.
Article - Respond <i>Guides educators to reflect on what they've learned AND how they can apply this new knowledge to their classroom instruction</i>	Response does not include any specific takeaways on the module/article topic.	Response includes 1 takeaway from the module/article but does not align to the prompt.	Response includes 2+ takeaways from the module/article and fully aligns with the prompt.
Activity - Apply <i>Asks educator to select an activity and indicate when/how they will use with students.</i>	Response does not indicate a plan to teach with the activity.	Response includes vague ideas of how to try the selected activity, but does not clearly indicate an intention to use in instruction.	Response includes specific ideas for how the selected activity will be integrated into teaching and indicates a plan to teach before completing the module.
**Teaching Reflection - Reflect <i>Focuses on what the educator observed in their students' behavior, engagement, outcomes, etc., as they used the activity</i>	Response does not include specific observations about student behavior, engagement, or language outcome. It is clear the educator did not teach with the activity.	Response is a vague reflection of teaching and does not clearly indicate a professional takeaway from the experience.	Response focuses on what the educator observed in their students' behavior, engagement, or outcomes and makes it clear they taught with the activity.
Clarity of Responses	1	2	3
Clarity and focus across all responses	Responses are difficult to understand and do not reflect the learning outcomes.	Responses are partially complete and partially answer	Responses are coherent and complete and address

		the learning outcomes.	the learning outcomes.
--	--	------------------------	------------------------

Additional Scoring Details

The total recommended coursework is 31.5 hours (seat time) and 42 hours (practicum). Ellevation’s review team will respond to any educators whose responses on the modules do not meet the rubric standard. Educators will have the opportunity to resubmit their module responses and reflections to the review team, and new responses will be stored with educators' requests.

To ensure modules are completed with fidelity and align with SCDE guidelines, Ellevation will review module start and end times, as well as responses for originality content application.

Any responses that do not meet SCDE criteria, including those flagged as AI-generated or completed too quickly, will be returned for resubmission.

Any submission that includes a response scored as a one will be returned for additional evidence or revision of answers.

****Any submission that includes a 1 or 2 on the Teaching Reflection section will be returned for additional evidence or revision of answers.**

Participants who are not educators working in a classroom (e.g., administrators, instructional coaches, guidance counselors, etc.) may collaborate with Ellevation for alternate ways to complete the “Teach” portion of the ESOL endorsement. For example, some participants may have the ability to teach in an educator’s classroom to fulfill the requirements, while others may have the opportunity to collaborate with ML or content educators to discuss the content rather than teach. Adjustments will be made as necessary depending on the participants role and availability to teach lessons or activities to ensure anyone can participate in this opportunity no matter their role in South Carolina public schools.

Ellevation Certificate

Participants will be given a final certificate of completion once all 21 modules are completed to meet the requirements of the Ellevation professional learning opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL certification endorsement.

South Carolina Department of Education Renewal Credit and Endorsement Process

After educators have received the Ellevation certification upon completion of the Ellevation professional learning opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL certification endorsement, participants must email a copy of their Ellevation certificate to Title III/Multilingual Learner Ellevation Professional Learning Opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL Certification Endorsement

Program (MLP) State Coordinator at TitleIIIMLP@ed.sc.gov. The Title III/MLP State Coordinator will then send the participant an official SCDE certificate to submit to the Office of Educator Services. Educators will then request the endorsement via the [My SC Educator Portal](#) and upload the SCDE certificate.

Educators may submit the official SCDE certificate to the local school district to award applicable renewal credits. Districts must reference the [Renewal Credit Matrix](#) when awarding such credits. Educators completing Ellevation modules for renewal credits but are not earning the Ellevation professional learning opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL certification endorsement, may also submit their individual Ellevation module certificates to the local school district for potential renewal credits. Awarding renewal credits are a local decision and educators should collaborate with the district Title III/ML Coordinator and applicable district staff.

There is not a provision to use the Ellevation modules to meet any requirements for the full ESOL certification field. The requirements for the full ESOL certification can be found in the [Guidelines and Requirements for Adding Certification Fields and Endorsements](#) (pages 12-13).

Ellevation Professional Learning Opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL Certification Endorsement Steps

1. Complete the South Carolina Ellevation [opt-in request](#).
2. Asynchronously complete coursework as outlined above.
3. Submit a [help desk ticket](#) within Ellevation requesting a review of coursework completed after each module.
4. After completing all coursework as outlined above, receive the Ellevation Certificate of Completion.
5. Email the Ellevation Certificate of Completion to TitleIIIMLP@ed.sc.gov.
6. Receive the SCDE Certificate of Completion.
7. Request the Ellevation professional learning opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL certification endorsement through the [My SC Educator Portal](#) and upload the SCDE Certificate of Completion.
8. Once received, submit the ESOL endorsement to the local school district and reference district policy for renewal credits and any applicable adjustments.

For questions regarding the Ellevation professional learning opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL certification endorsement, please contact the following offices.

South Carolina ESOL Endorsement Contact Information

Topic(s)	Contact Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Renewal credits• ESOL endorsement requirements• Submitting certificates to the My SC Educator	certification@ed.sc.gov (803) 896-0325

Ellevation Professional Learning Opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL Certification Endorsement

Portal	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Carolina Title III/ML and Immigrant Program • Receiving SCDE certificate of completion • ESOL Endorsement and ESOL Certification additional information 	TitleIIIMLP@ed.sc.gov (803) 734-1601
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ellevation professional learning opportunity for the South Carolina ESOL certification endorsement opt-in • Ellevation modules, rubric, and scoring • Ellevation certificate of completion • Help Desk 	Support@ellevationeducation.com