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TEACHFORAMERICA

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TEACH FOR AMERICA STATEMENT ON THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S GUIDANCE FOR ENGLISH LEARNER STUDENTS

WASHINGTON, DC, January 14, 2015—Teach For America today released the following statement on the Department of Education's guidance for English Learner students:

Teach For America commends the Department of Education for their recent guidance to ensure that English Learner (EL) students can achieve their full academic potential by participating meaningfully and equally in educational programs and services in our schools.

Teach For America has seen firsthand the needs of EL students. In the majority of the regions where we teach there are classrooms where as many as 100 percent of students are linguistically diverse. One step we have taken towards providing those students with equal access to high-quality instruction is to strive to teach all of our students in a culturally and linguistically appropriate way. It is critical that educators are trained in culturally competent teaching and we think that this guidance will help work towards that goal.

Recognizing that English learner students be held to the same high standards and not be unjustifiably segregated is critical to ensuring the success of all of our nation's students. Equitable access to high-quality education and resources must be enforced to reach that goal.

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About Teach For America

Teach For America works in partnership with communities to expand educational opportunity for children facing the challenges of poverty. Founded in 1990, Teach For America recruits and develops a diverse corps of outstanding college graduates and professionals to make an initial two-year commitment to teach in high-need schools and become lifelong leaders in the movement to end educational inequity. Today, 10,600 corps members are teaching in 50 urban and rural regions across the country while more than 37,000 alumni work across sectors to ensure that all children have access to an excellent education. For more information, visit www.teachforamerica.org and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).