June 10, 2015

To: Assistant Superintendents and Directors of English Learner Programs of Identified Title III Districts in Title III Accountability Year 7+

From: Raynette Sanchez, Director III
Curriculum and Instructional Services
Magdalena Ruz Gonzalez, Project Director III
Ruth Baskett, Title III Lead
Multilingual Academic Support Unit
Curriculum and Instructional Services

Subject: Technical Assistance for Title III Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) Identified Year 7+

The Los Angeles County Office of Education, Division of Curriculum and Instructional Services (CIS), is pleased to announce the partnership of the Multilingual Academic Support Unit of CIS with the Center for Equity for English Learners (CEEL) at the Loyola Marymount University School of Education. As a result, the following professional learning sessions, will be offered to Title III LEAs identified year seven (7) for the 2014-2015 school year. This will support the LEAs implementation of their Improvement Plan and help them meet their English Learners achievement targets.

Under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), LEAs receive Title III funds to meet English Learner achievement targets. LEAs that have not met these targets, as a result of the underachievement of English Learner students, are placed on improvement status. The California Department of Education (CDE) notifies LEA superintendents of the Title III Accountability status. In conjunction with the CDE, the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) provides technical support to those LEAs identified as Title III Year 2 and Title III Year 4 as well as technical support for plan implementation and monitoring for LEAs who have not yet exited from Title III Accountability Improvement Plan status.

CEEL presents the OPAL Institute; a three-day interactive series on teaching and learning for grades Pre K-12 featuring the Observation Protocol for Academic Literacies (OPAL). The OPAL is a tool is designed to help LEAs build expertise in the identification and provision of feedback on effective practices for English Learners. The OPAL Institute will support LEAs in building local capacity for the implantation and monitoring of their plan through:

- Examination of critical aspects of engagement and interaction for ELs
- Identification of topics for differentiated professional learning
- Building staff capacity through certification as OPAL trainers upon completion of three-day institute

Serving Students • Supporting Communities • Leading Educators
For participation in the OPAL Institute, LEAs should convene a team comprised of three (3) individuals who will be responsible for the implementation of their Title III plan. Members of the team should include administrators responsible for English Learner programs and professional learning.

The OPAL Institute will take place at the Los Angeles County Office of Education, Center West, 12830 Columbia Way, Downey, CA 90242. The following provides additional scheduling information for the series of institutes.

**Cohort 1**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, August 26, 2015</td>
<td>8:00 am - 3:00 pm</td>
<td>EdCenter West Room 601</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, August 27, 2015</td>
<td>8:00 am - 3:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, September 22, 2015</td>
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**Cohort 2**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, September 9, 2015</td>
<td>8:00 am - 3:00 pm</td>
<td>EdCenter West Room 601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, September 10, 2015</td>
<td>8:00 am - 3:00 pm</td>
<td>*EdCenter West Room 610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, September 24, 2015</td>
<td>8:00 am - 3:00 pm</td>
<td>EdCenter West Room 601</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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*Please note room change Cohort 2, Day 2*

LEA teams should register for one cohort only and attend as a team. Priority will be given to LEAs who have not yet participated in the OPAL Institute. Registrants will be admitted on a first-come, first-served basis. Spaces are limited. A confirmation will be e-mailed to each participant upon receipt of the registration form on or before August 17, 2015. The regular cost of the institute is $625.00 (including all materials and the OPAL training manual), which will be waived by LACOE. LEAs will be expected to cover the cost of refreshments and meals for three days at $70.00 per participant.

Register using below links:

Cohort 1: [http://lacoe.k12oms.org/1539-99141](http://lacoe.k12oms.org/1539-99141)
Cohort 2: [http://lacoe.k12oms.org/1539-99143](http://lacoe.k12oms.org/1539-99143)

If you have questions regarding Title III, please contact: Ruth Baskett, Title III Lead at: baskett_ruth@lacoe.edu

LACOE does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of age, actual or perceived race, actual or perceived gender, ethnicity, national origin, religion, disability or sexual orientation. LACOE complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act to ensure equal access to all qualified individuals with a disability. If you are disabled and require assistance in accessing this event, please contact the LACOE Title II Coordinator at (562) 803-8297.