

Georgia Home Language Survey

Required: January 2024 | Optional: January 2023 – December 2023

Notice to Parents and Guardians:

Georgia school systems are required¹ to collect your responses² to questions about your preferred language for school communication and your child's primary or home language. Information from the first question is used to identify your need for an interpreter or for translated documents. Information from the three *Home Language Survey questions* and the additional language information help us determine whether to screen your child's level of English language proficiency. The screening process will identify if your child qualifies for English learner status and services in our language instruction educational program.

Purpose of Questions	Questions & Parent/Guardians Responses
<p>Communication Preferences</p> <p>This question helps the school provide you with an interpreter or translated documents, free of charge, should you want them.</p> <p>This question is for informational purposes only. It is not used to identify your child for English language proficiency screening.</p>	<p>Parent Communication Language (Required)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">In which language would you prefer to receive school communication? <p>_____</p>
<p>Identification of Potential English Learners</p> <p>These three questions help schools identify if your child should be screened for eligibility to participate in their language instruction educational program.</p> <p>When the response to any of these questions is a language other than English, schools may be required to screen your child's level of English language proficiency. If you respond with more than one language, the school will need additional information from you before making this decision.</p>	<p>Home Language Survey (Required)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Which language does your child <u>best</u> understand and speak? _____Which language does your child <u>most</u> frequently speak at home? _____Which language do adults in your home <u>most</u> frequently use when speaking with your child? _____
<p>Additional Information from Multilingual Families</p> <p>If you indicated that your child and other adults in the home understand and use English and another language or languages, schools will ask you to provide additional information to decide if your child should be screened for English proficiency.</p> <p>If you respond that your child understands and uses English more than the other home language, or that your child understands and uses both English and the other home language equally, the school will not screen your child for English language proficiency.</p>	<p>Additional Information from Multilingual Families. Choose <u>only one sentence that best describes your child's primary language.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> My child understands and uses only the home language and no English.<input type="checkbox"/> My child understands and uses mostly the home language and a little English.<input type="checkbox"/> My child understands and uses the home language and English equally.<input type="checkbox"/> My child understands and uses mostly English and only a little of the home language.<input type="checkbox"/> My child understands and uses only English.

¹ U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, and U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 7 January 2015. *Dear Colleague Letter: English Learner Students and Limited English Proficient Parents*, p. 10.

² The Home Language Survey should be given to first time enrollees to United States public schools.