

# Points of Light Bilingual Educator Grant

Phillips Fundamental Learning Center

## Fact Sheet



**Purpose of the grant?** This project is designed to provide professional development in two bilingual literacy programs over two years: Esperanza and WELLS 3. Dr. Elsa Cardenas-Hagan, Director of Valley Speech Language and Learning Center, accredited by the International Dyslexia Association, will partner with the Phillips Fundamental Learning Center to facilitate this training. The grant will cover the costs of training (and incidentals) for 40 Spanish/English bilingual rural Kansas educators who teach English as a second language to Spanish speaking students or dual-language and bilingual education teachers.

### **What does the two tier grant program cover?**

- Full tuition and course materials (valued at over \$8,000.00)
- Stipend for training - \$150.00 per day (10 days per year)
- Lodging accommodations - \$107.00 per day (5 days per year)
- Meal allowance - \$44.00 per day (5 days per year)
- Mentorship for length of the program

**What is Esperanza?** Esperanza, accredited by the International Multisensory Structured Language Education Council, is a Spanish multisensory structured language approach for reading, writing, and spelling. The goal is to systematically and cumulatively develop a strong knowledge of the structure of the Spanish language so that students can read, write, and spell in their primary language.

**What is the goal of WELLS 3?** The WELLS 3 program, accredited by the International Dyslexia Association, is designed for Spanish/English bilingual educators to teach English language and literacy using cross-language connections for Spanish speaking students learning English as an additional language.

**Who should take Esperanza and WELLS 3?** The program is designed for elementary school teachers of English for speakers of other languages. Teachers must be **fluent** in Spanish and English, and hold a Bachelor's Degree.

3/26/25

**How much time is involved?** There are two levels of training that take place over two years beginning in the summer of 2025 (see details below).

### Training

- **Year 1 Esperanza:**
  - One week summer in-person training (July 7 to July 11, 2025)
  - 5 additional days throughout the school year (10/17/25, 11/14/25, 12/12/25, 3/6/26 and 5/1/26)
  - 5 observations of teaching students throughout the same school year
- **Year 2 WELLS 3:**
  - One week summer in-person training
  - 5 additional days throughout the school year
  - 5 observations of teaching students throughout the same school year
  - Dates released January 2026

### Practicum/Implementation

- Instruct a student/group (in accordance with course guidelines) for a minimum of one year after the completion of the introductory course. Implement and maintain at least two (2) Esperanza classes consisting of 1-5 students per group.
  - Option 1: A minimum of 60-minutes per group, four (4) days/week
  - Option 2: A minimum of 45-minutes per group, five (5) days/week
    - Students may not be added to a group once instruction begins, as this is a sequential, cumulative program. However, it is possible for a new group to be formed during the year.
- Signed District/Administration Commitment Form Required
- Collect data on student progress for the length of the program

**Can participants obtain a certification from this program?** Yes, after successfully completing the two year program participants may be eligible to sit for the Certified Academic Language Practitioner (CALP) Bilingual exam through the Academic Language Therapy Association or Certified Structured Literacy Dyslexia Interventionist (C-SLDI) certification through the Center for Effective Reading Instruction.

3/26/25