

George E. Pataki Governor

NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES 52 WASHINGTON STREET RENSSELAER, NY 12144

John A. Johnson
Commissioner

Informational Letter

Transmittal:	06-OCFS-INF-05						
To:	Commissioners of Social Services						
	Executive Directors of Voluntary Authorized Agencies						
Issuing Division/Office:	Strategic Planning and Policy Development and Public Affairs Offices						
Date:	May 10, 2006						
Subject:	OCFS Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Survey						
Suggested	All programs in local Departments of Social Services						
Distribution:	All programs in Voluntary Agencies						
Contact Person(s):	Mery Rosendorn, Public Affairs Office (518) 473-7793; info@ocfs.state.ny.us						
Attachments:	Yes – PDF version of LEP Survey						
Attachment Avai	The LEP Survey is available electronically on the OCFS intranet by clicking on the link below: http://ocfs.state.nyenet/ohrd/survey/lep/						

Filing References, if applicable

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	Dept. Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Informational Letter (INF) is to provide guidance to local departments of social services and voluntary agencies on the Limited English

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Proficiency (LEP) program, and request their assistance in completing the attached Limited English Proficiency (LEP) survey by **June 19, 2006**. The New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) has developed this survey in response to the LEP federal requirements and policy guidance issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Executive Order 13166, "Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency," issued on August 11, 2000.

II. Background

Under federal requirements, every agency receiving federal financial assistance must provide meaningful access to programs and services to individuals who may be limited in English proficiency. An LEP individual is a person who does not speak English as his/her primary language and who has a limited ability to read, write, speak or understand English. The OCFS LEP survey is designed to gather information from the local departments of social services and voluntary agencies on their experience with the LEP population. This survey will help identify needs associated with providing meaningful access to LEP individuals who access their programs and services. The completion of this survey is designed to further develop a comprehensive OCFS policy guidance document on LEP. Survey responses will not impact levels of OCFS or federal financial assistance.

III. Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Survey

The OCFS LEP survey is due **June 19, 2006**. This survey can be completed and submitted electronically via the OCFS intranet. The intranet link to access the electronic version of the OCFS LEP survey is http://ocfs.state.nyenet/ohrd/survey/lep/. Voluntary agencies that are unable to access the OCFS intranet can print out and complete the attached OCFS LEP survey (PDF file), and submit it to the Division of Public Affairs at the following address:

Division of Public Affairs
Attn.: LEP Survey Coordinators
New York State Office of Children and Family Services
52 Washington Street, Room 305 South
Rensselaer, New York 12144

Local departments of social services and voluntary agencies must complete a survey for each program. To assist OCFS in compiling your LEP data, e-mail OCFS (info@ocfs.state.ny.us), at your earliest convenience, a listing of each of the program(s) that will be submitting a survey and the name(s) of the person(s) responsible for completing it. Please include "LEP Program List" in the subject area of your e-mail. If you do not have access to electronic correspondence, please send your list via regular mail to the address listed above.

Surveys are due June 19, 2006.

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Issued Jointly By:

/s/ Sandra A. Brown

Name: Sandra A. Brown

Title: Assistant Commissioner for Public Affairs Division/Office: Division of Public Affairs

/s/ Nancy W. Martinez

Name: Nancy W. Martinez

Title: Director

Division/Office: Office of Strategic Planning and Policy Development

Limited English Proficiency Survey

The Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Survey of the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) is designed to gather information from Local Departments of Social Services (LDSS) and voluntary agencies regarding their experience with the LEP population. Limited English Proficiency refers to individuals who do not speak English as their primary language and who have a limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English. The LEP population in your county may be eligible for services but unable to access them due to limited English ability. Your agency or program may have already started developing materials to help LEP individuals better access programs. The LEP Survey is designed to learn about what steps you have already taken to meet the needs of LEP clients, as well as to identify your needs in providing more meaningful access to your programs and services. Your responses will assist OCFS in providing for the needs of the LEP community. If your LDSS/voluntary agency offers several different programs, please complete a survey for each program, clearly identifying the LDSS/voluntary agency and program name on the survey(s) submitted.

Survey(s) must be submitted to OCFS by **June 19, 2006**. If you decide to send your survey via regular mail, please send it to:

Division of Public Affairs
Attention: LEP Survey Coordinators
New York State Office of Children and Family Services
52 Washington Street, Room 305 South
Rensselaer, NY 12144

Should you have any questions regarding this survey, please e-mail OCFS at info@ocfs.state.ny.us, or call the agency's Public Information Office for assistance at (518) 473-7793.

We thank you for your efforts in continuing to serve New York State's children, families, adults, and communities.

1. Your information:

Name of LDSS/Voluntary Agency	
Name of Program Completing Survey	/
Street	
City	
County	
Zip Code	
Name of Person Completing Survey	
Title of Person Completing Survey	
Telephone Number	
E-mail Address (if you have one)	

2.	Check all primary OCFS supervised programs and voluntary agency.	serv	ices administered by the LDSS or
	 □ adolescent pregnancy prevention services □ adoption subsidies and services □ adult protective services □ aftercare services □ blind and visually handicapped services □ child care services □ children and family services □ child protective services □ domestic violence services 		employment services foster care services independent living services legal services preventive services rehabilitative services residential services runaway homeless youth services youth development services AmeriCorps other
3.	Does your LDSS or voluntary agency receive any grants, entitlement programs or other assistance; of surplus property? Yes <a href="mailto:any No Don't Know		
4.	Are there any LEP individuals who attempt to access Yes No Don't Know	ss or	use any of your programs?
lf ;	you answered YES to question 3 <u>and</u> YES to que you answered NO to question 3 <u>or</u> NO to ques mainder of the survey.		
Yo	ou may submit this survey now by mailing it to th	e ad	dress provided on page 1.
5.	Please estimate the number of LEP individuals who	atte	empt to access your program per month.
6.	Please estimate the number of LEP individuals who per month.	use	e or receive services from your program
7.	Please estimate the total number of individuals when per month.	o us	e or receive services from your program

	8. Please indicate the language(s) spoken by your program's LEP clients or prospective clien (Please select all the languages that apply.)				
	□ African Languages □ Arabic □ Armenian □ Bengali □ Bosnian □ Cambodian □ Cantonese □ Mandarin □ Taiwanese □ Other Chinese □ Czech □ Dutch □ Farsi (Persian) □ French □ French Cajun □ French Creole □ German □ Greek	 □ Hebrew □ Hindi □ Hungarian □ Italian □ Japanese □ Korean □ Laotian □ Cayuga □ Mohawk □ Navajo □ Oneida □ Onondaga □ Seneca □ Tuscarora □ Other Native	□ Portuguese □ Punjabi □ Romanian □ Russian □ Servo-Croatian □ Spanish □ Tagalog □ Thai □ Ukrainian □ Urdu □ Vietnamese □ Yiddish □ Sign Language/Braille □ Other (specify)		
9 8	3 10. Below, please specify the top often they occur. Please identify fro times a year, once a month, twice a	equency by filling in: once a yea	r, 2-3 times a year, 4-10		
	<u>Language</u>	<u>Frequency</u>			
	Most Often				
	2 nd Most Often				
	3 rd Most Often				
	4 th Most Often				
	4 th Most Often				
11	4 th Most Often5 th Most Often		en consent is available.		

	Hindi Hungarian Italian Japanese Korean Laotian Cayuga Mohawk		Seneca Tuscarora Other Native American Pashto Polish Portuguese Punjabi		Spanish Tagalog Thai Ukrainian Urdu Vietnamese Yiddish Sign Lan-
	Navajo Oneida		Romanian Russian		guage/Braille Other
	Onondaga		Servo-Croatian	_	Other
12. Ple	ease select all the languages in wh	ich		ar	e available.
	None African Languages Arabic Armenian Bengali Bosnian Cambodian Cantonese Mandarin Taiwanese Other Chinese Czech Dutch Farsi (Persian) French French Cajun French Creole		German Greek Hebrew Hindi Hungarian Italian Japanese Korean Laotian Cayuga Mohawk Navajo Oneida Onondaga Seneca Tuscarora Other Native American		Pashto Polish Portuguese Punjabi Romanian Russian Servo-Croatian Spanish Tagalog Thai Ukrainian Urdu Vietnamese Yiddish Sign Lan- guage/Braille Other
13. Do	other written materials need to be	CO	mpleted to access your services?		
	No Yes				
13a. F — —	Please list the written materials.				

14. Pleas	se select all the languages in wh	ich	required written documents are av	aila	ıble.
La Ai Ai Ai Ai Bi Gi	frican anguages rabic rmenian engali osnian ambodian antonese landarin aiwanese other Chinese		German Greek Hebrew Hindi Hungarian Italian Japanese Korean Laotian Cayuga Mohawk Navajo Oneida Onondaga Seneca Tuscarora Other Native American		Pashto Polish Portuguese Punjabi Romanian Russian Servo-Croatian Spanish Tagalog Thai Ukrainian Urdu Vietnamese Yiddish Sign Lan- guage/Braille Other
□ No					
No Ad La Ad	one frican anguages		German Greek Hebrew Hindi Hungarian Italian Japanese Korean Laotian Cayuga Mohawk Navajo Oneida Onondaga Seneca Tuscarora Other Native American		Pashto Polish Portuguese Punjabi Romanian Russian Servo-Croatian Spanish Tagalog Thai Ukrainian Urdu Vietnamese Yiddish Sign Lan- guage/Braille Other

17. Do	es your program have signs or po	sters announcing the availability of lar	iguage services?
	No Yes		
	ease select all the languages in guage services are available.	n which signs or posters announcir	ng the availability of
	African Languages Arabic Armenian Bengali Bosnian Cambodian Cantonese Mandarin Taiwanese Other Chinese Czech Dutch Farsi (Persian) French French Cajun French Creole	☐ German ☐ Greek ☐ Hebrew ☐ Hindi ☐ Hungarian ☐ Italian ☐ Japanese ☐ Korean ☐ Laotian ☐ Cayuga ☐ Mohawk ☐ Navajo ☐ Oneida ☐ Onondaga ☐ Seneca ☐ Tuscarora ☐ Other Native American	 □ Pashto □ Polish □ Portuguese □ Punjabi □ Romanian □ Russian □ Servo-Croatian □ Spanish □ Tagalog □ Thai □ Ukrainian □ Urdu □ Vietnamese □ Yiddish □ Sign Language/Braille □ Other
the	program?	that are mandatory for continued enr	ollment or success in
	No Yes		
	e mandatory groups or activities of No Yes	ffered in any language other than Engl	ish?
eni	es your program have renewa rollment? No Yes	l/recertification forms that are man	datory for continued

es are the renewal/recertification	forms in? Please select all the
☐ German ☐ Greek ☐ Hebrew ☐ Hindi ☐ Hungarian ☐ Italian ☐ Japanese ☐ Korean ☐ Laotian ☐ Cayuga ☐ Mohawk ☐ Navajo ☐ Oneida ☐ Onondaga ☐ Seneca ☐ Tuscarora ☐ Other Native American	□ Pashto □ Polish □ Portuguese □ Punjabi □ Romanian □ Russian □ Servo-Croatian □ Spanish □ Tagalog □ Thai □ Ukrainian □ Urdu □ Vietnamese □ Yiddish □ Sign Lan- guage/Braille □ Other
ns, notices, or documents and t ses in a language other than Englis	
Available Langua	ages
Available Langua	ages
	German Greek Hebrew Hindi Hungarian Italian Japanese Korean Laotian Cayuga Mohawk Navajo Oneida Onondaga Seneca Tuscarora Other Native American Available Langua

Publication/Form # Publication/Form # Publication/Form #	Available Langua Available Langua	ages ages ages
	a form that explains the rights of and and and and and and and and and are translation services?	n LEP individual, including the
26. Does your program emplo	y any bilingual employees?	
□ No □ Yes		
27. Specify all languages that	bilingual staff speak.	
□ None □ African Languages □ Arabic □ Armenian □ Bengali □ Bosnian □ Cambodian □ Cantonese □ Mandarin □ Taiwanese □ Other Chinese □ Czech □ Dutch □ Farsi (Persian) □ French □ French Cajun □ French Creole	☐ German ☐ Greek ☐ Hebrew ☐ Hindi ☐ Hungarian ☐ Italian ☐ Japanese ☐ Korean ☐ Laotian ☐ Cayuga ☐ Mohawk ☐ Navajo ☐ Oneida ☐ Onondaga ☐ Seneca ☐ Tuscarora ☐ Other Native American	□ Pashto □ Polish □ Portuguese □ Punjabi □ Romanian □ Russian □ Servo-Croatian □ Spanish □ Tagalog □ Thai □ Ukrainian □ Urdu □ Vietnamese □ Yiddish □ Sign Language/Braille □ Other
	umber of employees at the LDSS or vally or interpret orally in the another lar	
□ Less Than 1%□ 1 - 4%□ 5 - 10%□ 11 - 25%	 □ 26 - 35% □ 36 - 50% □ 51 - 75% □ More Than 75% 	

	29. What percent of the total number of employees at the LDSS or voluntary agency can translate materials accurately into another language?						
	Less Than 1% 1 - 4% 5 - 10% 11 - 25%	□ 36 □ 51	- 35% - 50% - 75% ore Than 75%				
30. Are	there any bilingual employees	s who	can assist LEP individuals with inta	ıke?			
31. Spe	ecify all languages for which st	aff car	assist with intake:				
	African Languages Arabic Armenian Bengali Bosnian Cambodian Cantonese Mandarin Taiwanese Other Chinese Czech Dutch Farsi (Persian) French French Cajun French Creole		Greek Hebrew Hindi Hungarian Italian Japanese Korean Laotian Cayuga Mohawk Navajo Oneida Onondaga Seneca Tuscarora		Pashto Polish Portuguese Punjabi Romanian Russian Servo-Croatian Spanish Tagalog Thai Ukrainian Urdu Vietnamese Yiddish Sign Lan- guage/Braille Other		
32. Are	there any bilingual employees	s who	can assist LEP individuals with cas	e co	oordination?		
	No Yes						
33. Spe	ecify all languages for which st	taff car	assist with case coordination.				
	None African Languages Arabic Armenian Bengali Bosnian		Cantonese Mandarin		Farsi (Persian) French French Cajun French Creole German Greek Hebrew		

 ☐ Hindi ☐ Hungarian ☐ Italian ☐ Japanese ☐ Korean ☐ Laotian ☐ Cayuga ☐ Mohawk ☐ Navajo ☐ Oneida ☐ Onondaga 	Amer Pash Polisl Portu Punja Roma Russ Serve	arora r Native rican to n guese abi anian ian o-Croatian	□ Spanish □ Tagalog □ Thai □ Ukrainian □ Urdu □ Vietname □ Yiddish □ Sign Language/B □ Other	n ese 1- raille
34. Please indicate how often y	Never	Some of The Time	Most of The Time	рану.
employees as interpreters				
contract interpreters				
language banks				
community- based orgs.				
telephone services				
relatives or friends				
None None African Languages Arabic Armenian Bengali Bosnian Cambodian Cantonese Mandarin Taiwanese Other Chinese Czech Dutch Farsi (Persian)	□ Frenc □ Frenc	ch ch Cajun ch Creole nan k ew arian nese an an ga	nmonly done. Navajo Oneida Onondag Seneca Tuscaror Other Na Americar Pashto Polish Portugue Punjabi Romania Russian Servo-Ci	ra ative n ese an roatiar

□ Tagalog□ Thai□ Ukrainian		□ Urdu□ Vietnamese□ Yiddish		□ Sign Lan- guage/Braille □ Other	
	ase indicate how often erials.	your program uses	the following options	to translate written	
		Never	Some of The Time	Most of The Time	
	employees as interpreters contract				-
	interpreters				_
	language banks				
	community- based orgs.				-
	telephone services				_
	relatives or friends				
37. Sele	ect all languages for w	nich written translat	ions are most comm	only done.	
	African Languages Arabic Armenian Bengali Bosnian Cambodian Cantonese Mandarin Taiwanese Other Chinese Czech Dutch Farsi (Persian) French French Creole	Germ Gree Hebr Hindi Hung Italia Japa Kores Cayu Moha Nava Onei Onor Sene	k ew jarian n nese an an ga awk jo da ndaga aca arora r Native	□ Pashto □ Polish □ Portugu □ Punjabi □ Romani □ Russian □ Servo-C □ Spanish □ Tagalog □ Thai □ Ukrainia □ Urdu □ Vietnam □ Yiddish □ Sign Lai guage/E □ Other	an Croatian I I In Inese

38. Does your staff work with a language needs of individuals □ No □ Yes	ny community-based organization organization or the community-based or the co	
39. Would your program benefit fro ☐ No ☐ Yes	om employing (additional) bilingua	I staff?
40. Which of the following language	es would be essential to your pro	gram?
 None African Languages Arabic Armenian Bengali Bosnian Cambodian Cantonese Mandarin Taiwanese Other Chinese Czech Dutch Farsi (Persian) French French Cajun French Creole 	□ German □ Greek □ Hebrew □ Hindi □ Hungarian □ Italian □ Japanese □ Korean □ Laotian □ Cayuga □ Mohawk □ Navajo □ Oneida □ Onondaga □ Seneca □ Tuscarora □ Other Native American	□ Pashto □ Polish □ Portuguese □ Punjabi □ Romanian □ Russian □ Servo-Croatian □ Spanish □ Tagalog □ Thai □ Ukrainian □ Urdu □ Vietnamese □ Yiddish □ Sign Language/Braille □ Other
41. Does your program currently has services?	ave a system in place for tracking	LEP individuals who request
□ No □ Yes		
42. Please list additional resource clients.	es that your program has identit	fied to successfully serve LEP

43. Please comment on any other relevant issues that have not been covered in this survey.

Thank you for completing this OCFS survey.