

## Family Interview Questions for Multilingual Learner (ML) Identification of American Indian or Alaska Native (AI/AN) Students

The following interview questions can be used as a resource to develop a deep understanding of the potential historic, cultural, and linguistic influences on the language of AI/AN students who may require additional support as MLs. This is by no means an exhaustive list of the questions, nor must every question be used. The family interview should be conducted by someone qualified on the ML Identification Team and in a face-to-face format whenever possible. The family's responses and interview observations should be documented, stored securely, and shared with the multidisciplinary team.

### Your Child

- Does your child understand when someone communicates with them in a language other than English? To what degree?
- At what age did your child begin speaking?
- Does your child follow one-step instructions in Native Language/English?
- Does your child follow two-step instruction in the Native language/English?
- Does your child follow three-step instruction in the Native language/English?
- At what age did your child enroll in public school?
- Do you believe your child might need additional support to learn the language of math, science, reading, or writing?

### Your Child in your Home, Family, and in the Community

- Does your child use a language other than English with family, extended family, friends, or community members? To what degree?
- Do you or anyone else use a language other than English in your household?
- Does your child regularly attend Tribal affiliated events where a language other than English is used? How often?

### Your Child's Educational History

- Has your child attended a bilingual school (Tribally affiliated or otherwise) in the past?
- How does your child feel about school?
- Describe the level of support your child needs to complete their homework.
- Has your child felt a sense of belonging in school?
  - Who or what makes you or child feel a sense of belonging in school?
- Does your child feel comfortable expressing their own needs in school?
- Has attendance ever been an issue for your child? If so, please elaborate.

### Notes for the Interviewer

Begin the interview by thoroughly explaining the purpose, the use, and the potential outcomes of the information gathered. Remind the family of the value and importance of multilingualism and multiculturalism. Provide explanations for the questions as needed. Consider inviting multiple family members or conducting interviews with additional family members.



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