

The University of Utah College of Education's
**Advancing Pathways toward Equity and eXcellence with
 Educators of Multilingual Learners (APEX) Project**

A U.S. Department of Education Office of English Language Acquisition
 National Professional Development Funded Award #T365Z210040

The APEX Project centers on advancing four professional development pathways including degree pathways that support educators of multilingual learners across varied professional roles. All pathways emphasize effective evidence-based practices for improving outcomes for MLs, including:

- *Promotion of literacy and dual language approaches,*
- *Teaching academic vocabulary words intensively across several days using a variety of instructional activities,*
- *Integration of oral & written English language instruction into content-area teaching,*
- *Small-group instructional intervention,*
- *Providing explicit instruction to parents on a) English literacy, & b) children's literacy, including daily & weekly family storybook reading,*
- *Embedding discourse practice through interaction strategies, and*
- *Using cooperative learning to develop social-emotional skills & enhancing academic achievement.*

The four APEX pathways are:

Target Audience	State-approved ESL Endorsement		M.Ed. with ESL Endorsement	Intensive Training Series (ITS): Foundations of Educating with MLs In & Out of School	Summer Institutes on ML-Specialized Topics on Educating MLs
	<i>Within Initial Licensure In-Person Coursework</i>	<i>Stand-alone through hybrid and online coursework</i>	<i>Builds on 18 credit hour ESL endorsement by adding 4 hybrid, online, or in-person graduate courses to earn MED (upon acceptance of application to ECS department's MED degree)</i>	<i>40+ hours of online, self-paced professional development with monthly support across 4 modules (earns 4 credit hour undergraduate course credit or certificate of completion. Professional learning points in process).</i>	<i>40 hours of hybrid, in-person, online professional development on specialized topics over a 2-week summer period in June 2024, June 2025, & June 2026.</i>

	18 undergraduate credit hours	18 continuing education credits/graduate credit hours	30 graduate credit hours	4 undergraduate or graduate credit hours (being developed toward a total 15 credit hour certificate for support personnel working with MLs)	3 graduate credit hours (being developed as graduate courses that can be applied toward MED degree upon acceptance of application to ECS department's MED degree)
UofU Pre-service Teachers working on an ESL endorsement	X				
In-service Teachers with ESL endorsement					X
In-service Teachers without ESL endorsement		X	X		
Paraeducators				X	
Counselors without ESL Endorsement		X	X		
Parent Leaders/ Family Advocates/ Refugee Srvs./After School Coordinators				X	
Instructional Coaches without ESL Endorsement		X	X		
APEX Alumni					X

The implementation of each pathway is tailored to partner districts' growing need for highly qualified educators of MLs and supported by district liaisons, year-long mentors/advisors, and local and national experts in ML-focused evidence-based instructional practices.