1. PURPOSE

The University of Houston System, including each of its universities, is committed to providing quality education to all its students. With the exception of language classes, virtually all university classes, programs and activities are provided in English. This policy describes the affirmative steps that each university with the University of Houston System shall take to ensure that enrolled students who are English Language Learners (ELLs) can meaningfully participate in university educational programs and services, in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1. English Language Learner (ELL) – A national-origin-minority student who is limited-English-proficient. This term is often preferred over limited-English-proficient (LEP) as it highlights accomplishments rather than deficits. ELLs are also sometimes identified as Multilingual Students.

2.2. Limited English Proficiency (LEP) – Persons with Limited English Proficiency are defined as “those individuals who have a limited ability to read, write, speak or understand English.” See English Language Learner (ELL).

3. POLICY

3.1. Each University shall state on its website the requirements for English language proficiency for admission of new students.

3.2. Each University will provide resources, support services and/or programs to foster success for students through a writing center. ELL students shall have equal access to such resources, support services and/or programs as traditional students. Writing centers shall, at a minimum, provide online resources, feedback on written compositions, and peer tutoring.

3.3. Training for staff working in writing centers at each University shall include instruction on working with ELL students.
3.4. Information regarding available academic support services and programs for students will be made accessible annually through the Student Handbook of each component university.

4. REVIEW AND RESPONSIBILITY

Responsible Parties: Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost
Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Services

Review: Every five years on or before December 6

5. APPROVAL

Approved: /Paula Myrick Short/
Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost

/Richard Walker/
Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Services

/Dona H. Cornell/
Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs and General Counsel

/Renu Khator/
Chancellor

Date: May 2, 2019

6. REFERENCES