Placement in an English Language Learners Program

For placement of students in an ELL program, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education recommends the process outlined in the flow chart below. This is the process followed in Concord.

Summary: Decision Guide for Language Program Processes

- Newly Enrolled Students
  - Administer Home Language Survey
    - Home language is English
      - No language program needed
        - Place in general education program.
    - Home language is other than English
      - Administer screening language assessments
        - Demonstrates English language proficiency
          - Student considered non-ELL
            - Place in general education program.
        - Student is not proficient in English language
          - Designate student as ELL
            - Place in appropriate language program.
          - Send Initial Parent Notification Form
            - Parents accept placement
              - Complete appropriate waiver documentation.
                - Place student in requested or available program.
            - Parents request program waiver
              - Parents decide to “opt out”
                - Maintain records of “opted out” students.
                  - Ensure language support in general education program.
            - Parents request program placement
              - Student meets reclassification criteria
                - Reclassify student as former ELL
                  - Place in general education program and monitor for 2 years.
              - Student does not meet reclassification criteria
                - Maintain ELL classification.
                  - Place in appropriate language program.
- Administer annual language assessment and collect student performance data.
  - Establish school-based team to determine student placement.

taken from, “Transitional Guidance on Identification, Assessment, Placement and Reclassification of English Language Learners August 2013” as found on http://www.doe.mass.edu/ell/guidance_laws.html