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Migrant Network Coalition of Lexington
www.mnclex.net

National Resources
Limited English Proficiency Interagency
website
www.lep.gov
US Department of Justice, Federal
Coordination and Compliance Section
www.usdoj.gov/crt/cor
Title VI Hotline
1-88-TITLE-06 (1-888-848-5306)
(Voice/TDD)

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Printed October 2014

Domestic Violence services are funded, in whole or in part,
from federal and state funds provided by the Cabinet for
Health and Family Services through a contract with KCADV.

This publication was made possible by Grant Number
PON27361400001749 from the Department of Health and
Human Services Administration for Children and Families.

Providing
language access
Tips and guidance about
compliance with Title VI of the
Civil Rights Acts of 1964

our mission
The mission of the Kentucky
Coalition Against Domestic Violence
is to mobilize and support member
programs and allies to end intimate
partner violence.

resources
Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC § 2000d)
"No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance."

Executive Order 13166 (August 21, 2000)
Requires each federal agency and federally assisted program to examine the services it provides and develop and implement a system by which LEP persons can meaningfully access those services without unduly burdening the agency.

why should my agency provide language access?
Because it’s the law!
According to federal law, all federal agencies and federally assisted programs must take reasonable steps to ensure that all persons, regardless of their language skills, are provided meaningful access to the programs, services, and information provided by that agency or entity.

Entities that receive funding or assistance from the federal government and that must comply with the law include:
• State agencies
• Local agencies
• Private and nonprofit entities
• Entities that receive funding from any of the above.

If you violate the law...
Entities that do not comply with federal law regarding language access may be subject to investigation and remedial actions and may even risk losing their federal funding or assistance.

what is meaningful access?
There is no one size fits all plan for providing meaningful language access to LEP persons. The steps that an entity must take to comply with the requirements of Title VI and Executive Order 13166 will vary depending on the services your program offers, the community served, and the available resources. However, some measures your entity should take to ensure meaningful language access include:
• Evaluating the language needs of those served by your program
• Designing an effective LEP policy for your program
• Monitoring and updating the LEP policy
• Providing training for your staff so that they can effectively provide meaningful access
• Notifying LEP persons of their right to language services
• Providing competent language services free of cost, such as:
  • Communication with bilingual staff
  • Oral interpretation by qualified staff, volunteer, or telephone interpreters
  • Translation of written materials including vital agency materials.