



COLUMBUS GLOBAL ACADEMY

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Background: Columbus Global Academy is a newcomer program designed to meet the needs of students from around the world who have recently arrived in the United States, many of whom have little or no literacy skills in English or in their native language. CGA students are generally at the Pre-functional proficiency level, as determined by the English as a Second Language (ESL) Assessment Center.

How is Columbus Global Academy designed? Students at Columbus Global Academy receive ESL support in all content areas (math, science, social studies) as well as an intensive Language Arts instruction and Reading and Math intervention. The level of instruction is adjusted to meet the needs of the students enrolled. Instructional assistants, who are fluent in another language assist teachers, work one-on-one and with small groups of students, and facilitate communication with families.

Upon completion of introductory ESL Lab courses to build basic skills, the following middle and high school courses required for graduation are available to students at Columbus Global Academy: reading and language arts, math, science, social studies 6 – 8, English literature 9, physical science, math 1, world studies, Ashland University course, physical education, health, computer literacy, bilingual language class for Spanish speakers, art and music.

Instruction at Columbus Global Academy promotes content area learning within the five designated second language acquisition skill areas: listening, speaking, reading, writing and cultural enrichment. Columbus Global Academy provides the support that English language learners (ELLs) need in order to meet grade level promotion, while facilitating the acculturation process and familiarity with US society.

Over fifty five countries are represented at Columbus Global Academy including: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, Burundi, China, Colombia, Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Laos, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Palestine, Puerto Rico, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, Turkey, Venezuela, Vietnam, and Yemen.

The Columbus Global Academy staff speaks many different languages, which facilitates communication with parents and community members. In addition to English, which all staff members speak, other languages spoken include Amharic, Arabic, Chinese, Fulani, French, Italian, Mai Mai, Nepali, Russian, Serbo-Croatian, Somali, Spanish and Swahili.

Who can attend the Columbus Global Academy?

Students who are at the Pre-Functional ESL Proficiency Level who are between the ages of 11 and 21, and one of the following:

- are recent arrivals to the US
- arrived from a refugee camp or country torn apart by war or natural disaster
- have little or no formal education
- have little or no literacy in their native language
- have high school transcripts from their home country who are over 18 and who can graduate before their 22nd birthday

Columbus Global Academy offers: Honor Roll incentives, perfect attendance incentives, Cultural Heritage Festivals, dances, I Know I Can, College Credit Plus and Project Mentor.

Columbus Global Academy's community partners include: the FBI, Linden Library