

Translation Services and Apps for Schools

Under the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI) and the Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974, ELL parents are entitled to meaningful communication with their child's school and must receive any information that was also disseminated to English proficient parents **in the language of their choice**. This means that schools must provide translation and interpretation for ELL parents at no cost. Below is a list of translation services and Apps available to schools, but be aware that apps are not a substitute for professional translators at formal parent-teacher meetings.

Name	Description	Cost
Google Translate App	The Google Translate app translates into 90 different languages. You can translate with your voice, camera, keyboard or handwriting. Simply point your smart phone's camera to a sign or text and the app will instantly translate the text, even without an Internet connection.	Free
iTranslate & iTranslate Voice Apps	iTranslate is an App that translates text into over 80 languages. iTranslate has a text-to-speech and voice recognition feature, as well as a separate App devoted solely to spoken translation called iTranslate Voice that supports 42 languages.	Free - \$6.99
Remind App	Features of Remind include messages sent to a class as text message, email, or push notification and a private chat function for two-way conversations between teachers and parents. Currently available in English and Spanish, with Chinese, German, Brazilian Portuguese, and French in the works.	Free
BlackBoard Connect	Blackboard Connect is a mass notification system that gives you the ability to reach your school community about time-sensitive situations, events, and attendance. Send voice messages in 9 languages or written messages via email and SMS in 83 languages.	Starts at \$300
ParentSquare	ParentSquare is a simple and secure platform for school-to-home communication. Features include two-way messaging, online participation and a simple user interface. It also has a translation tool built in, so parents can choose to view messages in their preferred language. Messages can be printed and sent home if parents do not have access to the compatible technology.	Starts at \$999
School Info	Schools create their own custom App that has, among other features, translated notification and message options in 15 different languages. Parents can download the App, select the language of their choice, and all communication, including messages written by and sent from teachers, is conveyed in the selected language.	Starts at \$499
School Messenger	SchoolMessenger is a school notification system for parent communications in the form of a custom app. Features include written notifications in over 30 languages and text-to-speech messages and voice recordings in up to nine languages.	Starts at \$1,250
Voiance	Voiance offers phone interpretation service with a three-way phone conversation with a human interpreter. The interpreter facilitates communication, meaning-for-meaning, between a non-English speaking person and your staff. They serve hundreds of languages.	\$2.49 per minute