

# ENGLISH LEARNING



**Learning English is essential to refugees and immigrant achieving self-sufficiency and a sense of deep belonging.**

## **ESL (ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE) PROGRAMS**

There may be several options for ESL classes for adults, all of which should be considered around employment prospects and schedules to encourage self-sufficiency. Your group will help with enrollment in an ESL program but can also assist with ongoing tutoring and language practice.

## **ADULT EDUCATION ESL COURSES**

ESL classes are often available day and/or evenings and offered free of charge through local public schools or organizations. Some ESL classes may provide childcare. Childcare may be something to keep in mind if parents of little ones are also English language learners. Virtual ESL courses may also be available which could be an appropriate option.

## **COMMUNITY COLLEGE-BASED ESL COURSES**

For refugees and immigrants who have a good baseline in English proficiency and could use more challenging coursework, community colleges offer ESL courses with financial aid (usually in the form of grants).

## **PRE-LITERACY COURSES**

Some refugees and immigrants arrive with little to no formal schooling and may be pre-literate in their own languages. There are English learning courses that are specific to pre-literate students.

## **MEMBERS OF YOUR CONGREGATION OR COMMUNITY GROUP**

You, members of your group, your congregation, or community group can offer to supplement formal ESL coursework with activities designed to facilitate English practice (e.g., movies, watching the news, cooking, practicing, etc.), especially once one or more of the adults in the household starts working.

# ESL CLASSES REGISTRATION INFORMATION



## ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING RESOURCES

- You can take ESL classes for free at Adult Schools around Sacramento. These classes won't cost anything and are excellent. Community colleges also offer ESL, but they cost and will use up your financial aid, so that when you're ready to start your real college classes, your financial aid will be finished. So don't be tempted by ESL classes at college!
- Registration at the Adult Schools is open year-round except for summer. If the registration says "closed," check back in a few weeks, as registration opens and closes many times throughout the year.
- If you want to take a Citizenship class, your English level must be Beginning High or above. So you will need to study English for 2 or more years before you can register for a Citizenship class.
- All the Adult Schools (except Highlands) accept students ages 16 and older. Highlands students must be 22 years or older.

## SAN JUAN ADULT SCHOOL

**(FOR ARDEN, ARCADE, CARMICHAEL, FAIR OAKS, CITRUS HEIGHTS)**

**ENCINA ADULT EDUCATION, ROOM U6, 1400 BELL STREET, SACRAMENTO, CA 95825**

- ESL classes are held mornings, afternoons, and evenings 2-4 days a week. In-person classes are offered at 4 different locations: Encina Adult Center, Gen Davie Center, Sunrise Tech Center, and Sylvan Middle School. There are also online classes for ESL Beginning and higher (not ESL Literacy).
- The school takes a break for the summer. Registration will open in July 2025. To put your name on the waitlist, go to <https://bit.ly/SJUSDwaitlist>.
- To register, go to <https://adulthoodeducation.sanjuan.edu/programs/english-as-a-second-language-and-citizenship>
- Fill out a Google form
- Someone will contact you to tell you about orientation
- Citizenship classes are offered in a hybrid format (online and in-person)
- Need help? Email [Adult.Education@sanjuan.edu](mailto:Adult.Education@sanjuan.edu) or call (916) 979-8311

# ESL CLASSES REGISTRATION INFORMATION



## TWIN RIVERS ADULT SCHOOL

**(For North Highlands) 5703 Skvarla Ave, McClellan Park, CA 95652**

- ESL classes are held mornings, afternoons, and evenings 4-5 days a week. Classes are in-person.
- The school generally takes a break for the summer. Registration will open in early August 2025.
- [Click this link](#) to register and follow the steps below:
- Register with ASAP to get a Student ID#
  - Fill out a Google form
  - Look at the Orientation PowerPoint
  - Take a simple ESL test online
  - The school will contact you to tell you about your next steps
- Citizenship classes are offered in the evenings for students whose English is Beginning High or above. To register, please get in touch with Dina Ali at [dina.ali@twinriversusd.org](mailto:dina.ali@twinriversusd.org) or Efrain Alanis at [efrain.alanis@twinriversusd.org](mailto:efrain.alanis@twinriversusd.org).
- Need help? Call the Main Office: 916-566-2785 and press 0

## ELK GROVE ADULT & COMMUNITY EDUCATION (EGACE)

**FOR ELK GROVE) 8401-B GERBER ROAD, SACRAMENTO, CA 95828**

- ESL classes are held mornings and evenings. Classes are in-person; there may be some Zoom classes (including ESL literacy). Multi-level ESL classes are also held in the evenings at Charles A. Mack, Samuel Kennedy, and David Reese Elementary Schools. These classes have childcare for children aged 2+.
- The school takes a break for the summer. Registration will open in July or August 2025.
  1. To register, go to <https://egace.egusd.net/Classes/Academics/English-as-a-Second-Language-ESL/index.html>
  2. Complete an application.
  3. The school will call to schedule you for orientation as space becomes available.
- Citizenship classes are usually offered 1 day a week in person.
- Need help? Call (916) 686-7717 and press 2

# ESL CLASSES REGISTRATION INFORMATION



## **FOLSOM-CORDOVA ADULT SCHOOL (FOR RANCHO CORDOVA)**

**10850 Gadsten Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670**

- ESL classes are held in person for ESL Literacy in the mornings and evenings. Online classes are for Beginning High and above.
- The school takes a break for the summer. Registration will open at the end of June 2025.
- To register, go to <https://fcas.asapconnected.com/> and follow the steps
- Choose “English as a Second Language Registration” on the left
- Choose “Register now.”
- Schedule a placement test time
- Create a new account
- Complete the registration form
- The school will send you a confirmation email
- Citizenship classes are offered in person.
- Need help? Call 916-294-9106 and press 0

## **CHARLES A. JONES CAREER AND EDUCATION CENTER (SAC CITY USD, FOR MIDTOWN, SOUTH SAC, POCKET, LEMON HILL, STOCKTON BLVD, FLORIN)**

**5451 LEMON HILL AVE, SACRAMENTO, CA 95824**

- ESL classes are held mornings and afternoons, 5 days a week. All classes are in person.
- The school takes a break for the summer. Registration will open August 7, 2025.
- To register, go to <https://www.caj.scusd.edu/program-study/free-english-second-language-esl-wasc-accredited>
- Complete the Pre-Registration form.
- Attend an orientation in person or on Zoom.
- At the orientation, you will receive an appointment for an assessment. You will go to the school to do the assessment
- Citizenship classes are offered in the afternoon in person.
- Need help? Call 916-395-5800 and press 5, then press 0

# ESL CLASSES REGISTRATION INFORMATION



## WASHINGTON ADULT SCHOOL (FOR WEST SACRAMENTO)

**930 Westacre Rd, West Sacramento, CA 95691**

- ESL and Citizenship classes are held mornings and evenings, 2-3 days a week, in person.
- The school takes a break for the summer. To be added to the waitlist for fall 2025, please call 916-375-7740 and press 3626, or email [mdrewry@wusd.k12.ca.us](mailto:mdrewry@wusd.k12.ca.us)
- To register, go to <https://was.wusd.k12.ca.us/Registration/index.html>
- Find where it says "Register Online" and click on the link: [was.asapconnected.com](https://was.asapconnected.com)
- You will receive an email within a week. Follow the directions there.
- Citizenship classes are offered in-person; must be at least an intermediate level of ESL.
- Need help? Email [adulthood@wusd.k12.ca.us](mailto:adulthood@wusd.k12.ca.us) or call 916-375-7740 and press 3626

## NATOMAS ADULT EDUCATION (FOR NATOMAS)

**3401 FONG RANCH RD, SACRAMENTO, CA 95835**

- Beginner ESL classes are held 2 evenings a week in person. Free childcare is provided for children ages 3-12 who are potty-trained.
- The school takes a break for the summer. You can call and ask to be put on the waitlist.
- To register, email Marlene Tucker at [mtucker@natomasunified.org](mailto:mtucker@natomasunified.org) or call 916-928-5220 and press 1.
- Complete a registration form.
- Schedule a time to take a placement test.
- Citizenship classes are offered in person one evening a week.
- Need help? Email Marlene Tucker at [mtucker@natomasunified.org](mailto:mtucker@natomasunified.org) or call 916-928-5220 and press 1





## ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING RESOURCES

Volunteer training is available through the World Relief Workshop, where courses on [ESL Tutoring](#) and [English Conversation Partners](#) are available for a fee.

Locating formal English language learning opportunities in your area:

- [USAHello.org](#) - general online center for information and education
- [National Literacy Directory](#) - directory of local educational programs and services

Online English language learning resources:

- [EnglishSpeak.com](#) - Every-day dialogues and vocabulary recorded in both normal and slow speeds. Available for 18 languages.
- [LearningChocolate.com](#) - English vocabulary for all ages, easy to use and includes pronunciation and games.
- [GamestolearnEnglish.com](#) - English games for beginner and elementary level learners.
- [VOA Learning English](#) - Lessons from Voices of America with a variety of ways to learn and levels.
- [NewsInLevels.com](#) - World news in three levels of English.
- [English Picture Dictionary](#) - 2500+ illustrations with translations into 50+ languages
- Apps for English learning - [Duolingo](#), [Busuu](#), [Babbel](#).
- YouTube channels for English learning - [English Addict with Mr Duncan](#), [VOA Learning English](#), [Slow Easy English](#), [Speak English with Vanessa](#).

### KEEP IN MIND

Learning another language takes time and practice. Starting early will help refugees and immigrants gain confidence and support their integration. It's also important to remember how much newcomers are learning and adjusting to. Communicating in a new language can be exhausting. There may be times when simply being together without talking will be a relief.