



Teachers of English to Speakers
of Other Languages, Inc.
A Global Education Association

About TESOL

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Mission

TESOL's mission is to develop and maintain professional expertise in English language teaching and learning for speakers of other languages worldwide.

TESOL Values

- professionalism in language education
- interaction of research education and reflective practice for educational improvement
- accessible, high-quality education
- respect for diversity and multiculturalism
- collaboration in a global community

Overview

Incorporated in 1966, Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc. (TESOL), is a global association for English language teaching (ELT) professionals. The association is headquartered in Alexandria, Virginia, USA. It encompasses a network of approximately 52,000 educators worldwide, comprising more than 12,000 individual members and an additional 40,000 educators within the 100-plus TESOL global affiliate associations.

Membership

TESOL members include teachers, teacher educators, teachers in training, administrators, researchers, materials writers, and curriculum developers—people just like you—in more than 150 countries. TESOL offers the following types of membership: Individual, Joint, Student, Retired, Part-time, New Teacher, and Global. For more information on TESOL membership, please visit the TESOL Web site at www.tesol.org and click on “Join TESOL” in the upper right-hand corner of the page.

TESOL members receive a wide variety of membership benefits, including updates on key issues in the profession, unlimited access to all of TESOL's interest sections and the TESOL Resource Center, and major discounts on all TESOL publications, the TESOL convention, and other education programs.

Board of Directors

TESOL's 15-member Board of Directors sets the goals for the association. TESOL's 2010–2011 President is Brock Brady.

Standing Committees

- Awards
- Book Publications
- Convention
- Development
- Diversity
- Employment Issues
- Executive
- Finance
- Global Professional Issues
- Membership
- Nominating
- Operations
- Professional Development
- Research
- Rules and Resolutions
- Serial Publications
- Standards

Students

TESOL is committed to helping student members develop their careers. Student members receive discounted membership fees and access to a student e-list, the Graduate Student Forum, and a Doctoral Forum.

Interest Sections

- Adult Education
- Applied Linguistics in TESOL
- Bilingual Education
- Computer-Assisted Language Learning
- Elementary Education
- English as a Foreign Language
- English for Specific Purposes
- Higher Education
- Intensive English Programs
- Intercultural Communication
- International Teaching Assistants
- Materials Writers
- Nonnative English Speakers in TESOL
- Program Administration
- Refugee Concerns
- Secondary Schools
- Second Language Writing
- Social Responsibility
- Speech, Pronunciation, and Listening
- Teacher Education
- Video and Digital Media

Affiliates

TESOL has approximately 100 global affiliate associations in more than 45 countries. TESOL affiliates provide English language educators with professional information and support within their geographic regions through affiliate conferences, newsletters, and varied membership services. To learn about TESOL's affiliates, go to TESOL's Web site at www.tesol.org and click “Communities.”

TESOL Annual Convention and Exhibit

Held in March or April each year, TESOL's Annual Convention and Exhibit is the premier professional development opportunity for ELT professionals worldwide, featuring more than 1,000 education sessions and the largest exhibition in the ELT field.

This 3-day event offers academic sessions, workshops, poster sessions, colloquia, demonstrations, plenary speakers, product exhibitions, Pre- and Postconvention Institutes, the Electronic Village, the Leadership Development Certificate Program, and other networking and knowledge-sharing opportunities. It's also a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new ones.

The 2010 TESOL Convention and Exhibit in Boston, Massachusetts, USA, March 24–27, 2010, drew 6,500 attendees and 145 exhibitor companies.

Future convention dates and locations:

- March 17–19, 2011, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA
- March 29–31, 2012, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA
- March 21–23, 2013, Dallas, Texas, USA
- March 27–29, 2014, Portland, Oregon, USA

Thank you to TESOL's 44th Annual Convention and Exhibit Sponsors

Platinum: ETS TOEFL, Heinle Cengage Learning, Carnegie Mellon Qatar, Franklin Electronic Publishers, The University of Kansas Applied English Center

Gold: Pearson Teacher Education & Development

Bronze: ETS TOEIC, Pearson Longman, Rose Operating System for Education®, IELTS

Other In-Person and Online Education Programs

Since 2002, TESOL has worked closely with affiliates in 15 countries to organize 14 symposia and 9 academies involving leading ELT researchers and teacher educators.

A wide variety of ELT professionals worldwide take part in TESOL's online education programs. Online professional development opportunities through TESOL include

- Principles and Practices of Online Teaching Certificate Program
- TESOL Core Certificate Program
- Online courses and workshops, including Leadership Development Certificate Program workshops
- TESOL virtual seminars and Webcasts on topics ranging from teaching, listening, and content-based instruction to integrating literature and technology in ELT
- Online discussions
- The TESOL Resource Center features over 220 peer-reviewed resources, ranging from lesson plans to professional papers.

TESOL Publications

Through its serial publications, TESOL provides many opportunities for ELT professionals to publish theoretical and practitioner-oriented articles on key issues in the field:

- *TESOL Quarterly* (four issues per year): refereed, research-oriented journal
- *TESOL Journal* (four online issues per year): refereed, practitioner-oriented journal.
- *TESOL Connections* (monthly): electronic newsletter with featured articles, association news, and links to activities in the field
- Interest section electronic newsletters (published periodically): Interest section announcements and articles by interest section members.

TESOL presently offers close to 90 books, including the following recent publications:

- *Standards for ESL/EFL Teachers of Adults*
- *Global English Teaching and Teacher Education: Praxis and Possibility*
- *Classroom Management*
- *TESOL Technology Standards Framework*
- *Language Games*
- *Paper to Practice: Using the TESOL English Language Proficiency Standards in PreK–12 Classrooms*
- *Language Teacher Research in Africa*

Professional Issues and Advocacy

TESOL leads a wide variety of advocacy efforts on key professional issues in the field, including

- Providing position statements and papers on professional issues
- Convening an annual TESOL Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C.
- Ongoing engagement on key legislative issues in the United States through updates, action alerts, and an Online Advocacy Action Center
- Identifying issues worldwide, including through TESOL's Global Professional Issues Committee
- Developing standards for the profession
- Disseminating research that integrates research and practice
- Honoring U.S. and global advocacy leaders
- Testifying before the U.S. Congress and meeting with key officials at the U.S. Department of Education.

TESOL also provides written position statements on emerging issues in the field. Recent statements dealt with the following topics:

- Fairness & Equity in ESL Program Reduction
- Teaching English as a Foreign or Additional Language to Young Learners
- Governance for IEPs at Universities
- Adult English as a second or additional language programs
- Written comments on new education initiatives under the Obama administration in the United States

Careers

The field of TESOL is a multifaceted academic discipline requiring a balance of theory and practice in the pedagogy and methodology of second language acquisition, including training in linguistics, applied linguistics, sociolinguistics, the structure of English, literacy development, curriculum and materials development, assessment, and cross-cultural communication.

Professional preparation in TESOL* is available throughout the world. In the United States alone, more than 200 institutions offer bachelor's, master's, and doctoral programs.

TESOL offers a variety of career services:

- The TESOL Career Center allows you to search for jobs, post your résumé, and apply for jobs online.
- The Placement E-Bulletin lists worldwide employment opportunities. It is free and available only to TESOL members.
- The TESOL Directory of Degree and Certificate Programs is an online resource available to anyone interested in becoming an English language teacher.
- The Job MarketPlace at TESOL's annual convention gives you the opportunity to interview with recruiters.

* **Note:** Although a teacher education program may have the acronym *TESOL* in its name, it refers to the discipline in a general sense and does not indicate that the institution is affiliated with the association.

For More Information:

Participate in your profession

To learn more about how to participate in your profession, join TESOL, and access resources and events online, visit TESOL's Web site at www.tesol.org.

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