



## **TESOL International Association and VIPKid Announce a Strengthened Strategic Partnership Through 2020**

*Over 30,000 Teachers Have Already Completed VIPKid-TESOL Foundational Learning Modules in Teaching English to Children Online*

On March 12, 2019, TESOL International Association, the trusted global authority for knowledge and expertise in English language teaching, and VIPKid, a global education technology company, announced a strengthened and renewed strategic partnership at the TESOL 2019 International Convention and English Language Expo in Atlanta, Georgia. TESOL Executive Director Christopher Powers and VIPKid Vice President of Global Business Development David Wu participated in a ceremonial signing to mark the expansion of the successful collaboration between both organizations. Together, TESOL and VIPKid will improve professional development for English language teachers on the VIPKid platform.

Since entering into a partnership in 2016, VIPKid and TESOL have worked together to provide professional learning for those specializing in teaching English online. With TESOL's expertise in English language teaching and VIPKid's deep experience in online education for children, the two organizations developed over 250 hours of professional learning module content that provides professional development to online teachers. Teachers who complete the learning modules earn a certificate of completion signifying that they have participated in an extensive professional learning program to learn best practices for teaching English online. Notably, over 30,000 VIPKid teachers have completed the foundational VIPKid-TESOL learning modules. By strengthening this partnership, professional learning modules will be extended to even more teachers.

As a leader in online education, VIPKid has made significant efforts to ensure a high quality student learning experience and give teachers opportunities to develop professionally. Many VIPKid teachers hold multiple certifications from numerous organizations. "At VIPKid, we are thrilled to deepen our existing relationship with TESOL International Association, the leading experts in professional development of English language learning," said VIPKid Co-founder and CEO, Cindy Mi. "Our partnership has been incredibly successful and has given teachers an opportunity to develop their English teaching skills through a comprehensive and effective program."

As the world's premier professional association for English language professionals, TESOL is driven to advance professional expertise in English language learning worldwide. "TESOL

International Association is pleased to extend our partnership with VIPKid,” said Christopher Powers, Executive Director of TESOL International Association. “We share VIPKid’s commitment to supporting new teachers, and look forward to our ongoing collaboration in strengthening the knowledge and expertise of so many English language teachers.”

### **About TESOL International Association**

TESOL International Association is the trusted global authority for knowledge and expertise in English language teaching. A professional community of more than 10,000 educators representing over 150 countries, TESOL fosters the exchange of ideas to advance the expertise of those teaching English while supporting equity, diversity, and multilingualism. For over 50 years, TESOL has strived to advance its mission with programs, publications, and services to expand its global presence and connectivity throughout the field, share its knowledge and expertise, and amplify its voice through advocacy. For more information, please visit [www.tesol.org](http://www.tesol.org).

### **About VIPKid**

VIPKid is a global education technology company that connects children with the world’s best teachers for real-time online English immersion learning. VIPKid’s mission is to inspire and empower every child for the future. VIPKid envisions a global classroom that empowers students and teachers through personalized learning, connects cultures across the world and ignites a passion for lifelong learning. It believes that education is not one-size-fits-all, rather, all students are unique and the world is within their reach when connected with great teachers capable of personalizing learning and sparking curiosity.

Founded in 2013 and formally launched in 2014, VIPKid has become China’s market-leading online education startup, attracting investment from Tencent, Coatue Management, Sequoia Capital, Sinovation Ventures, Yunfeng Capital, Matrix Partners, Learn Capital, Northern Light VC and Bryant Stibel, among others. The VIPKid platform currently connects over 500,000 paying students with over 60,000 teachers in the US and Canada.

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