

Position Statement on AI for the ELT Profession

TESOL International Association

TESOL International Association calls for the responsible and ethical integration of generative artificial intelligence (AI) in English language teaching and learning, and stands opposed to efforts that devalue, diminish, or displace the role of the English language teaching professional.

Integrating AI in a manner that celebrates the rich diversity and assets of our language learning profession and the communities we serve ensures that technology enhances rather than replaces human connections and understanding. However, the ethical integration of AI necessitates open discussion about AI's limitations and biases as well as a commitment by educators, institutions, governing bodies, and communities of practice to take on a collaborative responsibility of professionalism, respect, integrity, and continuous learning.

Educators must ensure the responsible and ethical use of AI. This includes recognizing and mitigating any algorithmic biases, ensuring that human interaction remains central in the learning process. Fellow educators and students alike must understand that AI effectiveness depends upon the data (or content) upon which it is trained. Though AI can sharpen and enhance our learning experiences, human expertise remains irreplaceable, it is the position of TESOL that ethical use of AI must include human interaction between a student and English language teaching professional.

Approved by the TESOL International Association Board of Directors, October 2025