

International Languages Elementary and African Heritage

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What program are you offering?

The International Languages – Elementary/African Heritage program offers language classes to students who want to learn a language. The African Heritage Program connects students to the contributions, histories, legacies, cultures, and traditions of people of African descent through inquiry and experiential learning.

2. Do you offer English or French?

No. We offer all languages except for English and French.

3. Who can enrol in the program?

JK to Grade 8 students.

4. Do you have to be a Toronto District School Board student to enrol in the program?

No. Although the program is primarily for TDSB students, we accept students who do not attend the Toronto District School Board. Students from other school boards and private schools can enrol in our program as long as they live in Ontario.

5. When are the classes?

Classes start from September to June, one day a week for two and a half hours. Classes are offered for 30 weeks.

6. What time are the classes?

Classes are held at various times. Classes are available after school, evening and Saturday mornings. Classes are offered Monday to Saturdays.

7. Is there a cost to enrol in the program?

There is a \$20 materials fee charged upon registration. Please note that cash is not accepted. Only cheques, debit, credit and interac payment is accepted.

8. How many classes can we take?

The International Languages – Elementary/African Heritage program runs 6 days a week (Monday to Saturday). You can enrol in one language for each day. However, you cannot enrol for the same language more than once a week. For example:

- Allowed: You can take Arabic on Mondays at Bellmere PS, Bengali on Tuesdays at Secord PS, and Cantonese on Wednesdays at David Lewis PS.
- Not allowed: Arabic on Mondays at Bellmere PS and Arabic on Saturdays at Milne Valley MS.

9. Can we enrol in more than one language that runs at the same time? For example, Milne Valley offers Arabic and Romanian language from 9 to 11:30 am. Can we enrol for both at the same time?

No. You can choose only one language that runs at the same time. In the above example, you must choose either Romanian OR Arabic.

10. Where will classes be held?

At the current time, all language classes are run in person.

11. What do I need to register?

Please ensure you have your child's Ontario Education Number (OEN number can be found in the child's day school progress report).

12. What is the deadline for registration?

In-person registration is on-going. We will continue to take in person registration at the school during program time only.

13. How many students are required to open a new language class or keep a class open?

A minimum of 25 registered students is required to open or keep a class open.

Starting in September 2024, classes with consistently low attendance may be subject to closure. To better manage class sizes and accommodate demand, a wait list will be implemented when a class reaches its maximum capacity of 25 to 28 students. Once the wait list exceeds 25 students, we will open a new class to accommodate the demand.

For more information, please contact the Program Officer at your school, which can be found by visiting www.ileahprograms.ca.

14. There is NO language program at my school. How do I add a language program?

It is possible to add a language program if certain conditions are met. Please contact rong.xue@tdsb.on.ca for more information.

15. What happens if a class is cancelled due to low enrolment?

TDSB makes every effort to ensure all scheduled classes run. However, if we must cancel classes, you will be notified by the third class. You will be able to transfer into another language class that is not cancelled, at any of the schools offering the language program. The \$20 material fee is not required again should this happen.

16. The language class has been cancelled. I do not wish to register to another class. Will I receive a refund?

If a class is cancelled due to low enrolment, the \$20 materials fee will be refunded.

17. Who should I contact if I have any questions?

Call 416 338-4100 or write to ile_ah@tdsb.on.ca.