

Teach English as a Second Language

2025-2026

- Enhance your career opportunities.
- Learn to implement teaching methods tailored for English language learners.
- Increase your understanding of pedagogical issues.
- Explore theoretical approaches in an ESL context.



tdsbTESL.ca

Why choose TESL at TDSB?

Learn theories and methods for teaching English as a Second Language. Our program provides new approaches and practical activities, designed to build your confidence and prepare you for the classroom.

- Our program is TESL Ontario approved and certified.
- As Canada's largest ESL provider, we have the expertise, experience and knowledge of established best practices in addition to a thorough understanding of new approaches such as the ministry mandated portfolio-based language assessment process (PBLA).
- Gain classroom experience through a customized practicum placement, with current learners in our ESL program, throughout the year.
- Receive a Toronto District School Board TESL certificate, which is required for accreditation by TESL Ontario, upon successful completion of the program.

In this program you will:

- Enhance your career opportunities.
- Learn to implement teaching methods tailored for English language learners.
- Increase your understanding of pedagogical issues.
- Explore theoretical approaches in an ESL context.
- Develop teaching strategies to help students gain proficiency in speaking, reading, writing, listening and pronunciation.

Admission Criteria

- University degree
- Proof of English language proficiency is required for non-native speakers
- No previous teaching experience required

Program Fees

- Tuition for 2025-26 is \$4,200 including HST
- Course fees are tax deductible.
- Tuition fees will be refunded to students who withdraw before the first class. However, a \$100 non-refundable processing fee applies.



Shy Beals

I have met some of the most knowledgeable and quality instructors over the years. They all have one thing in common, they participated in the TESL Training Program at TDSB. This program has provided me with the theoretical knowledge, best practices, and hands-on experience essential to teaching English as a second language. The TDSB TESL Training Program has helped me become more reflective in my practices and heightened my awareness of the educational needs of newcomers in Canada.



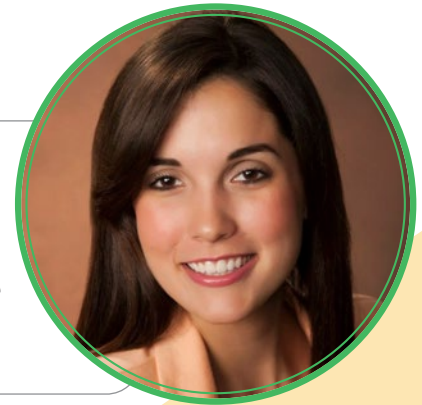
Ross Turnbull

When I started the TESL course, my goal was to obtain a position as an ESL instructor with the TDSB. This transpired thanks to the direct link between the ESL program and how I was trained. The theory and practical lessons led by supportive, experienced mentors, together with considerable in-class contact with ESL learners of all levels, provided me with the tools and knowledge I needed to succeed in the classroom. The work we pursued in the TESL program directly relates to my current teaching and approach, and has proven invaluable.



Lisette Da Silva

Everything I have learned through the TESL training has played a significant role in my present everyday life, and will continue to do so in my future, as a certified ESL instructor. It has opened the door for a new career possibility and has allowed me to develop further my skills professionally. Furthermore, being an ESL instructor, has helped to have a different outlook on life, and appreciate a career wherein my job has direct impact on the lives and futures of many individuals.



Hours & Dates

270 hours in-class instruction and 50 hours of teaching practicum arranged by TDSB to accommodate your schedule (i.e. daytime, evening or weekend)

Course Dates: September 23rd, 2025 to June 11th, 2026

Schedule: Tuesdays and Thursdays 6:30-9:30 PM and alternate Saturdays: 9 AM – 1 PM

Apply Today

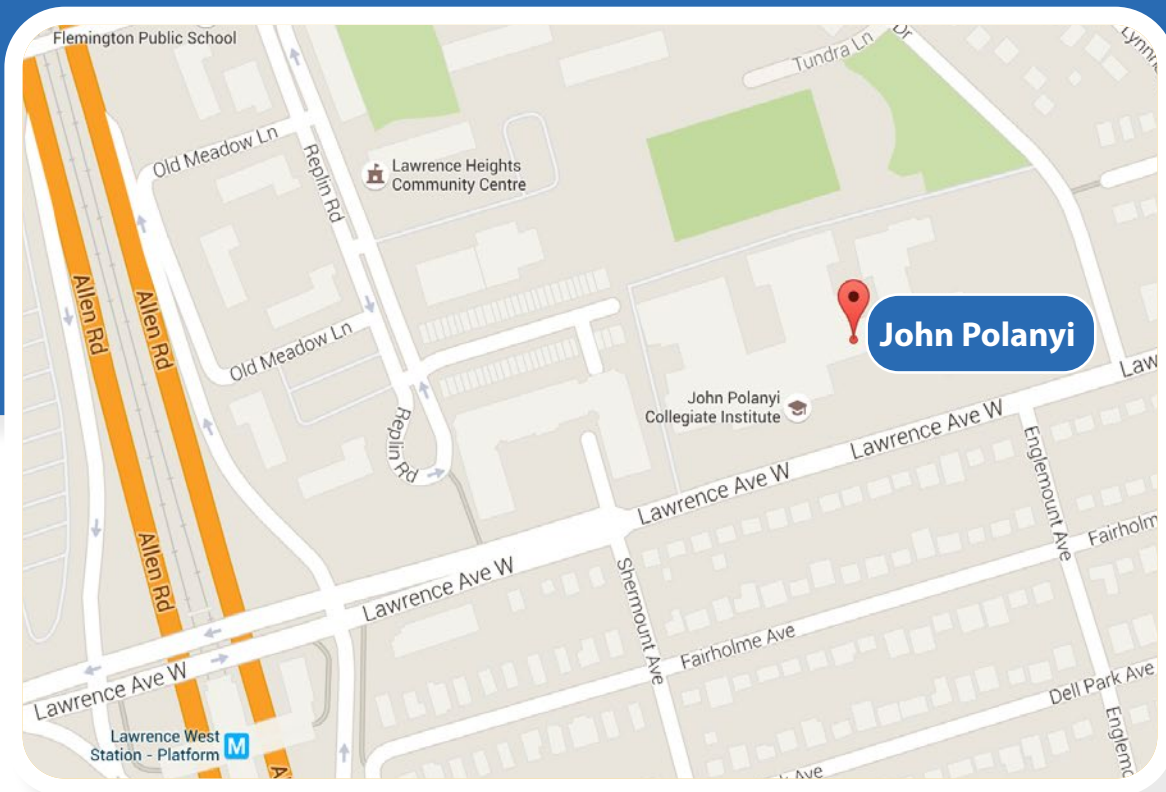
Classes will take place both in-person at John Polanyi Adult ESL Learning Centre and online depending on course content.

Please email your resume and cover letter to teslprogram@tdsb.on.ca. All eligible applicants will be interviewed.



Why get certified?

TESL Ontario accreditation enables you to teach English as a Second Language to adult learners in publicly funded language programs – such as those offered through school boards and community agencies - in addition to privately run programs.



John Polanyi Adult ESL Centre

640 Lawrence Ave West

(Lawrence West Subway Station & Allen Road)

teslprogram@tdsb.on.ca | tdsbTESL.ca

