

Teach English as a Second Language



2026-2027

- 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.

tdsb

Community
Services

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 2026-27 is \$4,250 including HST
- Course fees are tax deductible.
- Tuition fees will be refunded to students who withdraw before the first class. However, a \$ 200 non-refundable processing fee applies.



Romina Soto

The TESL program has been a transformative experience that has strengthened both my teaching skills and my commitment to supporting adult English language learners. Through engaging coursework, practical classroom observations, and inspiring instructors, I have gained a deeper understanding of language acquisition, communicative teaching, and the diverse needs of newcomers to Canada. The program has helped me connect theory with practice and grow into a more confident, reflective, and effective ESL teacher.



Angela Edwards

The TESL training program at TDSB provided a tremendous opportunity for me to cultivate and foster my leadership and teaching skills. The teachers are very knowledgeable and supportive. This program was instrumental for building my skills as I worked towards my goals.



Raj Cumar

The TESL training program at TDSB was an enriching experience that contributed to both my personal and professional development. The course instructors demonstrated exceptional expertise and unwavering support. This program has also strengthened my commitment to supporting English language learners and inspired a greater sense of purpose in helping individuals achieve their goals and enhancing their quality of life.



Hours & Dates

250 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 29th, 2026, to June 10th, 2027

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

Apply Today

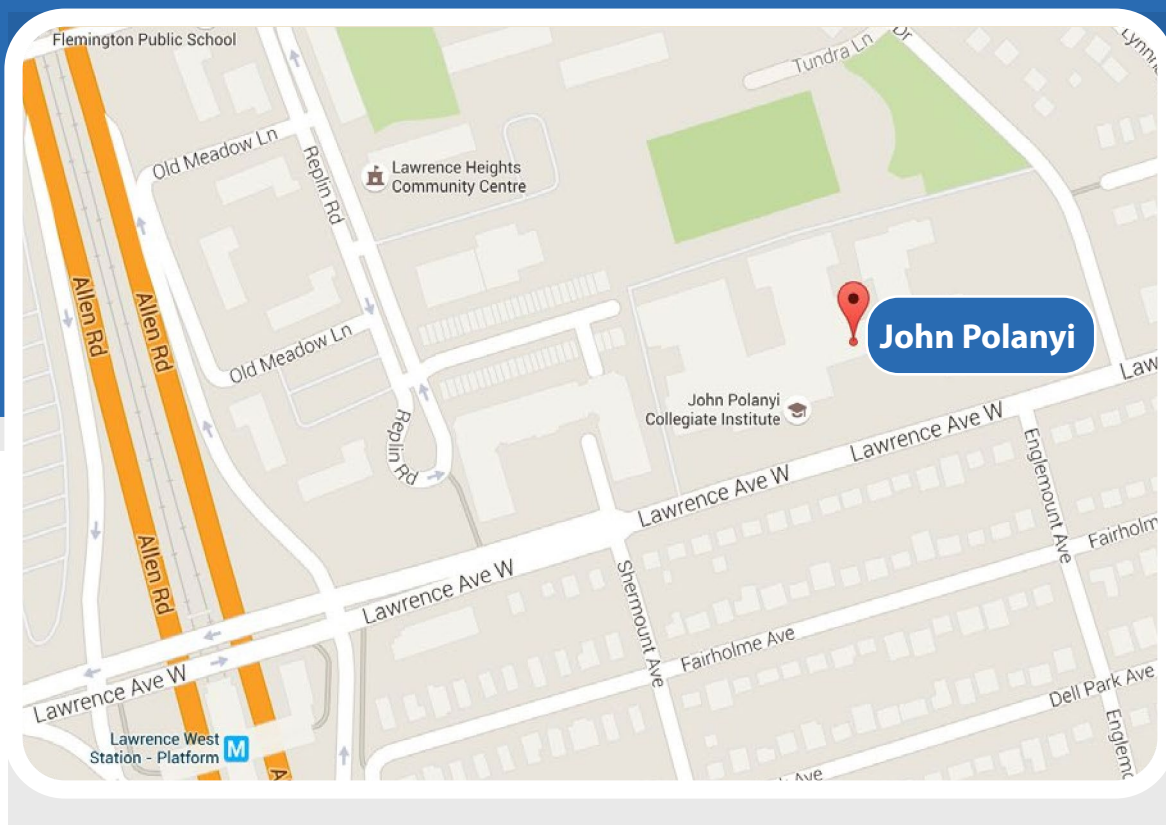
Classes will take place both in-person at John Polanyi Adult ESL Learning Centre and online depending on course content.

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

