

IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH READING, WRITING, AND SPEAKING SKILLS

Learning English is the biggest challenge for most newcomers to Canada. However learning English is very important to help you get a job and with your day-to-day life.

That's why the Government of Canada and the Province of Ontario make English language classes available to newcomers. There are many English language classes available to you. Classes are available for adult newcomers, youth, seniors and internationally trained professionals who want or need to learn English or French. English literacy classes are also available. You can choose from many different full-time and part-time language classes offered by community agencies and school boards. You have the choice of studying during the day, evenings, weekends, or from home.

LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION FOR NEWCOMERS TO CANADA (LINC)

Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) is an English-language study program for newcomers who know some or no English, and need to improve their English reading, writing, speaking and listening skills. The program is available at no cost for Permanent Residents and Convention Refugees. Classes are funded by the Government of Canada and are available to adults over 18 years old in your family, not just those who are looking for a job. In fact, some LINC classes are designed specifically for **youth** and **seniors**.

There are several different LINC classes available, including part-time, full-time classes and home study. Many of the LINC classes offer free childcare and transportation to and from class.

If you are a senior or between the age of 18 and 24, there are classes and programs designed specifically to help your unique needs.

Before entering a LINC class, you will need to take a free test to find out your current level of English. The test is conducted at an Assessment Centre. After you have been assessed, staff will help you select and enrol in a class located in your community that meets your specific language training needs.

To locate an Assessment Centre in your community [click here](#).

IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH SKILLS TO ENTER THE JOB MARKET

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSES

For many newcomers, the Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) and related classes are one option. But if you are not eligible for these classes, there are many other **English as a Second Language (ESL)** classes available to you through community agencies and schools.

Some are basic English classes for people who speak little or no English, while other classes are advanced-level or specialized English language courses. There are many different options available to you including full-time and part-time classes, day, evening and/or weekend classes. Some classes accept students at any time and others have specific start dates. You may have to pay a fee to attend these classes.

Most schools in your area also offer special ESL classes for children as part of their schoolwork, and are a free service.

For more information in your language, visit www.ontarioimmigration.ca or www.settlement.org.

ENHANCED LANGUAGE TRAINING

The **Enhanced Language Training (ELT)** program is designed to help newcomers to Canada improve their English skills in order to enter the job market. Generally, this advanced-level program is for *professionals and trades people* who want to get a job in their chosen profession, but need stronger English skills to work in that profession.

The ELT program also offers specialized training including work placements, mentoring, internships, preparation for licensing and certification exams, and cultural orientation in the workplace.

Offered throughout the City of Toronto, Peel Region and York Region, the ELT program is for newcomers who already have good English language skills with a Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) Level 7 or higher. Newcomers who meet the above criteria can enrol directly with a **community agency or school** in their community.

If you are interested in the ELT program, before enrolment, you must also take a free English language test at an **Assessment Centre** located in your community to find out your current level of English language skills or **CLB level**.

If you are not eligible for the ELT program, and interested in building English language skills that will help you at work, bridging programs offer language training for the workplace. You can learn about bridge training programs by visiting the *Work in Your Profession* section of www.ontarioimmigration.ca. You can also visit www.settlement.org for more information.

IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH SKILLS OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

HOME STUDY

The **LINC Home Study** program allows eligible students to learn from home by correspondence courses (through the mail) or online through the Internet. This program is for newcomers who are Permanent Residents and live in an area where LINC classes are not available, have young children at home, or people who work and cannot attend class. The Home Study program also allows you to learn as quickly or as slowly as you need.

To enrol, you must take an **assessment test** to find out your current level of English language skills. After the test, you will be able to take your classes through the **LINC Home Study** program if you are eligible.

Newcomer youth between the ages of 18 and 24 have the opportunity to participate in a Home Study program designed specifically for them. To enroll you must meet the eligibility requirements described on the previous pages. Once enrolled, you will have the opportunity to learn English through books and online materials. You will also have access to a youth-oriented portal and web-forum to connect and share with other youth. You will also have the option of weekly telephone conversations with a certified teacher.

Newcomer Seniors who are eligible for LINC classes also have access to online and print resources in addition to weekly classroom sessions guided by certified teachers. Study materials are structured around the specific needs and interests of seniors.

To learn more about the Home Study program visit www.tcet.com.

SPEAK TO SOMEONE WHO CAN HELP – IN YOUR LANGUAGE

If you still need further assistance and would like to speak to someone in your language, we can help. Trained professionals are ready to answer your questions.

For further assistance in **Peel Region**, please call **905.766.2300**.

If you live in **York Region** and would like to speak to someone directly, please call **1.877.322.5277**. For additional settlement and employment support services, you may also contact the Welcome Centre at 905-761-1155.

If you live in the **City of Toronto**, please call **416.364.4888**.

WHEN CALLING, PLEASE REMEMBER TO LEAVE YOUR NAME, LOCATION, AND DAY TIME PHONE NUMBER WHERE YOU CAN BE REACHED. YOUR CALL WILL BE RETURNED WITHIN 24 HOURS.