Change the lives of diverse learners.

English Language Learners (ELLs) are the fastest-growing population of students in the United States PreK–12 school system. WGU’s ELL and ESL online certification program is your direct path to becoming a critical asset at your school and throughout your community.

Who is the ELL/ESL certification designed for?

- Licensed teachers with bachelor’s degrees who are interested in ELL or ESL certification to help English language learners succeed in the classroom.
- District instructional personnel and curriculum leaders.
- Emergency credentialed ELL or ESL teachers who need a certificate program to be considered highly qualified.

Why earn an ELL certification?

The National Education Association predicts that by 2025, one in four public school students will be an ELL. As this learner population continues to grow, it’s important to understand ELL students and how to meet their diverse needs.

In this ELL/ESL certificate program, you will:

- Gain a valuable education endorsement and become highly qualified in ELL or ESL.
- Expand your career opportunities through certification, earn relicensure points, and possibly become eligible for an increased salary.
- Graduate with the certification, content knowledge, teaching skills, cultural background, and field experience you’ll need to become an in-demand ELL/ESL specialist.

This program is nationally recognized by the Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) International Association.

Note: The specific grade levels you will be eligible to teach depend on your state’s licenses and certificate programs.
About the ELL/ESL certification program

• Potential to graduate in 18 months.
• $3,665 tuition per six-month term.
• Provides relicensure points.
• Nationally recognized by the Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) International Association.

Program Curriculum
The ELL/ESL certification prepares licensed teachers to gain the additional certification and licensure required to teach in ELL or ESL settings.

• Gain valuable field experience. Complete a required minimum of 15 hours of video observations for both elementary and secondary levels, along with in-person supervised teaching face-to-face with English language learners.
• Explore the role of dialect in the classroom, the connections between language and culture, and the theories of first and second language acquisition through applied linguistics, syntax, semantics, and grammar.
• Learn to develop significant skills in curriculum development, design, and evaluation.
• Focus on issues of professionalism for the English language learning teacher and leader through program development, ethics, engagement in professional organizations, and ELL advocacy.
• Study techniques for ELL listening and speaking, reading and writing, specially designed academic instruction in English (SDAIE), and specific issues for various grade-level instruction.

Why earn your certification at WGU?

Online and Flexible
With no set log-in times, your effort, not a semester timetable, determines the pace of your progress. You can earn a highly respected teaching degree on your terms by completing most coursework on a schedule that works best for you.

Faculty Support
While you will do your coursework and even take exams online, you won’t be alone. From the first day, you’ll have regular, one-to-one support from a Program Mentor. And in each course, you’ll work with a Course Instructor who is an expert in the subject matter.

Affordable Tuition
Tuition for this program is charged at a flat rate once per six-month term, regardless of the number of courses you complete. Federal financial aid and scholarships are available to qualified students. This affordable tuition allows many students to graduate with little or no new student debt.

Accredited and Respected
WGU is a recognized national leader in online teacher education, providing a path for students to become licensed/certified teachers in any U.S. state or territory.

About WGU
WGU is a nonprofit university committed to providing accessible, affordable, high-quality education that meets the needs of working adults by offering online degree programs that are respected, recognized, and accredited. Our programs deliver superior results by preparing students to excel in the workplace with prove-what-you-know, competency-based learning and personalized faculty support.

Contact Us
Call us at 866.225.5948 or visit our website at wgu.edu to apply now. Our enrollment team will be happy to speak with you and answer any questions you may have.