

Education Committee
November 2025



English for Parents: Building Language, Building Community



Rahway Public Schools Partnering with Literacy NJ

Program Duration: January 2026 – June 2026

Once a week/ one hour per week

- **About Literacy NJ:**

- Non-profit organization providing adult literacy services in New Jersey for over **45 years**.
- Currently active in **12 counties** across the state.

Program Structure

- Instruction provided in **small groups of up to 8 parents**.
- **Volunteer tutors** will be supplied by Literacy NJ. They will provide **as many as needed** to meet demand.
- Parents will **pre-register** and complete an **online screening** to determine their English proficiency level and ensure appropriate placement.

Materials & Accessibility

- Each parent will purchase a **class textbook**.
- Literacy NJ will **assist families to purchase the books if needed**.

Community Collaboration

- Plan to partner with the **National Honor Society** to provide **childcare services** during class sessions.



Students in our programs:

- find jobs
- get high school diplomas
- read to their children for the first time
- become citizens
- register to vote
- enroll in further education or training
- become more involved in their communities



"I contacted Literacy NJ because I wanted to improve my English, and I heard that they could help me with my GED. My classes are great because of the tutor we have. She really helps us and we learn from her."

Saadia

A big thing for me was that there was no hope for me before. I have hope now, and I have started on the first step."

Support Literacy

Literacy NJ relies on financial support from members of the community. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible.

Interested in volunteering or becoming a student?

Scan here to find your local program.



Visit literacynj.org for more!



**ESL, GED,
Basic Literacy,
and Citizenship
tutoring for New
Jersey adults**

"I want to be able to do things on my own. To read my own documents. To be able to pick out a card that says something I want it to say. I want to be independent. I'm doing this for me."

Christian

Our Mission

Literacy New Jersey exists so all adults have the opportunity to read, write, and communicate effectively. We do this by training volunteer tutors to help adult learners and by supporting a network of literacy programs.

At Literacy NJ, we...

- Offer ESL, Basic Literacy, GED, and Citizenship tutoring throughout New Jersey.
- Provide comprehensive training to prepare volunteers to tutor adults.
- Support affiliate member programs with professional development, technical assistance, and training.
- Advocate for increased funding and visibility for statewide adult literacy services.



Why Literacy?

22% of NJ residents are immigrants or refugees

21% of NJ residents lack the literacy skills necessary to fill out forms, add numbers for a bank deposit slip, or read a medicine label

11% of NJ adults over the age of 25 do not have a high school diploma

3% of NJ residents in need are currently receiving literacy services

¹ research.newamericaneconomy.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/12/NJ_Language-and-Demographic-Report_Dec-2020.pdf

² map.barbarabush.org/state-cards

³ statelibraryofeducation.com/state/New-Jersey/Educational-Attainment

⁴ nj.gov/njsetc/commission/scales/reports/documents/Investing%20in%20New%20Jersey's%20Adult%20Learners%20Jan%202013%20Final.pdf

Just two hours a week working with adult literacy students can change their lives – and yours.

"I believe we have a duty to each other to build a welcoming community, and teaching lets me put that belief into practice every week."

The goal of my classes is language learning, but I also see it as an opportunity to build confidence and connections, for both me and my students."

Jennifer, tutor

Visit literacynj.org to learn about upcoming tutor training opportunities.

Literacy NJ & Affiliates

2022–2023 Statistical Report

STUDENT ENROLLMENT GROWS

We are proud to announce a continuing return to in-person instruction. Over 55% of programs were offered on-site, many with online components in addition to classroom instruction. With this ability to offer in-person, online, and hybrid programming, we are seeing an increase in student enrollment and in student achievement.

STUDENTS SERVED



TOP PROGRAMS OFFERED

- ESOL
- Basic Literacy
- Citizenship
- High School Equivalency
- Digital Literacy

VOLUNTEERS AND TRAINING

In FY23, our network held **53** training courses and welcomed **445** new volunteer tutors. During the year, tutors participated in over **50** continuing education workshops.

STUDENTS & TUTORS

4,180 students

1,321 volunteers

146,446 hours of learning

14,000+ goals achieved



FREE ENGLISH (ESL) CLASSES

Morning or Evening classes available.

Registration: December 2nd-5th

Classes begin: Monday, Jan. 6, 2025



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Questions?