

2021-22 Arkansas ESOL Institutes Announcement and Registration Information



Overview/Purpose:

Public school districts in Arkansas have an obligation to provide the personnel and resources necessary to effectively implement their chosen ESOL programs. This obligation includes having an adequate number of highly qualified teachers to provide language assistance services, trained administrators who can evaluate these teachers, and adequate and appropriate materials for the ESOL programs.

The ESOL Institute is a high quality educator training program for Arkansas licensed educators leading to their eligibility to apply for an Arkansas ESL endorsement.

The ESOL Institute is a hybrid program consisting of:

- 80 hours of face-to-face or synchronous training
- Four on-line courses requiring at least an additional 25+ hours of work per course
- 12 graduate credit hours earned upon completion

Approximately half of the 80 hours of face-to-face/synchronous learning takes place in the summer, with the additional hours completed throughout the school year as the participants apply new concepts in their classrooms. What makes this different than simply taking the 12 graduate hours through a traditional program is the opportunity to also hear from national and regional experts on effectively teaching English Learners! ***One goal of the 2021-22 ESOL Institute is to increase the number of ESL Endorsed teachers in Arkansas by providing scholarships to all participants to cover the cost of tuition/fees! This is potentially a ONE-TIME opportunity!***

Invitation to Arkansas Educators:

The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is pleased to invite Arkansas educators to apply to an ESOL Institute of their choosing! Participants will have the opportunity to complete the ESOL Institute and earn 12 graduate credits, qualifying licensed educators to apply for an ESL endorsement with a passing score on the ESL Praxis exam. An ESL Endorsement is officially added to the educator's teaching license upon completion of the 12 hours and the ESL Praxis. For the 2021-22 year ONLY, each participant will receive a scholarship to cover the cost of tuition/fees. Participants must sign an ESOL Institute Educator Commitment Form, which requires participants to apply for and receive an ESL Endorsement or reimburse their chosen university the cost of the scholarship issued on their behalf. (Past ESOL Institutes have over a 98% ESL Praxis pass rate and the ESL Praxis can be taken more than once!)

The ESL Endorsement allows licensed teachers to teach in positions requiring ESOL credentials and ensures educators holding such an endorsement have the training required to effectively provide language assistance services in a variety of classrooms.

Applicants must be working with English Learners in the classroom on a consistent basis.

ESOL Institute Sites:

Each ESOL Institute provides the equivalent of 80 hours of face-to-face or synchronous training and four courses addressing Second Language Acquisition, Teaching People of Other Cultures, Second Language Methodology, and Second Language Assessment.

Sites providing face-to-face sessions (Henderson and John Brown University) have the capacity for housing participants who drive more than one-hour each day for the face-to-face sessions. Participants at all sites will be provided books, materials, on-line learning system access, and food during face-to-face sessions at no charge to participants. Specific details about housing and meals may be obtained from each site's director. **For the 2021-22 ESOL Institute year only, participants will also receive a full-tuition scholarship for 12 graduate credit hours.** In future ESOL Institutes (2022-23 and 2023-24), participants will be responsible for the cost of tuition.

The intensive and focused instruction and assignments teachers receive from this experience (along with support from the university instructors) will provide them with the knowledge and skills to effectively work with English Learners in their classroom and to pass the ESL Praxis required for an ESL Endorsement.

Participants will assume all transportation expenses to and from the ESOL Institute site (if face-to-face sessions are required), cost of University registration (except at Henderson), and the cost of registration for the ESL Praxis.

Acceptance to the 2021-22 ESOL Institutes will be limited. Teachers are urged to apply as early as possible. Criteria for selection will include the need for ESOL services in a teacher's school district, as well as the need to balance participation by geographic region of the state, district size, EL enrollment, and the applicant's role within the school. In order to qualify for consideration, applicants must be licensed and employed full-time in an Arkansas public or charter school. Participants need not have been employed during the 2020-2021 school year if they have received confirmation of a contract for the 2021-2022 school year. Districts will be contacted to confirm a teacher's employment. Questions about this aspect of the ESOL Institute may be addressed to the site directors. **Priority will be given to those applying by Friday, April 30, 2021. Applications received after this date will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis or put on a waiting list.**

All teachers applying for the 2021-22 ESOL Institute must complete and submit an on-line application found at the link provided in the table below. Choose the link for the site you wish to attend--all sites are open to educators from across Arkansas. Please note that for the 2021-22 ESOL Institute, Arkansas Tech University, the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville, and the University of Central Arkansas will be conducted entirely virtually (synchronously/asynchronously). Each site has a limited number of participants.

After submitting the on-line application, teachers will receive an email confirming their submission along with follow up directions regarding the application/acceptance process. Please contact the site director for your chosen site for more details.

DESE Expectations

In accepting this DESE educator training opportunity, you are agreeing to complete all assignments satisfactorily for graduate credit, pass the ESL Praxis, and obtain an Arkansas ESL Endorsement. DESE is issuing a full tuition scholarship, in addition to the funds necessary to provide national/regional expert trainers, an instructor of record, books/materials, learning management systems, and other items costing an average of \$5,300 per participant. All universities have offered a reduced tuition arrangement for participants in the ESOL Institute in order to provide this unique training. This will be an intensive, demanding 80 hours of synchronous virtual and/or face-to-face training, plus on-line work to equal approximately 180 hours (i.e. 45 hours per content course). There will be four courses to

be completed at different intervals. All participants will be required to complete all assignments via the university's on-line learning system. Instructions for using the on-line learning systems will be provided during the summer sessions. Each cohort of teachers will be assigned to an instructor of record who will be on site during their assigned sessions. All assignments will be reviewed with parti in their summer sessions. Instructors will design, read/evaluate assignments, give constructive feedback on the participants' submissions, and stay in contact weekly with their cohort of teachers throughout the year-long process.

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ESOL Institute University	Summer 2021 Dates	Fall 2021/ Spring 2022 Dates	Face to Face Location	Registration Information	Site Director(s)	Registration Fee
Arkansas Tech University (Synchronous)	June 14-18, 2021	Sept 11, 2021 Oct 23, 2021 Nov 13, 2021 Jan 29, 2022 Feb 12, 2022	Virtual	ATU ESOL Institute (select ESOL Institute application)	Dr. Carl Brucker (479) 968-0484 cbrucker@atu.edu Dr. Chih-Hsin Hsu (479) 968-0257 chsu5@atu.edu	\$40 application fee
Henderson State University in collaboration with Dawson Education Cooperative (face to face)	June 14-19, 2021 (8:30 am to 5:30 pm)	Two Saturday sessions in the fall (September, November) and two Saturday sessions in the spring (February, April)	Dawson Education Cooperative, Arkadelphia, AR	HSU ESOL Institute Flyer (complete the form linked on the flyer and here)	Dr. Judi Jenkins (870) 582-1463 jenkinj@hsu.edu	No registration fee
John Brown University Siloam Springs site OR Rogers site(s) (face to face)	July 5-9, 2021 (9 am to 4 pm)	Aug 28, 2021 Sept 25, 2021 Oct 23, 2021 Dec 4, 2021 Jan 8, 2022 Feb 5, 2022 March 5, 2022 April 2, 2022	JBU Campus, Siloam Springs, AR or Oakdale Middle School and/or Rogers Professional Learning Center	JBU ESOL Institute (Choose site on application) JBU Information Flyer	Dr. Curtis Cunningham CJCunningham@jbu.edu Adria Trombley atrombley@jbu.edu Magen Meyer (479) 524-7740	\$25 registration fee

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ESOL Institute University	Summer 2021 Dates	Fall 2021/ Spring 2022 Dates	Face to Face Location	Registration Information	Site Director(s)	Registration Fee
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Cohort 1 (Synchronous)	June 14-18, 2021 (Virtual schedule to be finalized and shared with participants)	Sept. 25, 2021 Oct 9, 2021 Oct. 30, 2021 Jan. 15, 2022 Jan 29, 2022	Virtual	U of A ESOL Institute (select "Apply Now")	Judy Hobson (479) 530-2846 eslajudy@gmail.com Dr. Janet Penner-Williams (479) 575-2897 jpenner@uark.edu	\$60 admission fee
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Cohort 2 (Synchronous)	June 7-11, 2021 (Virtual schedule to be finalized and shared with participants)	Oct 2, 2021 Oct 16 2021 Nov. 13, 2021 Jan.22, 2022 Feb. 5, 2022	Virtual	U of A ESOL Institute (select "Apply Now")	Judy Hobson (479) 530-2846 eslajudy@gmail.com Dr. Janet Penner-Williams (479) 575-2897 jpenner@uark.edu	\$60 admission fee
University of Central Arkansas (Synchronous)	June 14-18, 2021 & June 21, 2021 (8:30 am to 5 pm)	Sept 18, 2021 Nov 13, 2021 Feb 12, 2022 April 23, 2022	Virtual (School year may be face to face on UCA Campus)	UCA ESOL Institute	Dr. Debbie Dailey (501) 852-2965 ddailey@uca.edu Dr. Suzanne Johnston (501) 450-3433 sjohnston4@uca.edu	\$45 application fee