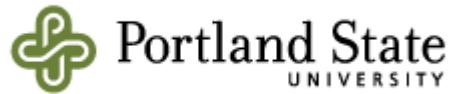


# TESL Certificate

Dept. of Applied Linguistics



## Frequently Asked Questions - FAQ

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### Q-1: How long does it take?

A: The TESL Certificate can be completed in as **few as 4 academic quarters** (total one year) or as **many as 8 academic quarters** (total two years). It depends on your personal time schedule.

You can see four different time-to-completion plans on the [Time Required to complete TESL Certificate page](#).

### Q-2: What is required for the application?

A: The TESL Certificate does not require formal admission to the Dept. of Applied Linguistics.

First, you must be admitted to Portland State University with undergraduate, [post-baccalaureate](#), or graduate status.

Second, you should fill out the [TESL Certificate packet](#).

Third, please meet with an adviser in the Dept of Applied Linguistics to plan your coursework

**International students** must satisfy the [English proficiency requirement](#) before beginning the TESL Certificate coursework.

### Q-3: Can I transfer in credits from another program or university?

A: [Yes](#), up to a maximum of 12 credits, with adviser approval.

### Q-4. What are the application deadlines?

A: No department deadline. You must be already admitted to the university before you enroll in the TESL Certificate program. Check [PSU admissions deadlines](#).

**Q-5: I missed the PSU admissions deadline but I want to start taking the classes I need for the TESL Certificate.**

A: You can take up to 2 classes as a "[Quick-Entry](#)" (non-admitted) student. Later, after you are formally admitted, you can apply those credits towards the TESL Certificate program.

**Q-6: How much does the TESL Certificate program cost?**

A: [PSU tuition](#) for a minimum of 40 credits.

**Q-7: Can I get an adviser to help me plan?**

A: Yes, you will be assigned an advisor after you complete the [TESL Certificate packet](#). If you would like to discuss whether the **TESL Certificate** is a good choice for you, please feel welcome to [contact the Applied Linguistics office coordinator](#) to make an adviser appointment at any time.

**Q-8. What are the job opportunities?**

A. [Job prospects](#) are best for **TESL Certificate** holders in the world regions outside the Anglosphere, and generally also outside the European Union. Opportunities abound in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Central and South America, and some of the developing areas of Eastern Europe.

Within the Anglosphere, **TESL Certificate** holders may find interesting work in community-based organizations and other less formal settings.

Have a look at the ESL/EFL internet job boards such as [Dave's ESL Cafe](#) or [Linguistic Funland](#) or [TESALL.org](#) to get an idea of what the market demands.

**Q-9: What if my TOEFL score is too low?**

A: One possible way to improve your Academic English, so that you can qualify for admission to the **TESL Certificate** program, is to take [upper level ESL classes at the IELP](#), then get a recommendation from your IELP instructor. Also you might consider to retake the TOEFL.

**Q-10. Can I obtain the [ESL/Bilingual Endorsement for my Oregon K-12 teaching license](#) by taking TESL Certificate classes?**

A. Yes, but there are [several important decisions involved](#). Please discuss your goals with an advisor first. [contact the Applied Linguistics office coordinator](#) for an appointment.