Welcome to the English as a Second Language Program at Rice University. We provide non-native speakers of English the opportunity to improve their language skills in small classes that use an integrated-skills approach. We offer the daytime Intensive English Program (page 2), the Online English and Academic Preparation Program (page 7), the Online English Success in Workplace Program (page 8) and the evening ESL Communication Skills Program (page 9). We have taught English as a Second Language to students from Houston and around the world since 1978. For over 40 years, our program has been a global gateway to the Rice experience.

Dr. Kathleen Sayers
Director

**Intensive English Program**

**Program Description**

The Rice University Intensive English Program is open to non-native speakers of English who have a serious desire to improve their language skills. This challenging program is useful to working professionals and to students preparing for university study or professional programs. Students from more than 125 countries have attended the program.

The Intensive English Program offers six sessions each year; each session lasts seven weeks. In one year, students should be able to progress through the six-level core program. Classes meet on the Rice campus five days a week for four hours daily.

The course of study is based on an integrated-skills approach with listening, speaking, reading, writing and grammar components. Fluency and accuracy in both spoken and written English are emphasized. **Classes average 12 students.** The small class size allows each participant a maximum amount of individual attention and an opportunity to develop conversational skills.

**Class Schedule**

Classes at any specific level, beginning through advanced, will depend on sufficient enrollment. Students must be willing to accept a morning (8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.) or afternoon (1-5 p.m.) schedule as assigned by the director.

**Course Description**

Intensive English Program students build practical English skills for general, academic or professional purposes.

**Levels 1-4**

In Levels 1-4, students concentrate on developing fundamental English skills in an interactive classroom setting. Coursework emphasizes those skills necessary for effective oral and written communication. Instruction covers all areas of language development: practical vocabulary, basic language structures, and the essentials of reading, writing, listening and speaking.

**Levels 5-6**

In Levels 5-6, students continue to develop fluency and accuracy. Coursework focuses on comprehensive skills as well as academic preparation skills, including the fundamentals of essay writing and the development of critical reading, listening and note-taking skills.

**Advanced Level**

The Advanced Level is for students whose proficiency in English is beyond the six-level core program. Courses at this level focus on diverse areas of interest such as current issues, cross-cultural concerns, vocabulary expansion, public speaking, pronunciation, advanced reading and writing, and business English. Students may enroll in the Advanced Level more than one time with a different curriculum each time. TOEFL and IELTS preparation courses that emphasize test-taking and refining English language skills are also offered in selected sessions.
**Intensive English Program Admission**

Persons applying for admission to the Intensive English Program must have graduated from secondary school. Admission to the program does not constitute admission to any other unit of Rice University. Students will not receive academic credit for courses in this program.

**Program Fees**

| Tuition: | $2,550 |
| Testing and registration: | $100 |

All new students pay $2,650 for their first session: $2,550 tuition plus the $100 non-refundable testing and registration fee. A deposit of $500 is due upon acceptance into the program. New students must pay the balance of tuition by the placement test date for the session in which they are enrolling (see calendar below).

**Application**

Complete the online application at [esl.rice.edu/apply](http://esl.rice.edu/apply). Applicants must submit their most recent academic transcript.

**Books**

Books may be purchased online. Book costs average approximately $175 per session.

**Student responsibility for health care**

Information regarding student health care and medical insurance responsibilities is available at [esl.rice.edu/policies](http://esl.rice.edu/policies).

**Scholarships**

A limited number of partial scholarships are available to re-enrolling students.

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"Houston is a city with wonderful, multicultural aspects, which makes the experience more enriching. The Rice ESL Program takes this Houston essence to its classes."

- Priscilla Araya, Costa Rica

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**Intensive English Program Calendar 2021**

**Session Dates: January 4-March 1**
- Application and re-enrollment deadline: November 20, 2020
- Placement test: January 4
- Orientation: January 5
- Classes: January 11-March 1
- Martin Luther King Jr. holiday: January 18

**Session Dates: March 2-April 27**
- Application and re-enrollment deadline: January 29
- Placement test: March 2
- Orientation: March 3
- Classes: March 9-April 27
- Spring holiday: April 2
- Staff development day (no classes): April 5

**Session Dates: April 28-June 23**
- Application and re-enrollment deadline: March 26
- Placement test: April 28
- Orientation: April 29
- Classes: May 5-June 23
- Memorial Day holiday: May 31

**Session Dates: June 24-August 20**
- Application and re-enrollment deadline: May 28
- Placement test: June 24
- Orientation: June 25
- Classes: July 1-August 20
- Independence Day holiday: July 5-6

**Session Dates: August 24-October 19**
- Application and re-enrollment deadline: July 23
- Placement test: August 24
- Orientation: August 25
- Classes: August 31-October 19
- Labor Day holiday: September 6
- Staff development day (no classes): October 8

**Session Dates: October 20-December 17**
- Application and re-enrollment deadline: September 24
- Placement test: October 20
- Orientation: October 21
- Classes: October 27-December 17
- Cultural activity: November 11
- Thanksgiving holidays: November 24-26
Student Services
Students in the Intensive English Program receive personal attention from the program's staff. Special services include the following:

• Orientation to the program, the Rice University campus and the city of Houston
• A Rice University Student ID that allows the student access to campus activities, such as movies, sports and concerts, free or at a reduced rate, for a fee of $10 per seven-week session*
• Access to the state-of-the-art Recreation Center for a fee of $79 per seven-week session.* Learn more at recreation.rice.edu.
• Immigration counseling
• Academic advising for college and university admissions
• Student progress evaluation at the end of each session
• Access to campus parking in assigned areas for a $30 fee per seven-week session*
• Student activities each session, including picnics, the rodeo, the zoo, sports events such as professional baseball, basketball and soccer, and field trips to museums and other destinations

*Fees are subject to increase.

Cost of Living Estimates
Students in the Rice University Intensive English Program spend an average of $1,950 per month on rent, food and other expenses. The following chart gives monthly cost of living estimates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost of Living Estimates</th>
<th>Moderate-Level Monthly Expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students in the Rice University Intensive English Program</td>
<td>Rent: $1,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>spend an average of $1,950 per month on</td>
<td>Food: $600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rent, food and other expenses. The</td>
<td>Personal*: $300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>following chart gives monthly cost of</td>
<td>Total: $1,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>living estimates.</td>
<td>*Includes transportation, clothing, recreation, incidentals, etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Housing Information
Students are responsible for making their own housing arrangements. Moderately priced facilities are generally available. Although the program does not provide housing or make housing arrangements, students may contact the Intensive English Program for a list of housing suggestions.

Intensive English Program Refund Policy
The $100 testing and registration fee is non-refundable. New students canceling by 4 p.m. on the last business day before classes begin will be charged a $100 cancellation fee to cover the cost of testing and registration. Returning students canceling after the re-enrollment deadline and by 4 p.m. on the last business day before classes begin will be charged a $50 cancellation fee. Students withdrawing after 4 p.m. on the last business day before classes begin and before 4 p.m. on the tenth day of class will receive a refund of one-third of their tuition. (Students who have paid $2,550 will receive a $850 refund.) There is no refund for any student withdrawing after the tenth day of class. All refund requests must be submitted in writing to esl@rice.edu. See the full refund policy at esl.rice.edu/policies.
Visa Information

F-1 Visa Application Process

The Intensive English Program is authorized to issue the I-20 form that the student needs to apply for an F-1 student visa for full-time intensive English study.

Students requesting an I-20 must submit the following documentation to the Rice University Intensive English Program:

- Application
- Deposit of $500 (Payment is due when accepted into the program.)
- Confirmation of financial resources ($3,365 per month for tuition and living expenses)
- Most recent academic transcript
- Copy of passport identification page(s) (The copy must show picture, name, birth date and passport expiration date.)

Transfer students must also present:

- Signed transfer form from the foreign student adviser at the school the student last attended verifying eligibility to transfer. (The form may be downloaded from the ESL website.)
- Copy of I-20 from the school last attended
- Copy of F-1 visa page
- Copy of I-94 admission form
- Transcript from current school

The prospective F-1 student should present the following papers to a U.S. Consulate:

- Passport, valid for at least six months
- Confirmation of financial resources
- I-20 form (Some foreign nationals are required to present an I-20 showing acceptance to an academic program. The Rice University Intensive English Program cannot issue such an I-20.)
- Receipt for the I-901 SEVIS fee. (For further information, consult the U.S. government website at ice.gov/sevis/i901/index.htm.)

To maintain F-1 visa status, a student must attend a full course of study (20 hours per week) in the Rice University Intensive English Program. F-1 students interested in taking time off from study should review the “Vacation Policy” at esl.rice.edu/iepapplicationprocess.

Confirmation of Financial Resources

As part of the I-20 application process, the student must demonstrate proof of financial support ($3,365 per month for tuition and living expenses). This may be done by submitting one of the following:

1. Bank Statement showing either:
   - Personal funds
   - Funds from an immediate family member outside the United States accompanied by a letter assuming financial responsibility
   - Funds from parents inside the United States accompanied by a letter assuming financial responsibility

   The Bank Statement must be from an officer of the bank or other financial institution in which the student or a family member has deposits. The statement must give the following details about the account:
   - Date the account was opened
   - Total amount deposited for the past year
   - Present balance

   All financial documentation must be expressed in U.S. dollars. These papers must be obtained in duplicate so that one set of originals can also be presented at the U.S. Consulate with the visa application.

2. Affidavit of Financial Support (I-134) from an individual sponsor (U.S. citizen or permanent resident) inside the United States. Proof of financial resources must accompany the affidavit. Forms may be obtained from the U.S. government at uscis.gov/files/form/i-134.pdf.

3. A scholarship letter from the sponsoring organization or government detailing the amount awarded to the student.

Prospective students must enter the United States on a student visa. Persons in the U.S. with diplomatic or other visas may also be eligible for the program provided study is not the main purpose of their stay in the United States.
“Improving my communication skills gave me more confidence to participate in important meetings and share my ideas and thoughts with coworkers and business partners. I have been able to develop my potential at work.”

- Diorgenes Borges, Brazil

About Rice University
Rice University is a private, coeducational institution known for its academic excellence and the achievements of its faculty, graduates and students. Rice offers outstanding programs in architecture, business, engineering, humanities, music, natural science and social sciences.

Although admission to the Intensive English Program does not constitute admission to any other unit of Rice University, facilities of the university are available to Intensive English students, including the Fondren Library and the Recreation Center. Most activities are also available, including sports, exhibitions, concerts, films and lectures. For further information on the University, consult rice.edu/virtualtours.

About Houston
Located in the state of Texas, Houston has a metropolitan area population of more than six million. The city boasts two international airports, museums, operas, theaters, concerts, festivals, outstanding restaurants, professional sporting events, one of the world’s foremost medical centers, the NASA Johnson Space Center and many other attractions.

Houston is the fourth largest city in the nation and is home to a culturally diverse population. A metrorail system connects downtown Houston with Rice University and the Texas Medical Center. Large retail centers such as the celebrated Galleria make Houston a favorite shopping destination for visitors from all over the world. Galveston’s beaches, less than an hour away, afford many recreational opportunities.

Special Programs
Intensive English classes are available either on site or on the Rice University campus. A minimum of 12 students is required to form a class. Classes are offered at intermediate or advanced levels of proficiency. Course schedule and fees will vary according to the type of instruction. For more information, contact the Language Programs office at esl@rice.edu or 713-348-4019.
Online English and Academic Preparation is a certificate program for students with a high-intermediate to advanced level of English. The certificate program is designed to help students strengthen their English while developing academic skills necessary for success at an American university. Students may choose from two options within the certificate program:

- **Pre-Collegiate**: This option is for international students who would like to come to the United States to study for a bachelor's degree.
- **Grad Track**: This option is for international students who would like to pursue a master's or doctoral degree in the United States.

### Course Information

The total length of time required to complete the Online English and Academic Preparation certificate program is 10 weeks. This includes three 3-week courses and a 1-week final capstone project.

Students in both options will take the following courses:

- Listening, Speaking and Critical Thinking
- Writer's Workshop
- Reading and Notetaking

### Tuition and Fees

- **Pre-Collegiate** - Application fee: $30; Tuition: $900
- **Grad Track** - Application fee: $30; Tuition: $1,100

### Program Calendar 2021

**Winter Session**: January 7 - March 18  
Application deadline: December 14, 2020

**Spring Session**: April 6 - June 15  
Application deadline: March 4

**Summer Session**: July 7 - September 15  
Application deadline: June 18

**Fall Session**: September 28 - December 9  
Application deadline: September 10

### Program Requirements

**Pre-Collegiate option**

- demonstrate a minimum of a high-intermediate level of English
- completion or near completion of a high school diploma

**Grad Track option**

- demonstrate a minimum of an advanced level of English
- completion or near completion of a bachelor's degree

All students must complete the online orientation.

This is not an I-20 granting program. Those planning to study on an F-1 visa should consult the Intensive English Program section (see page 2).

Visit [esl.rice.edu](http://esl.rice.edu) to view course information, requirements and our refund policy.
Online English Success in the Workplace
Certificate Program

English Success in the Workplace is a certificate program for students with a low-intermediate to low-advanced level of English. Using an integrated-skills approach, these non-credit classes will help students develop fluency and accuracy in English by improving their command of English in the workplace and strengthening their communication skills. Students will learn through a combination of engaging instructional videos, discussions, practice activities with automated feedback, and assessments at the end of each unit.

Course Description

The program consists of three possible tracks:

**Track I:** 3 classes from low-intermediate to high-intermediate/low-advanced

**Track II:** 2 classes from intermediate to high-intermediate/low-advanced

**Track III:** 1 class for high-intermediate/low-advanced

Tuition and Fees

Tuition and fees for each session are $650 for new students, and $620 for continuing students.

Financial Aid

Please contact us at esl@rice.edu to learn more about financial aid and scholarship opportunities for the Online English Success in the Workplace Certificate Program.

Program Calendar 2021

**Winter Session:** January 12-March 9
Application deadline: December 7, 2020

**Spring Session:** April 6-June 1
Application deadline: March 15

**Summer Session:** June 29-August 25
Application deadline: June 7

**Fall Session:** September 21-November 15
Application deadline: August 30

Program Requirements

This is not an I-20 granting program. Those planning to study on an F-1 visa should consult the Intensive English Program section (see page 2).

Students successfully completing their track will receive a program certificate. Students who do not finish their track will receive a course certificate for each course completed.

Persons applying for admission to this program must have graduated from secondary school. New students must take the online placement test and complete the online orientation. Visit [esl.rice.edu](http://esl.rice.edu) to view course information, requirements and our refund policy.
The ESL Communication Skills Program offers classes for those who wish to improve their everyday English communication skills or enhance their command of English for professional purposes. These non-credit classes address spoken communication skills and are designed for those who do not wish to enroll in a full course of study. Classes are for students at an intermediate or advanced level of proficiency. Those planning to study on an F-1 visa should consult the Intensive English Program section (see page 2). Classes are small, with an average of 12 students per class. Students develop both fluency and accuracy in an interactive classroom setting.

Evening classes meet twice a week (either Monday and Wednesday or Tuesday and Thursday) for eight weeks. Classes meet from 5:45-7:15 p.m. or 7:30-9 p.m. on the Rice campus. The exact schedule of classes is determined by student enrollment. Advanced oral presentation skills, pronunciation, writing and business communication classes are offered in sessions when demand is sufficient. Students are assigned class days and times based on their proficiency levels and available space.

**Tuition and Fees**

Tuition for each eight-week session is $470, which includes a $30 processing fee. Book costs are not included in the tuition.

**Program Calendar 2021**

**Winter Session:** January 20-March 16  
Placement test and application/discount deadline*: January 6, 6 p.m.

**Spring Session:** March 31-May 25  
Placement test and application/discount deadline*: March 17, 6 p.m.

**Summer Session:** June 16-August 12  
Placement test and application/discount deadline*: June 2, 6 p.m.  
Independence Day holiday: July 5-6

**Fall Session:** September 22-November 16  
Placement test and application/discount deadline*: September 1, 6 p.m.  
*Students returning within a year receive a $30 discount if the application is submitted by the discount deadline.

Visit [esl.rice.edu](http://esl.rice.edu) to view course information, requirements and our refund policy.

Apply Today
“I decided to pursue my academic career in the U.S. while I was a student at the Rice ESL Program. As I prepared for the GRE and TOEFL exams, I was able to apply all the language skills that I had gained for the first time, and it was really exciting to see how I could use my knowledge. I still see its huge impact on my academic writing.”

- Asya Ozkizilcik, Turkey