



What is **ELSA**?



ELSA stands for English Language Services for Adults. ELSA can help you:

- learn to speak and understand English for day-to-day life
- use a computer
- ask questions about housing, work, banking, and other important subjects
- get skills for a job
- learn about Canadian culture, laws, health care and society
- make new friends

Learning English is one of the most important things you can do to make British Columbia feel like home.

ELSA can help you learn English. The classes are FREE for adults who are newcomers in Canada.

ELSA Classes

How do I know what level of ELSA to take?

Your class level will depend on how much English you understand and speak. After you have gathered your documents and applied for the ELSA program, you will be given an English assessment to find the best class.

There are six levels in ELSA:

- Pre-Beginner
- Level 1 (Beginner) to Level 5 (Intermediate)

Are there any special classes?

ELSA for the Workplace

This program is for newcomers who want to improve their English skills and find a job. You can take English classes, get computer training and learn from guest speakers and field trips in the community.

ELSA Youth Classes

These youth focused classes are for students who are 17-24 years old. You can study English while making new friends, learning about activities for young people

in your area, improving your computer skills, and planning for the future. You will also connect to the community with field trips and guest speakers.

ELSA Pre-Literacy classes

This program is for students with little or no formal schooling in their first language. You will get ready for ELSA classes while learning basic English reading, writing, listening, speaking and number skills.

ELSA for Francophones

This program is for French speakers who want to improve their English skills. You can also meet other French-speaking immigrants and members of the Francophone community. For more information on this program or how to register, call 604 708-5100 or visit www.educacentre.com.

Please note: To take any of the special ELSA classes, you must tell the assessment centre.



FOR MORE INFO ON
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
SERVICES VISIT
WWW.WELCOMEBC.CA

Sign up for ELSA

Who can take ELSA?

You can apply for the ELSA program if you are:

- a newcomer to Canada
- 17 years old or older
- approved for permanent residence

Please note: Naturalized Canadians and refugee claimants can only take ELSA classes outside the Metro Vancouver area.

What documents do I need?

For a full list of the documents you can use, please see the back of this brochure.

When are ELSA classes taught?

Classes can be in the morning, afternoon or evening. Part-time students go to class for at least 9 hours each week, and full-time students have 25 hours of class each week.

How long is the ELSA program?

Program length depends on your English language skills. Your school can tell you how long your program will last.

What can I do about child care?

Some ELSA schools have free child care for young children. For more information, contact the assessment centre closest to you. Assessment centres are listed on the back of this brochure.

HOW TO APPLY

Here are the steps to follow to apply for the ELSA program.

1. Gather **one** (1) of these documents →
2. Photocopy the document. If you are using your Permanent Resident Card, photocopy both sides.
3. Call or visit the assessment centre listed at the back of this brochure and ask for an application form.
4. Fill out the form. Make sure your name on the application is the same as the name on your immigration documents.
5. Send the completed form with the photocopy of your immigration document to the assessment centre closest to you. If you are using a copy of your Permanent Residence Card, you must photocopy both sides. Do NOT send the original document with your application.
6. You will be called for a language assessment. You must bring your original immigration documents (not a photocopy) with you.

This information is also available in different languages at www.WelcomeBC.ca

APPLY WITH ONE OF THE FOLLOWING

- Permanent Resident Card (PRC)
- Interim Confirmation of Permanent Residence (form IMM5292)
- Record of Landing (form IMM1000 - issued prior to June 2002)
- Visitor Record case type 17
- Work Permit (Employment Authorization) case type 27
- Study Permit (Student Authorization) case type 37
- Temporary Resident Permit (Ministerial Permit) case type 86, 87, 88 or 89
- Notice of Decision from the Refugee Protection Division of the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) confirming convention refugee (CR) status
- Letter from Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) giving approval to remain in Canada while application for permanent residence is being finalized (approval in principle)
- Letter from the Ministry of Regional Economic and Skills Development, Provincial Nominee Program (PNP)
- Live-in Caregiver work permit

ASSESSMENT CENTRES

Vancouver • North Vancouver • West Vancouver • Richmond • South Delta • Burnaby • New Westminster

Western ESL Services

ELSA Assessment and Referral Centre

#208 - 2525 Commercial Drive
Vancouver, B.C. V5N 4C1
Phone: 604 876-5756 • Fax: 604 876-0134

Surrey • North Delta • Coquitlam • Port Coquitlam • Maple Ridge • the Fraser Valley

Surrey Language Assessment Centre

#202 - 7337 137th Street
Surrey, B.C. V3W 1A4
Phone: 604 507-4150 • Fax: 604 507-4155

Learn English
for **FREE**
WITH
WELCOMEBC



Metro Vancouver
Fraser Valley