

University College at Roger Williams University
ESL Teacher Certification Program
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

What is the ESL Teacher Certification Program at University College, RWU?

- The ESL Teacher Certification program is a year-long competency-based program that prepares educators to be culturally and linguistically responsive teachers of ELLs. The program currently is in its inaugural year, serving teachers in the Providence and Pawtucket school districts.
- Teachers engage in readings, lectures, learning activities, workshops, practicum experiences, analyses of videos of their own teaching practice, and a range of meetings.
- All content is aligned with the National Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) standards.
- Assignments are designed to be practical, job-embedded, and highly associated with classroom learning.
- Each teacher is paired with an instructional coach called a “Learning Guide” (LG). LGs provide feedback and support to tailor the learning experiences to meet the needs of their individual ESL teacher candidates.
- Upon demonstrating evidence of meeting the TESOL competencies and completing all program requirements, teachers are eligible to apply for ESL Teacher Certificate through the Rhode Island Department of Education.
- Tuition for the 2019-2020 cohort will be \$3,995.

When does the program occur?

- Twelve months, July through June
 - Summer: One week online, two weeks face-to-face
 - School Year: Monthly meetings with LGs, Quarterly Meetings with Community of Reflective Practice, ongoing learning experiences and classroom embedded assignments, designed to help candidates develop competencies across the TESOL standards

Who is eligible to apply to the ESL Teacher Certification Program?

- Teachers employed in partnering districts.
- To be eligible for admission, teachers must have
 - A valid RI Teaching Certificate
 - Minimum 3.0 GPA from an Undergraduate or Graduate Institution
- In addition to the two requirements above, to apply, applicants must submit:
 - Two recommendations to attest to the candidate’s commitment, professionalism, and anticipated success in self-paced coursework
 - One application essay, indicating why they would like to become certified as an ELL teacher

For more information, you can:

1. Visit our website at: <https://rwu.edu/go/esl> and
2. Contact Kristina Soprano, Program Director at ksoprano@rwu.edu or 401.254.3140