ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE Program

Read this information carefully. It will answer questions you have about the ESL Program at Bellevue College.

1. Can I take English as a Second Language classes at Bellevue College?
   - If you have an Exchange Visitor visa (J-1) or a Student visa (F-1/M-1) or a Visitor visa (B-1/B-2), you cannot take $25 ESL classes at BC. Please contact the English Language Institute to ask for a schedule of their English classes. 425-564-3185
   - You should be a U.S. Citizen, an immigrant or a refugee to take classes at BC.
   - There is a $25 charge each quarter.
   - You must be 18 years of age.
   - We cannot guarantee that we can put you in a class.

2. How can I enroll in an ESL class if I am a refugee, immigrant, or citizen?
   - You must come to R230 to make an appointment to take the placement tests.
   - You will take Reading, Writing, and Listening placement tests.
   - After the tests, we will tell you when to come to register for your Orientation classes.
   - Enrollment will depend on availability of a seat in the class that you test into.
   - Attend seven Orientation classes which start in the fourth week of the quarter.
   - Summer Orientation classes will begin in the first week of the quarter.
   - Register for a regular ESL class after completing the Orientation classes.

3. When you come to take the tests,
   - Bring some form of identification with you.
   - Bring your address and phone number.
   - Do not bring children to the test time.

4. Parking can be very difficult at Bellevue College.
   - Please allow plenty of time to find a parking spot.
   - Plan to be at the test room 15-20 minutes before test time.
   - You must park in Lot 9A, 9B, 9D, or Lot 12, or on the 5th floor of the parking garage.
   - Pay $2 in one of the meters so you don’t get a parking ticket.

5. ESL Orientation Classes
   - Every ESL student must attend seven Orientation classes.
   - This is an introduction to ESL classes at Bellevue College.
   - In these classes, you will take listening and reading tests, write your short and long term goals, learn about different opportunities to learn English, take a tour of the campus and decide what steps will be next to get into English class.
   - These late-start classes will not begin until the fourth week of the quarter.
   - Summer Orientation classes will begin in the first week of the quarter.
   - These classes will be 3.5 hours, 1 day a week, for seven weeks.
6. **What can I do if I have been tested at another school?**
   - Bellevue College accepts scores from all the other Community Colleges, and Hopelink/Eastside Literacy.
   - Please bring a letter or a card with testing information. We will need CASAS Reading and Listening scores and the date you were tested.

7. **What ESL (English-as-a Second Language) classes do you have at BC?**
   - **Orientation classes** will be 3.5 hours, one day a week, for seven weeks.
   - **Regular classes:** We have six levels of regular ESL classes for immigrants, refugees, and citizens for a fee of $25. These classes will help improve your skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Regular classes are held Mondays through Fridays. There are morning, afternoon, and evening classes. *Classes are 8-10 hours per week 2-5 days a week.* We try hard to match your schedule to a class.
   - **Preparing for Work, On the Job Communication, and Working in English** are free classes for people who live in Bellevue and who are able to work in the U.S. In this class, you will practice your English and learn important work skills that will help you get a job. You will learn how to prepare for a job application and interview. Students will practice filling out application forms, making telephone calls, learn interview skills, and prepare a resume. When the class is over, students are ready look for a job with confidence. These classes are three or four hours per week, Tuesday and Thursday from 5:30 - 7:20 pm or on Saturday from 9:00 am – 12:50 pm.
   - **IBEST:** Earn college credits and improve your English! I-BEST combines study in college-level credit classes while enrolled in ESL. Earn a short term certificate for *Office Assistant* or *Accounting Preparation.* For advanced ESL levels 5 and 6. This is a great program to start on a career pathway or your college goals! For more information call (425)564-2363.

8. **Is childcare available?**
   - Call 425-564-2240 for information about childcare at Bellevue College.
   - There is **no free** childcare at Bellevue College.

9. **What can I do while I wait for a class?**
   - Visit your library KCLS.org
   - Find a Talk Time group.
   - **Other resources** for learning English in the community:
     - Lake Washington Technical College 425-739-8100 ext. 656
     - Cascadia Community College 425-352-8158
     - Renton Technical College 425-235-2352 ext. 5537
     - Hopelink/Eastside Literacy 425-250-3007
     - Jubilee REACH 425-746-0506
     - King County Libraries offer ESL classes and Talk Time groups.
   - Take Community classes from the English Language Institute at Bellevue College. Call 425-564-2411 or 425-564-3185 for information.

* You will get a class if space allows. We cannot guarantee a class.