



# Information Sheet: English Language Training For Refugees

## What is LINC?

The Government of Canada provides free English language classes for adult newcomers to Canada. These classes are called Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC).

In a LINC class, students learn English to help with communication needs. Students also learn about Canadian laws, health care, society, job market and any other things that are important to life in Canada.

LINC goes from level 1 (low beginner) to level 8 (high intermediate). There is also a pre-beginner level (literacy). At levels 5-8, there are general English classes and English for the Workplace classes.

LINC classes can be in the morning, afternoon or evening. Full-time classes are usually 25 hours a week. Part-time classes are usually between 9-15 hours a week. Most classes operate Monday to Friday, but some classes are available in the evenings or on Saturdays. Most classes are in a classroom with other students, but some classes may have an online component.



### Benefits of LINC:

- » No cost to students
- » Taught by qualified, experienced teachers
- » Provide information on settling in Canada (e.g. housing, banking, citizenship, how to get a job)
- » Available in different communities throughout the Fraser Valley
- » May offer childminding while students are taking classes
- » May offer transportation support (bus tickets) to/from your classes

### For More Information:

- » **LINC – Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)**  
[cic.gc.ca/english/newcomers/live/language.asp](http://cic.gc.ca/english/newcomers/live/language.asp)
- » **LINC – BC / Lower Mainland Brochure**  
[cannyvr.ca/uploads/gallery/LINC-Information-Brochure-June-17-2014\\_0.pdf](http://cannyvr.ca/uploads/gallery/LINC-Information-Brochure-June-17-2014_0.pdf)
- » **Canadian Language Benchmark Brochure for Learners**  
[language.ca/index.cfm?Vair=sections&Id=18280&M=4032&Repertoire\\_No=2137991327](http://language.ca/index.cfm?Vair=sections&Id=18280&M=4032&Repertoire_No=2137991327)
- » **Understanding your CLBPT Assessment Report – Available in English, Arabic and Nine Other Languages**  
[language.ca/index.cfm?Vair=sections&Id=17882&M=4032&Repertoire\\_No=2137991327](http://language.ca/index.cfm?Vair=sections&Id=17882&M=4032&Repertoire_No=2137991327)
- » **CLB: Can Do Statements for Employment**  
[language.ca/index.cfm?Vair=sections&Id=19519&M=4038&Repertoire\\_No=2137991327](http://language.ca/index.cfm?Vair=sections&Id=19519&M=4038&Repertoire_No=2137991327)

## Who Can Take LINC?

Students must be:

- » A newcomer to Canada
- » 17 years old or older
- » Approved for permanent residence

**NOTE:** *Canadian citizens and refugee claimants who have not yet received a positive decision on their refugee status claim cannot take LINC classes.*



## How Do I Register for LINC?

To register for a LINC class, you must first complete a Canadian Language Benchmarks Placement Test (CLBPT). The CLBPT is designed to determine at what level you should begin your LINC program. It will measure your abilities in listening, speaking, reading and writing.

1. Once you are ready to start studying English, get an application form from your local LINC Assessment Centre or settlement/LINC agency. For a list of agencies, please visit: [cic.gc.ca/english/newcomers/map/bc.asp](http://cic.gc.ca/english/newcomers/map/bc.asp).
2. Make a photocopy of your immigration document. Your immigration document must be one of the following documents:
  - a. Permanent Resident Card (photocopy BOTH sides)
  - b. Confirmation of Permanent Residence (form IMM5292)
  - c. Record of Landing (form IMM1000 – issued prior to June 2002)
  - d. Notice of Decision from the Refugee Protection Division of the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) confirming convention refugee status
  - e. Letter from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) giving approval to remain in Canada while application for permanent residence is being finalized (approval in principle)
3. Complete the application form. The name on your application must be the same as the name on your immigration document.
4. Send or bring the completed application form (including the photocopy of your immigration document) to your local LINC Assessment Centre.



5. After you submit your application, you will get a letter telling you the time and place for your assessment. When you come to the office to do your assessment, bring your original immigration document (NOT a photocopy).
6. Once you complete your assessment, you will get an assessment report with your test results and your LINC level placement.
7. Take your assessment report and immigration document to a LINC school to register for class.

**NOTE:** *If you need help with choosing a school, you can speak to a referral counsellor at the LINC Assessment Centre. They can show you where the schools are located and give you information on their class types, start dates, times and waitlists.*

## LINC Assessment Centre in the Fraser Valley

Surrey Language Assessment Centre (LINC Assessment and Referral Centre)  
#202-7337 137th Street, Surrey, BC, V3W 1A4

**p:** (604) 507-4150

**f:** (604) 507-4155

**NOTE:** *If you live outside of Surrey (e.g. Langley, Abbotsford, Chilliwack), contact your local settlement or LINC agency and they will help you register for LINC. For a list of agencies, please visit [cic.gc.ca/english/newcomers/map/bc.asp](http://cic.gc.ca/english/newcomers/map/bc.asp).*

## Overview of English Language Training Programs

There are many different types of English language training programs available in the Fraser Valley. They are designed for people with different learning goals and levels of English. Before you sign up for a language program, make sure it is the right one for you. Find out what type of program it is and if you have to pay a fee.

### Community-based ESL

Community-based English as a Second Language (ESL) programs are free or low-cost English language programs for adult learners. They are usually held in community organizations, schools, libraries and churches. They may be funded by the government or donations, or organized by community volunteers. **Examples:** *Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC), Conversation Classes, One-to-One Tutors, Community Connections*



### ESL for Job Search / Workplace

ESL for Job Search / Workplace programs are for adult learners who are preparing to enter the workplace. Learners work on a variety of English language skills, such as résumés, filling out job applications, interviewing and specialized vocabulary. Some programs may train workers for a specific job area, such as construction or customer service. In some cases, English language classes may be held in the workplace. **Examples:** *Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) for the Workplace, Project-Based Language Training, Skills Connect, Career Paths*



### Career Preparation ESL

Career Preparation ESL programs are for English language learners who are interested in entering a professional or work environment. The focus is on developing a core set of skills and competencies needed to build a strong foundation for further education or employment. **Examples:** *Business, General, Health, Technical and Trade, Professional English Language*



### Academic ESL

Academic ESL programs teach English and academic skills. They help transition learners from ESL courses to academic programs. They prepare learners for further education at the university or college level, or for employment in a professional career. In some cases, they help adults develop basic skills and obtain a secondary school graduation diploma. **Examples:** *Adult Foundations, Adult Basic Education (ABE), English for Academic Purposes (EAP), International English Language Testing System (IELTS), Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)*



## Overview Of English Language Assessment

English language assessment tests are used to measure English language skills for adult ESL programs, education, training and labour market. There are many different types of English language assessment tests available in Canada. If you are planning to study at a college or university, or enter a licensed profession or trade, you might need to take a test to demonstrate your English ability. It is important to check with the individual institution to find out what type of English language assessment you need and if you have to pay a fee.

### For Government-Funded English Language Programs

- » **Canadian Language Benchmarks Placement Test (CLBPT) – Must be completed before registering for LINC programs (free for permanent residents and protected persons)** [language.ca/index.cfm?Voir=section&Id=17880&M=4032&Repertoire\\_No=2137991327](http://language.ca/index.cfm?Voir=section&Id=17880&M=4032&Repertoire_No=2137991327)

### For Canadian Citizenship Applications

- » **Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program (CELPIP) General Test** [celPIP.ca/what-is-celPIP](http://celPIP.ca/what-is-celPIP)
- » **Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program (CELPIP) General Test – Listening and Speaking** [celPIP.ca/what-is-celPIP](http://celPIP.ca/what-is-celPIP)
- » **International English Language Testing System (IELTS) General Training** [ielts.org/book-a-test/find-a-test-location](http://ielts.org/book-a-test/find-a-test-location)

### For Colleges, Universities and Professional Licensing Bodies

- » **Canadian English Language Benchmark Assessment for Nurses (CELBAN) – Occupation-specific English language test recognized by all Canadian nursing regulators** [celbancentre.ca](http://celbancentre.ca)
- » **International English Language Testing System (IELTS) – English language test accepted by many universities and employers** [ielts.org/book-a-test/find-a-test-location](http://ielts.org/book-a-test/find-a-test-location)
- » **Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB) – English language test accepted by many universities, colleges and professional bodies** [cambridgemichigan.org/institutions/products-services/tests/proficiency-certification/melab](http://cambridgemichigan.org/institutions/products-services/tests/proficiency-certification/melab)
- » **Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) – English language test used to provide information about ability to communicate and participate in an academic setting** [ets.org/toefl](http://ets.org/toefl)
- » **Test of English for International Communication (TOEIC) – English language test used to demonstrate English language ability in the workplace and accepted by many licensing bodies** [etscanada.ca/en/toeic-listening-and-reading-test](http://etscanada.ca/en/toeic-listening-and-reading-test)



**DIVERSECITY**  
community resources society



**WELCOMEBC**

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[fraservalleyrrt.ca](http://fraservalleyrrt.ca)