

NEWS

For Immediate Release

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TESOL Announces Professional Development Plan for Honduran English Teachers

March 3, 2023 (Alexandria, VA) – TESOL International Association (TESOL) is pleased to announce a series of professional learning opportunities with the Honduras English Language Teachers Association (HELTA). The TESOL-HELTA partnership is part of HELTA's Quality Professional Development for ELT in Honduras Program.

Specifically, this program will provide participants with two-year TESOL International Association memberships, self-study and facilitated online courses and synchronous webinars from TESOL Education, and books from TESOL Press. Teachers in the program will cascade their learning on the *TESOL 6 Principles for Exemplary Teaching of English Learners*® to colleagues nationally, supported through participation in TESOL's six-week Training of Trainers facilitated online course.

The goal of the program is to build the capacity of higher education teachers as the foundation for ongoing professional development, enabling teachers to cascade learning in their communities and support public and private school teachers at all levels. Expected to reach more than 2,000 teachers virtually and in-person, the partnership will support participants with academic and technological training, promote a multiplier effect where trained teachers deliver training to others, and provide networking opportunities to teachers.

"Participants will engage in online learning and will build a portfolio of best practices that they will implement in the classroom as well as share with peers systematically during the year of the project and two years after," said HELTA TESOL founder and former president Grazzia Maria Mendoza Chirinos, an education specialist and teacher trainer. "The program will enhance the professional development of teachers to contribute to build a more educated Honduras and influence youth to develop their language skills so they can remain and thrive in the country."

HELTA is partnering with TESOL to deliver the content and initial professional development component of their broader program, which is supported by the U.S. Embassy Tegucigalpa, Public Affairs Section. The program will run through May 2023.

"Partnering with the U.S. State Department and TESOL International Association allows us to build the capacity of our teachers and contribute to design and deliver free online workshops and webinars as well as in-person events to contribute to professional development and quality of education in the country," said Mendoza Chirinos.

In making the announcement, TESOL President Joyce Kling said the partnership would support public and private school teachers at all levels.

“It will contribute to the quality of education in the field of English and be the foundation of subsequent initiatives and close collaboration with the Honduras English Language Teachers Association,” she said.

About TESOL International Association

TESOL International Association is the trusted global community for knowledge and expertise in English language teaching. TESOL advances the professional expertise in English language teaching to speakers of other languages in multilingual contexts worldwide through professional learning, research, standards, and advocacy. In principle and in practice, TESOL values professionalism, respect, integrity, and lifelong learning and seeks diverse and inclusive participation within the field of English language teaching. TESOL promotes equitable representation, engagement, and broad access to professional opportunities for all and works to eliminate any kind of discrimination. TESOL is a professional community of more than 13,000 English language professionals representing more than 150 countries. For more information, please visit www.tesol.org.

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