

TESSOL (Teaching English in Schools to Speakers of Other Languages) Tuition Fees Scholarship

TESSOL scholarship study options at University of Canterbury

Option 1:

Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (PGCertTESOL) (60 credits).

The TESSOL scholarship funds the course tuition fees and student levy fee for **two of the 30-credit courses** listed below:

- EDME431 Foundations of Language Acquisition and Learning – offered in Semester 1 in 2026 (starts on the 16th of February 2026).
- EDME632 Issues in Language Acquisition and Learning – offered in Semester 2 in 2026 (starts on the 13th of July 2026)
- EDME415 Learning and Teaching Languages – offered from November 2025 to February 2026 (summer school), with a break over Christmas.
- LING400 English Structures – offered from November 2025 to February 2026 (summer school), with a break over Christmas.

Lectures can be attended on campus or online. The lectures are recorded for those who cannot attend in real time. The PGCertTESOL is an ideal pathway to further postgraduate study in this discipline, and can lead to a Postgraduate Diploma or Masters in Education (MEd) endorsed in Teaching and Learning Languages or a Masters in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (MTESOL).

As an alternative, students can enrol in the Postgraduate Diploma in Education (Teaching and Learning Languages). This comprises four 30-point courses, with study online or on campus. Please note that only two courses are funded through the TESSOL scholarship. The lectures are recorded for those who cannot attend in real time.

For further information about the qualification, please see the link below:

- [postgraduate-certificate-in-teaching-english-to-speakers-of-other-languages](#)

Option 2:

Postgraduate Diploma in Education (Teaching and Learning Languages) PGDipEd (TLL) (120

credits). The TLL endorsement consists of 90 points of coursework in the TLL field of study and one further 30 point course from the postgraduate education suite of courses. Please note that only two of the courses listed below are funded through the TESSOL scholarship.

The TESSOL scholarship funds the course tuition fees and student levy fee for **two** of the following **30-credit courses**:

- EDME431 Foundations of Language Acquisition and Learning – offered in Semester 1 in 2026 (starts on the 16th of February 2026).
- EDME632 Issues in Language Acquisition and Learning – offered in Semester 2 in 2026 (starts on the 13th of July 2026)
- EDME415 Learning and Teaching Languages – offered from November 2025 to February 2026 (summer school), with a break over Christmas.

To complete the PGDipEd (TLL) qualification you must complete four courses (120 points) in total. These must include: EDME431, EDME632 and **one of** EDME415 or EDME433. You can find information about options for the final 30-point course in the 120-point qualification from the link ([Teaching and Learning Languages](#)) or contact Education Advisors at UC via educationadvice@canterbury.ac.nz

TESSOL Scholarship application process

1. **Discuss your application with your principal or centre director.** If your application is successful, your school or early learning services will need to agree to:
 - provide a **minimum of two teacher release days per 30 credits** of TESSOL scholarship funded study to enable you to attend workshops or to undertake intensive study
 - give you the opportunity to share your learning with colleagues
 - contact the Ministry if you move jobs or withdraw from your study.
2. **Gather the following information for your application:**
 - school or early learning service number
 - the number of students enrolled
 - the number of staff with TESSOL qualifications
 - the number of ESOL-funded students
 - the number of ESOL-funded students from a migrant and former refugee background
 - the number of ESOL-funded students from a Pacific background
 - the number of international fee-paying students.
3. **Complete the supplementary information form** (available on the Ministry website). This form has a section for the senior leadership team to complete and it needs to be signed by the principal.
4. **Complete the online application**, available via the Ministry website.

If you are successful, you and your principal will be asked to complete and sign a TESSOL Scholarship acceptance letter.

Enrolling at Canterbury University

If your scholarship application is successful, you will need to apply to enrol on the University's website. For enrolment advice, call the UC Contact Centre on 0800 827 748 or email the Faculty of Education Student Advisors: educationadvice@canterbury.ac.nz

TESSOL Scholarship payment details

1. Send confirmation of your university enrollment to the Ministry of Education at info.ESOL@education.govt.nz. The confirmation needs to include the course code and fees. Suitable documentation includes:
 - enrolment confirmation notification
 - statement of fees/statement of account
 - copy of the University's invoice
2. The Ministry will make the first scholarship payment in February 2026. **The payment will be made to the school or early learning service where you are employed.**
3. You are responsible for tracking the University invoice and passing it to your school or early learning service for payment. The school or early learning service will pay the TESSOL scholarship contribution. Any additional fees are your responsibility.
4. When you have completed the first course, enroll in the next course and send confirmation of enrolment to info.ESOL@education.govt.nz to activate the next payment.