



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) – The ESL School at NYFA

1. Do you have a website?

Yes, <https://www.eslnyfa.edu/>

2. Where is the school?

The school is located on the New York Film Academy campus in Los Angeles:

3300 Riverside Dr.
Burbank, CA 91505

3. Do you have online classes?

No, we do not have online classes at this time. All of our classes are in person.

4. What documents are required to apply?

To apply to The ESL School at NYFA, you will need to submit the following documents:

- Completed application form: <https://www.eslnyfa.edu/applications/esl1.php>
- Non-refundable application fee (\$75)
- Proof of High School Completion (in English)
Provide ONE of the following:
 - Copy of a high school academic transcript
 - Copy of a high school diploma
 - Copy of a college transcript (for students who have partial or complete undergraduate/graduate coursework)
 - Copy of a college or university diploma
 - Verification from a high school of all degree requirements met

5. When do sessions start?

The 12-week Intensive English Program has 3 sessions each year:

- January
- May
- September

The 4-week Language of Filmmaking Workshop has 2 sessions each year:

- April
- August

Please see the school calendar on our website <https://www.eslnyfa.edu/dates-tuition/> for specific dates.

6. What is the cost of tuition?

The cost of tuition for the 12-week Intensive English Program (three 80-minute classes per day Monday-Friday) is **\$4000** per session. This includes textbooks.

The cost of tuition for the Part-time option of the 12-week Intensive English Program is:

\$2700 (two 80-minute classes per day)

\$1500 (one 80-minute class per day)

The cost for the 4-week Workshop is:

Full-time Workshop **\$1800**

Vacation Workshop **\$1500**

Housing and living expenses are not included in the tuition cost.

7. What is the deadline for applying?

There is no set deadline for applying to study. The earlier you send in your application and documents, the sooner we can process everything. This will give you more time to receive your Form I-20 (required for obtaining your F-1 student visa if you are an international student).

8. Can I make changes to my application after I have applied?

Applicants and accepted students who have not yet enrolled may request to change their requested Start Date, Program, or Location up to **three times**, before incurring a new application fee. Upon a **4th request** and any subsequent request to change Start Date, Program, or Location, a **new application fee** will be charged each time of such request in the amount of the published application fee at the time of the request.

9. How do I get my I-20?

You will need to complete and submit the I-20 package that will be emailed to you with your conditional letter of acceptance and invoice. Any questions about your I-20 can be sent to lainternational@eslnyfa.edu.

10. The I-20 package mentions Financial Certification. What is that?

Your completed I-20 package must be accompanied by certification that while you are attending The ESL School at NYFA, sufficient funds are available to meet your combined living and tuition expenses. If you will be accompanied by family members, their living expenses must be covered as part of their student-dependent (F-2) visas. Any one of the following is an acceptable form of certification:

- A current personal bank statement or an original letter from your bank, in English.
- Both a letter/affidavit of support from your parents or other source of support stating they will be responsible for your expenses during your stay at The ESL School at NYFA, and a bank statement (or bank letter) verifying their financial ability to meet your expenses.
- A letter guaranteeing financial support from your employer, in English.
- An original scholarship letter from your government or other organization, in English.

Since you will need to present financial documentation to the US Consular Officer when applying for a student visa, we suggest that you make sufficient copies of all financial documentation for both The ESL School at NYFA and for visa application purposes.

11. How do I get a student visa?

To obtain an F-1 student visa you will need to present certain documents to the US Embassy or US Consulate to demonstrate your intent to study in the United States and, after completion of your studies, return to your home country. The documents you need include:

- an I-20 obtained from The ESL School at NYFA
- proof of financial certification
- a valid passport
- evidence of ties to your country

In addition, a personal interview with a visa officer will be required. We recommend that you make an appointment for your interview at least 60 days before the date you intend to begin your studies. More information on how to apply for a student visa, including the required visa application, is available on US Embassy and US Consulate websites, a listing of which may be found at <http://www.usembassy.gov/>.

12. How do I make payments?

Your application fee as well as any tuition must be paid in \$US dollars. If you apply using the online application, you will be asked for your credit card information.

All other fees (such as tuition) can be paid online by going to www.eslnyfa.edu/payments.

Tuition may also be paid by wire transfer of the funds. Wire transfers are not processed immediately, so please make sure to send the wire transfer at least two weeks before your classes are scheduled to start. If sending payment by wire transfer, please send the payment to the following account:

The ESL School at NYFA

Bank: JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A.

230 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10003

Account # 608733023

Routing # 021000021

Swift # CHASUS33

Please make sure that the account name is correct and that the name of the student and date of program are indicated on the transfer. Banks may lose your transfer if any of the information is incorrect.

Also, check with your bank regarding any fees that may apply when sending the wire transfer and account for them when specifying the amount (*If your tuition is \$4000.00 USD and the fee is \$20.00 USD, please transfer \$4020.00 to account for the fee.*)

13. How do I register for classes?

After you have submitted all of the required application documents and have paid your tuition fees in full, you are ready to be registered for classes. A few days before classes begin, an email will be sent to you from the Registrar's Office. This email will have a link to your registration documents. Once you complete and submit this information electronically, you will be registered for classes.

14. What is the class schedule?

For the 12-week Intensive English Program, we are currently running a class schedule with classes starting at 9:00AM and ending at 1:20PM. When enrollment numbers are high, we may also run classes in the afternoon from 1:30PM – 5:50PM. Classes meet every day Monday thru Friday.

Students will have three 80-minute classes each day: Grammar, Reading & Writing, and Listening & Speaking.

The current schedule for the full-time 4-week workshop has classes meeting Monday-Thursday (9:00 AM - 12:45 PM) and Friday (9:30 AM - 12:30 PM)

The vacation 4-week workshop has classes meeting Monday-Thursday (9:00 AM - 12:45 PM).

15. Do I have to attend class every day?

The simple answer is yes...because you want to improve your English skills. As a student with an F-1 visa, you are required to attend classes full-time. We understand that sometimes you may not be feeling well, or you have an errand that you must do during class time. Our attendance policy requires 80% attendance, which allows for 12 days of absence during the 12-week session.

16. Can I only take 1 or 2 classes in the Intensive English Program?

As a student with an F-1 visa, you are required to attend classes full-time. You must take all three classes: Grammar, Reading & Writing, and Listening & Speaking.

If you are not an F-1 visa student, you can enroll in our part-time option for 1 or 2 classes each day.

17. How do I know what my English level is?

When you arrive at the school for Orientation week, you will take a level placement test to determine what level of classes you should take at The ESL School at NYFA.

18. How many students will be in my classes?

The number of students in each class varies from session to session. Sometimes classes are very small with only two people, but other times the class may have 14 students. On average, classes are around 8 – 10 students.

19. What are the optional elective classes and workshops?

Optional elective classes and workshops enrich traditional ESL curricula, allowing students to apply their developing English comprehension, pronunciation, and reading skills. The optional elective classes are separate class hours from the required courses in the intensive English program and vary each session. Students must sign up in advance to attend these classes.

20. How do I extend my program?

If you want to extend your program to another session, you need to inform the School Director as soon as possible. You will need to provide updated financial certification in order to extend your I-20.

21. What is health insurance? And do I need it?

The ESL School at NYFA requires all students to show proof of health insurance (i.e., insurance ID, or any document pertinent to having valid health insurance coverage). The purpose of this insurance is to protect you in case of an accident or major illness. Hospital care is expensive in the United States, and there is no free care for international students.

22. Do you have on-campus student housing?

No, we do not have on-campus student housing. The New York Film Academy Housing Department in Los Angeles can assist you in finding a place to live while you are a student at our school.

You can find more information about housing in Los Angeles here at <https://housing.nyfa.edu/>.

23. Is there parking at the school?

Parking is available on the Los Angeles campus for students on a first come first served basis. If you have a car and would like to park in the campus parking garage, you will need a parking permit. Students can contact Karen Ogle at karen.ogle@eslnyfa.edu for a parking pass application form.

24. How do I get my student ID badge?

All students are required to wear a student ID badge when on campus. Students will receive their student ID badges during Orientation week.

25. Are New York Film Academy and The ESL School at NYFA the same school?

No, New York Film Academy and The ESL School at NYFA are two separate schools.

Acceptance into The ESL School at NYFA does not guarantee acceptance into New York Film Academy (NYFA). In order to be fully accepted into NYFA, students must either complete Level 4 (Level 5 for MFA) at The ESL School at NYFA or receive a TOEFL iBT score of 68 (79 for MFA) or an IELTS score of 6.0 (6.5 for MFA). Students must also submit all other needed admissions documents for NYFA, which can be found at <https://www.nyfa.edu/admissions/admissions-requirements.php>

26. Who can I contact if I have more questions?

If you have more questions, please send an email to iep@eslnyfa.edu