



Partnership opportunities with Australia for English language education

Australia and Japan share a long history of high-quality education cooperation. Australia is the most popular overseas destination for Japanese school study tours, and Japanese is the most popular foreign language studied in Australian schools and universities. Two-way student mobility has increased each year since 2012, with support from both governments.

The Australian and Japanese governments held the 4th High-Level Policy Dialogue on Education in 2015, and agreed to increase cooperation and share best practice in languages education. The Australian Government launched its National Strategy for International Education in 2016, with a long-term focus on increasing mobility and quality with key international partners. The Japanese Government's reform to the national curriculum and focus on developing "global human capital" also presents new opportunities for partnership in English language education.

Australia's English language education and training system

Australia is a well-respected supplier of English language training services with more than 40 years' experience.

Australian English language learning environments and approaches to teaching foster excellent English speaking, writing and listening skills as well as qualities such as teamwork, innovation, problem-solving using real world examples, and leadership. Australia's multicultural society and connectivity with Asia imbues students with the ability to work cross-culturally, a quality that is increasingly sought by employers.

The quality and reputation of Australia's education institutions is well established on institutional and other global rankings. The Australian Government has a strong focus on continuous improvement and student satisfaction – it conducts national surveys of international students and regularly publishes the results. In 2016, more than 11,000 English language students were surveyed, with an overall satisfaction rate of 89%. Students reported their top five factors for deciding to study English in Australia as:

1. Teaching quality (97%)
2. Personal safety (95%)
3. Cost of living (91%)
4. Institutional reputation (91%)
5. Cost of study (90%).



English Australia

English Australia is the national peak body for the English language sector, established in 1983 and representing over 120 colleges. English Australia's focus is on quality and building the capacity of members through professional development activities, research and benchmarking services.

English Australia supports and promotes high-quality English language education among its members by applying membership criteria and a code of conduct, as well as publishing best practice guides and promoting professional development and research programs. English Australia members operate a members-only Tuition Assurance Scheme (TAS) which adds an additional layer of protection for non-student visa holders, on top of Australia's existing Tuition Protection Service (TPS) for student visa holders. Those engaging the services of English Australia members can be assured of the quality of those services.

In 2015, over 170,000 international students enrolled in English language programs in Australia. Almost 20,000 of these students were Japanese, making Japan the 2nd largest partner country for English education in Australia. English Australia is working to build on historical links and develop new partnerships with Japan, to strengthen English language education and teacher training for the future.

What is meant by English language training?

English language training covers training for students and professionals such as school teachers and university lecturers, through to training for employees seeking proficiency in English. Services can include language training, faculty development, professional development and study tours.

Services

Australian English training services can include:

- formal qualifications for teachers of English or English proficiency for other teachers
- short English language immersion programs
- networking and professional development opportunities for teachers, university lecturers and English centre managers
- training for a group of staff who in turn are able to train colleagues to multiply the benefits across an organisation or district
- student placement exchange programs
- customised programs for workplace specific needs.

Services can be delivered face to face on-site, in Japan or in Australia, via distance, online, or a combination of these.

Why partner with Australian education institutions?

- Enhance the quality of English language education and the capabilities of teachers/staff
- Enhance your organisation's reputation
- Increase the productivity and quality of work by your staff
- Incentivise staff by enhancing their professional development opportunities
- Provide connections and networks to international best practice.

Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)

Australian education institutions are leading the world in the development of technology-based learning, to break down the barriers of distance and provide more choice in program delivery. Many TESOL courses are available online (either fully or partly), either in Australia or in-country. Courses can range from two week intensive courses to five-year PhD degrees.

Quality assurance and regulatory framework

Australia has a transparent, structured, and low-risk education system which it has developed through sequential improvements over a number of years.

In order to teach international students, Australian institutions and their courses must be registered on the [Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students \(CRICOS\)](#). The [Education Services for Overseas Students \(ESOS\) legislative framework](#) sets out minimum national requirements for all registered providers. It also establishes the Tuition Protection Service (TPS), which assists student visa holders in case their education provider is unable to deliver their course.

Any registered provider delivering intensive English language instruction to overseas students must also meet the National Standards for [English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students \(ELICOS Standards\)](#), which are part of the ESOS legislative framework. These set out requirements for English language courses, including minimum contact hours, staff qualifications, and student teacher ratios.

The ESOS legislative framework is underpinned by nationally recognised regulatory and quality frameworks for education of both local and international students. The [Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency \(TEQSA\)](#) and the [Australian Skills Quality Authority \(ASQA\)](#) were established to monitor quality and regulate all higher education providers (including universities), and vocational education and training providers, against a set of independently developed standards. TEQSA and ASQA also share responsibility for regulating English language providers against the ELICOS Standards.

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Examples of successful English language training programs with Japanese partners

1. Teacher training

- TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) training
- Core components:
 - Language teaching methodology
 - Practical component – observation and feedback, visits to schools
 - Teaching younger children (specifically for elementary school teachers)
 - Classroom management
- Customised programs – can be delivered in Australia and/or in Japan
- Leading to improvement in all four macro skills (reading, writing, speaking and listening); the ability to conduct classes entirely in English; use ALTs more effectively; and design and deliver professional development for other teachers.

2. Student teacher training (pre-service training)

- With universities, for students training to be teachers
- Programs of 3, 5 or 10 weeks (or customised)
- Can be delivered in Australia and/or in Japan
- Programs include:
 - English and Methodology for TESOL Purposes
 - Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) – for teaching specific curriculum content in English.

Case Study 1 **UNSW Institute of Languages (UNSWIL): Australia based TESOL training**

UNSWIL is one of Australia's oldest and most prestigious language centres and has provided TESOL teacher training to over 160 Japanese secondary and primary school teachers including those from the Tokyo Board of Education since 2014. The programs for Japanese teachers have been designed to meet the objectives of the English education reform plans of MEXT so that teachers are better able to apply what they learned in Australia back in their classrooms in Japan. In 2016, The EIKEN Foundation of Japan sent 36 teachers selected from primary and secondary schools across Japan on a 16-day program in Sydney. In addition to learning about TESOL methodology, practical components include lesson observations, microteaching and also visits to NSW Government schools where the teachers assist, observe and meet with local teachers. Accommodation is organised through homestay, which contributes to the linguistic and cultural learning experience of the teachers.

Case Study 2 **Phoenix Academy: blended delivery**

Phoenix Academy's Institute of Teaching Excellence (ITE) is the largest English Language Teacher Training centre in Western Australia with extensive experience delivering customised courses for teachers from all over the world. To accommodate the busy schedules of in-service teachers who are limited in the time they can spend overseas for training, Phoenix Academy has developed a TESOL Teacher Trainer Blended Delivery program which is a customisable program combining three stages of training.

Stage 1: Face-to-face in-country

15 or 25 hours face-to-face course/stream delivered over 5 days in-country

Stage 2: Online

2 to 8 week online course supported with Phoenix training materials and webinars with Phoenix Academy ITE Teacher Trainers

Stage 3: Face-to-face in Australia

40 hour face-to-face course delivered over 10 days in Perth, Western Australia.

This program has been successfully delivered by Phoenix Academy ITE in China and in Thailand and would be a suitable model for Japanese teachers.

All 3 components are optional and can be delivered as stand-alone programs.

3. Faculty development programs

- Training for university lecturers to design and deliver technical subjects in English
- Customised programs – can be delivered in Australia and/or in Japan
- Programs include:
 - Teaching methodology – Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) for teaching specific curriculum content in English
 - Course and lesson design, adapting selected materials for non-native English speakers
 - Use of communication technologies
 - Assessment, including online assessment.

Case Study 3 **Institute of Continuing & TESOL Education at The University of Queensland (ICTE-UQ): Content & Language Integrated Learning (CLIL)**

The Institute of Continuing & TESOL Education at The University of Queensland (ICTE-UQ) is part of a World Top 50 University and has more than 35 years of training experience in Japan. Its Content & Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) program is designed to give academics the skills they need to deliver their subject content in English. The program focuses on English as a Medium of Instruction (EMI), classroom language, active learning, and adapting textbooks. ICTE-UQ delivers the program to universities across the world to help support their internationalisation strategies including universities throughout Japan and initiatives under the MEXT-sponsored Top Global University Project. ICTE-UQ has delivered the CLIL program in Tokyo for academics from Tokyo Institute of Technology since 2015, preparing them for the further internationalisation of their courses and degrees. CLIL training can be undertaken in a multinational class format in fixed-date open courses for individuals at The University of Queensland, Australia, or as a flexible customised format to fit partners' requirements in Australia or Japan.

4. Other examples of training that can be provided:

- Customised training for Principals and administrators
- English language and English language teaching benchmarking
- Specific training for the JET program, including for Assistant Language Teachers (in-person or online) and training for teachers in making effective use of ALTs